

exacting toll of the railways and hotels, which thrive by the crush of spectators which they bring. Your professional "sport," with his vulgar slang, his flash jewellery, his strange oaths—the creature who haunts the German gambling spas, the British turf, the Bowery saloons of New York—is a loathsome object, and we hope never to see him naturalized in Canada.

We have been unable to prepare for this month, through pressure of other work, our usual sketch of Missionary heroism. The subject

of the next sketch—Thomas Coke, the Father of Methodist Missions—is based upon Etheridge's voluminous Life, which demands a good deal of time for its careful reading. We are grateful to find some of these sketches reprinted in the English *New Connexion Magazine*. The series, when completed, will be republished in cheap form as a contribution to a native Sunday-school literature. Our Canadian story—"The King's Messenger"—which has been received with unexpected favour, will also be republished for separate circulation.

RELIGIOUS AND MISSIONARY INTELLIGENCE.

BY THE REV. E. BARRASS, M.A.

WESLEYAN CONFERENCE, ENGLAND.

This parent Conference met in Bradford. The Rev. J. H. Rigg, D.D., was elected to the Presidency by the largest vote ever recorded. His inaugural was brief, but comprehensive. He has long been one of the foremost men of the Body, and will worthily occupy the chair which has been filled by many distinguished men.

The Fernley Lecture was delivered by the Rev. G. W. Olver, B.A., on "Life and Death." The church was crowded. The Lecture is greatly eulogised by the press, and occupied two hours and a-half in delivery.

There were five vacancies in the Legal Hundred, which were supplied by Revs. H. J. Piggott, H. M. Harvard, Dr. Lyth, J. P. Lockwood, and G. S. Rowe, all of whom fitly acknowledged the honour thus conferred upon them.

One hundred and twenty-three candidates for the ministry had been accepted by the Committee of Examination. Beside these, twenty-three

were rejected. The Conference Public Examination was conducted in three different churches.

The death-roll is unusually large, no less than forty ministers having been called from labour to rest; one of whom, Rev. Peter C. Horton, died at the Conference, just after he had given a testimony in honour of a deceased colleague.

An unusually large number of ministers retire this year from the active work, some of whom have performed effective service in the foreign work. The Revs. J. Hargreaves, T. Hodson, H. Bleby, and M. B. Bird, are names with which the readers of missionary intelligence have long been familiar.

The Rev. J. Rattenbury has succeeded in collecting £95,000 as an additional endowment for the Auxiliary Fund. As this is the year when the Mixed Conference of ministers and laymen is to be inaugurated, it has been suggested that the laity of the Conference should give £5,000 more, and so complete an endowment of £100,000.