

annuities. Of the former, the amount during the previous year was over \$10,000. This is a source of income which cannot be depended upon; and we would rather, of course, that the patrons of the Society should live and become their own executors, than be called away from usefulness among us.

Last year the donations on annuity were only \$350,—the previous year they were \$3,806, a decrease for the past year of \$3,556.

Last year the grant from the Indian Department for Indian Schools was \$2,347, the previous year it was \$4,648, or nearly twice as much, showing a process of cutting down by the Government in this respect of \$2,280. We cannot help regarding this as unwise retrenchment. Our Society spends, as Mr. Macdonald remarked, ten times as much on Indian Missions as the great M. E. Church of the United States,—as one consequence we have no Indian troubles, while they have a chronic Indian war, causing a lavish waste of both blood and gold.

Of the subscriptions and collections from circuits and missions, which is the main source of income, amounting this year to the noble sum of \$115,909, the decrease as compared with last year is only \$2,359, or only about two per cent. on the whole,—a decrease which is easily accounted for by the monetary stringency caused by the long continuance of the bad times.

The most serious decrease is that in the Juvenile Offerings of our Sunday-schools, amounting to \$1,486 as compared with that of the previous year, which was also a decrease of \$2,301 from the contributions of the year before, or in two years a decrease of \$3,787. In 1874-75 the income from Juvenile Offerings was \$22,051, or more than one-sixth of the income from all other sources together. But that sum was an increase of \$3,725 on that of the year before, or an increase of \$5,135 in two years.

This means of income, therefore, is capable of considerable expansion. It is even yet one-seventh of the entire income of the Society. To maintain its proportion of one-sixth it should have last year over \$26,000, or \$8,000 more than it was. Our schools must try and recover this lost ground. Here is a mine that may be worked with vast advantage to our Church and to the schools. For if the children will only take an active part in this missionary work they will grow up in warm sympathy with it and with the general operations of our Church.

In England, for the year 1876, the Juvenile Offerings in the Wesleyan Church amounted to \$107,000, or one-third of the entire income raised in Great Britain. So much for thorough missionary organization.

The excess of expenditure over the income of the year on our missions was \$28,000, making the entire amount of indebtedness of the Society \$53,000. The interest on this large sum of money is a serious drain. On the smaller indebtedness of last year it was some \$5,000.

The tone of the late missionary meeting, however, was eminently hopeful. The members of the Board, as well from the East as from the West, bated not a jot of heart and hope. With unfaltering faith in God, and confidence in the loyalty and liberality of the members and friends of our Church, they appeal for largely increased subscriptions to wipe out the indebtedness and to meet the annual expenditure. The bountiful harvest with which the providence of God has favoured us, and the improved prospects of trade, will enable our friends, we hope, to do all that is in their hearts to sustain this most important branch of the Church's operations. We hope especially that all our Sunday-schools will put forth a vigorous and systematic effort to make the juvenile Christmas offering this year larger than it has ever been before. In recognition of God's great Christmas