

Religious and Missionary Intelligence.

BY THE REV. E. BARRASS, D.D.

WESLEYAN METHODIST.

The great event of the past month was the re-opening of Wesley's chapel, hitherto known as City Road Chapel, London. The time-honoured sanctuary has undergone extensive alterations at a cost of about \$60,000, all of which was raised before the re-opening except \$5,000. It has been so modernized and beautified, that no further expenditure will be needed for many years to come. The population in the locality largely consists of the poor and artisan class, therefore a complete system of mission work has been organized, and the edifice built by Wesley which was for so many years the scene of his labours, and the place where he ceased at once to work and live, and where his dust awaits the resurrection of the just, will thus be continued and be a light in a dark place.

The re-opening services were continued for a week, the first was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Stephenson, the President of the Conference, who arrived from New York just five minutes before the time at which he was announced to preach. It is hoped that a new era of prosperity has been inaugurated at this Mecca of Methodism. To the delight of all present Bishop Taylor, from Africa, took part in the services.

The West London Mission has completed another year's labour. It was commenced in 1887 without a single member or adherent, and now there are more than 1,000 members with 212 on trial for church membership. The Treasurer, however, calls for \$20,000 to aid the work for the ensuing year.

In the East of London, where the Mission is established among the very poorest classes of the Metropolis, the progress of the work has been

marvellous. There are three or four centres where work is carried on under the superintendence of the Rev. Peter Thompson.

The agencies employed are various and all are intended to benefit the people both temporally and spiritually. Temperance societies, and Sunday-schools are established, meetings of a social character are regularly held, poor children are cared for, and the sick and indigent ones sought out and their necessities are supplied as the following figures will show: 1,269 patients were seen, 700 visited at their homes. This was at one branch. At another, 1,793 attendances were made, and the nurse paid 1,517 visits in six months. Some hundreds of persons have professed conversion. But the good done by means of open air services, mother's meetings, men's meetings, Bands of Hope, is incalculable. The Week of Prayer which was agreed upon at the Œcumenical was strictly observed, and in London and some Provincial towns, Nonconformist congregations united with the Methodists in the various services. Arrangements were also made to afterwards hold united evangelistic services.

The Leysian Mission established in London promises to be a source of great strength. Premises have been built where young men, strangers, from the country will be cared for at reasonable rates. All kinds of religious services will be instituted, and thus opportunity will be afforded for young persons to become workers in the Church and thus be prepared for future usefulness.

The Chapel Building Fund of London is a grand institution. It has contributed \$10,000,000 toward the erection of 85 churches and the