

than fifty had been on the President's list of reserve since 1878, and the number would not be diminished this year, consequently only few new candidates were received.

The Book-Room reported a successful year. More than a quarter million of hymn-books and many thousands of tune-books had been issued. Three and a half millions of tracts had been issued during the year. One new tract had been published every week. The profits of the Book-Room were thus divided:—Three thousand pounds to the Annuitant Society, five hundred pounds to the Home Mission Fund, the same amount to the Auxiliary Fund, and three hundred pounds to Ireland. As a token of esteem to Rev. John Rattenbury, who has raised in a few years the magnificent sum of one hundred thousand pounds for the Auxiliary Fund for superannuated ministers, the ministers have subscribed nine hundred pounds for an additional annuity on his behalf.

Revs. W. Arthur, M.A., and F. A. Macdonald were appointed representatives to the next General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in the United States.

The conversation on the work of God both in the Ministerial and Mixed Conference was of the most spiritual character. The laymen equally with the ministers spoke earnestly in favour of the peculiar institutions of Methodism, especially the love-feast and class-meeting. A great deal was said on the importance of personal holiness and the need of increased pastoral visitation. Such conversations cannot fail to produce a salutary effect.

The District Sustentation Fund has been in operation about five years. Its object is to make grants to circuits until every circuit pays its married minister a minimum salary of seven hundred and fifty dollars. The number of circuits that are not able to do this has been reduced more than one hundred per cent.

Our fathers in England, with few exceptions, call their churches by the name of chapels. In twenty-five

years, more than five thousand erections costing more than twenty millions of dollars have been built. Sanction has been given for the erection of fifty-one chapels where no Wesleyan place of worship had been in existence before, and sixty-three are to supersede previous churches. During the past year, three hundred and fifteen erections were completed at a cost of nearly two millions of dollars; contributions for the new erections and enlargements were made amounting to one million and a half of dollars.

Forty years ago there were only seven circuits in London, now there are thirty-six. Previous to 1861 there did not exist in that city accommodation for forty thousand persons, but the places of worship belonging to the Wesleyan body can now accommodate one hundred thousand people. Nine more churches will be erected during the present year. It is stipulated, that the churches erected by aid from the Metropolitan Fund must contain sittings for one thousand persons.

The number of Wesleyan Sunday-schools reported is six thousand two hundred and fifty-five, being an increase of eighty-six. Scholars, seven hundred and seventy-six thousand seven hundred and fifty-seven; one hundred and fifty-six thousand six hundred and five are over fifteen years of age. More than sixty thousand of the scholars are members of the Church. One hundred and thirty-six thousand children are members of Bands of Hope. So much is the Conference alive to the wide-spreading evils of intemperance that it was resolved, that on a given Sunday, special reference should be given to the subject in all the places of worship.

The success which has attended the Children's Home must be very gratifying to the Rev. T. B. Stephenson, B.A., the Principal, inasmuch as there are now four main branches in which nine hundred and six children have been received, about one-half of whom have gone forth into the world, and the majority of them have done well. A new orphanage is about