

THE WESLEYAN MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Successive arrivals of the British *Notices*, make it evident that the Parent Society is extending its influence territorially, spiritually, numerically and financially, and our sincere regret is, that space forbids extracts from Chinese, India, African, West India, Australian and South Sea correspondence, in which there is reported remarkable success in the evangelization of men, and are many affecting statements which shew that the Almighty has placed multitudes, of different climes, in suspense for the Gospel, who are without its ministry. The Rev. W. Wilson, of the Feejee Islands, writes, March 25th, 1857,—“To-night a canoe arrived from the neighbourhood of Somosomo, and reports that towns are *lotuing*, and that in several, chapels are built, and the people meet in them on Sunday, but there is neither Teacher nor Missionary to preach to them, the work having grown overwhelming.” In July last, the Rev. J. Waterhouse, of these Islands, wrote, “Returns are made of 14,000 who had embraced Christianity last year. In our several circuits, we have now 54,281 professing Christians. * * * * Nine additional Missionaries are required to meet the demand for instruction.”

The frequent references in the *Notices* to India, are among the most valuable that have appeared, for conciseness, fullness and credibility of fact, and fellow-feeling, and they have, as was to be expected, awakened the sympathies and charities of the Wesleyan Connexion; and we are thankful that the Parent Committee, in announcing their approaching Annual Meeting, are enabled by a propitious Providence to make this statement. “The expenditure of the year has been met by the receipts, and provision has also been made for the outfit and passage of the ten additional Missionaries, whom the Committee hopes to send this year to India.”

The *Watchman* of March 10th, in respect to the Society's Income, says, “The particulars are not yet announced, but we believe we may report that the total receipts for the year, exceed One Hundred and Twenty Thousand Pounds.” A cheering statement for the Wesleyan world, after a year of extraordinary commercial embarrassment and loss; and indicative of principle, piety, contrivance, self-denial, confidence in the Society's management, gratitude to God for the past, and faith in Him for the promised future.

As usual, the advertised plan for the Anniversary in May, is most complete and attractive; and there is to be a Special Meeting for Prayer, and a Breakfast Meeting for China. Lord Panmure is selected to preside. Dr. Guthrie, of Edinburgh, preaches the principle sermon before the Society; and among the Ministers whose services are engaged, are the President of the Conference, Dr. Dixon, Dr. Hannah, Dr. Jobson, the Rev. Robert Wallace from Ireland; and the Rev. Benjamin Field, from India. High anticipations are felt, and though a James, a Watson, a Newton, a Beecham, will not be there with their Christian eloquence, will not this Annual Festival be like every one of its predecessors, an occasion which a Coke would have exulted to witness, and conducive to the welfare of the world?