

Religious and Missionary Intelligence.

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WESLEYAN METHODIST.

Two volumes which have been published describing the position of Methodism in the agricultural districts of England, show that services are held in seven thousand English villages, in three thousand five hundred of which there is no other Nonconformist services, but there are still seven thousand five hundred villages untouched by Wesleyan agencies. The lay-preachers for the most part supply the village pulpits. There are fifteen thousand five hundred lay-preachers, and the value of the village church property is two millions and a quarter sterling.

Strenuous efforts have been put forth to reduce the heavy debt on the Foreign Missionary Society, but while a great reduction has been made, there are still \$47,000 on the debit side. The income of the past year exceeded the expenditure by \$38,000. The annual meeting in Exeter Hall was more than usually enthusiastic. Rev. E. R. Young, of Canada, was the hero of the meeting. No address produced a more profound impression than that which he delivered respecting his missionary career in the North-West.

It is contemplated to employ more lay-agents in connection with the missions, both at home and abroad. A new hall has been opened at Paris, in the midst of a dense population, in connection with the Wesleyan Missionary restaurant. The hall is one of the most commodious of the many now open for mission agencies in Paris.

Lady McArthur, at whose death the \$250,000 left by Sir William to the Wesleyan Church were to be paid, recently passed away. Lady McArthur was distinguished for many Christian virtues, though for several

years she lived secluded from society.

Under the inspiration and guidance of Dr. Dallinger, the Wesleyan Scientific Society of England contains three hundred members. It has only been three years in existence.

PRIMITIVE METHODIST.

The two London districts are uniting in a strong appeal to the approaching Conference for a more earnest Connexional effort to extend the denomination in the Metropolis.

A valedictory service was recently held in Surrey Chapel, London, to bid farewell to three young men, who were designated to open a new mission somewhere in the Zambesi region, Central Africa. The cost of the new mission will amount to some thousands of pounds, but the enthusiasm manifested by the Churches has justified the Committee in undertaking the enterprise.

METHODIST EPISCOPAL.

The Deaconess' Home in New York has been opened. Bishop Andrews and other celebrities took part in the dedicatory service. The Home will be under the auspices of the New York City Church Extension and Missionary Society. Great hopes are entertained respecting the future welfare of the Home. There will be accommodation for twenty-five deaconesses.

William Taylor, the African Bishop, has preached the Gospel on every continent and on many of the isles of the sea, fulfilling in a more literal sense than most preachers the conditions of the great commission. He is reported to have said that though he is sixty-seven years of age, if he