

America, the Methodists exhibit an unusual activity. In the first place, the country actually swarms with their preachers. Youths preparing themselves for the Methodist ministry all travel through the land, and Methodist colporteurs carry their books to the families of distant places. In this way the numbers and influence of the Methodists also increase, it may be said from day to day. There are towns and villages in which the Methodists actually rule the religious life."

There is another Methodist body in Germany. It is the oldest in existence, having been founded by a Protestant minister who was born in 1721, came to America in 1752, assisted Coke in ordaining Asbury, and held his first Conference in 1789, which was attended by seven ministers. Now they have about 1,300 ministers, above 80,000 members, and Otterbein University, called after their founder and first bishop. While Asbury laboured among the English, Otterbein laboured among the Germans, and his followers were generally called German Methodists, although they have called themselves "United Brethren in Christ." Asbury felt towards this German much as Wesley did towards the French Fletcher. Nineteen years his junior, he revered and loved him, called him "the great Otterbein," and said, "Forty years I have known the retiring modesty of this man of God, and towering majesty over his fellows in learning, wisdom and grace, yet seeking to be known only of God and the people of God."

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

THE Sunday-school has become a powerful Church organization. No denomination would consider itself justified in neglecting the young. There was a time when these schools were requisite to teach the children of the poor to read, but now they are only requisite for the sake of the religious instruction which they impart.

A project has been started to erect a memorial in Gloucester to Robert Raikes, who has generally been regarded as the founder of Sabbath-schools, though it is believed that he only improved on the plan first adopted by Mary Ball.

Stockport, in England, has long claimed to have the largest Sunday-school in Great Britain. Its last report says there are 304 teachers and 3,614 scholars in the school. Since this school was formed, 4,992 teachers and 89,324 scholars have been connected with it.

The Wesleyan Conference in England has organized a Sunday-school Union, and set apart a gifted minister as Secretary and Agent. The publications which he is issuing, and the energy with which he is prosecuting his labours bid fair to make a great improvement in the Sunday-school department.

It has sometimes been thought that our friends across the line excel the British Churches in the Sunday-school work. It must be admitted that they work the institution very vigorously. There are in the United States 69,871 Sabbath-schools, with 753,000 officers and teachers, and 5,790,683 scholars. It is an interesting fact that there are 800 Mormon children in the Methodist Sunday-schools in Salt Lake City.

We can hardly admit that Canada is much behind the United States in respect to Sabbath-schools, though the aggregate only amounts to 4,401 schools, with 35,745 officers and teachers, and 271,381 scholars.

THE Drew Seminary has sustained a heavy loss by the failure of its founder, Daniel Drew, Esq., but several gentlemen have come forward in a most princely manner to its rescue. Great sympathy is felt for Mr. Drew, whose financial embarrassment arises from circumstances over which he had no control.

At our own University at Cobourg the foundation stone of a new Hall of Science, to be called Faraday Hall, will be laid at the Convocation.