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The
Year
Book

of the

Methodist Episcopal Church, South
1896

Publishing House M. E. Church, South
Barbee & Smith, Agents

PUBLISHING HOUSE M. F. CHURCH SOUTH

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BOOKS OF ALL KINDS
OUR FACILITIES FOR

1896

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THE YEAR BOOK

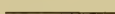
OF THE

Methodist Episcopal Church, South,

FOR THE YEAR 1896.



It Being the One Hundred and Twelfth Year of the Organization of the Methodist Episcopal Church in America, and the Fifty-first Year of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South.



Published by the Book Agents of the M. E. Church, South,
Containing a Digest of the History, Statistics,
etc., of the Church.



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1896.

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Historical.

THE Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in Baltimore, Md., in 1784 by the "Christmas Conference," under the presidency of Dr. Thomas Coke. It was divided under the "Plan of Separation" adopted by the General Conference of 1844, which Plan, notwithstanding the subsequent disputes about it, was supported by so nearly the whole Conference that only from thirteen to eighteen votes were cast against any of its provisions.

The Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was organized by a convention of delegates from fifteen Annual Conferences—the Kentucky, Missouri, Holston, Tennessee, North Carolina, Memphis, Arkansas, Virginia, Mississippi, Texas, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, Florida, and Indian Mission—which met in Louisville, Ky., in May, 1845. This convention was presided over by Bishops Soule and Andrew. The convention adopted the quadrennial period for the holding of our General Conference, and appointed the first General Conference to be held in Petersburg, Va., in May, 1846. Bishop Soule, the senior bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church at that time, appeared at our first General Conference, formally declared his adhesion to our organization, and became our senior bishop. At this Conference William Capers, of the South Carolina Conference, and Robert Paine, of the Tennessee Conference, were elected to the episcopacy.

The roll of our bishops from our first General Conference to the present time runs as follows :

Roll of the Bishops from First General Conference to the Present Time.

Name.	Born.	Entered Ministry.	Ordained Bishop.	Remarks.
Joshua Soule	Aug. 1, 1781	1799	1824	Died March 6, 1867.
James Osgood Andrew	May 3, 1794	1812	1832	Died March 2, 1871.
William Capers	Jan. 26, 1790	1808	1846	Died January 29, 1855.
Robert Paine	Nov. 12, 1799	1818	1846	Died October 19, 1882.
Henry Biddleman Bascom	May 27, 1796	1813	1850	Died September 8, 1850.
George Foster Pierce	Feb. 3, 1811	1831	1854	Died September 3, 1884.
John Early	Jan. 1, 1786	1807	1854	Died November 5, 1873.
Hubbard Hinde Kavanaugh	Jan. 14, 1802	1823	1854	Died March 19, 1884.
William May Wightman	Jan. 8, 1808	1828	1866	Died February 3, 1882.
Enoch Mather Marvin	June 12, 1823	1841	1866	Died November 26, 1877.
David Seth Doggett	Jan. 23, 1810	1829	1866	Died October 27, 1880.
Holland Nimmons McTyeire	July 24, 1824	1845	1866	Died February 15, 1889.
John Christian Keener	Feb. 7, 1819	1843	1870	Residence, New Orleans, La.
Alpheus Waters Wilson	Feb. 5, 1834	1853	1882	Residence, Baltimore, Md.
Linus Parker	April 23, 1829	1849	1882	Died March 6, 1885.
John Cowper Granbery	Dec. 5, 1829	1848	1882	Residence, Ashland, Va.
Robert Kenyon Hargrove	Sept. 18, 1829	1857	1882	Residence, Nashville, Tenn.
William Wallace Duncan	Dec. 27, 1839	1859	1886	Residence, Spartanburg, S. C.
Charles Betts Galloway	Sept. 15, 1849	1868	1886	Residence, Jackson, Miss.
Eugene Russell Hendrix	May 17, 1847	1869	1886	Residence, Kansas City, Mo.
Joseph Staunton Key	July 18, 1829	1849	1886	Residence, Sherman, Tex.
Atticus Greene Haygood	Nov. 19, 1839	1859	1890*	Residence, Oxford, Ga.
Oscar Penn Fitzgerald	April 24, 1829	1854	1890	Residence, San Francisco, Cal.

* Bishop Haygood was elected bishop in 1882, but declined ordination.

The oldest bishop, by date of election, is the "Senior Bishop." By virtue of custom he is Chairman of all meetings of the bishops for the transaction of episcopal business, and to him is accorded the right to preside at the first meeting and superintend the organization of a General Conference. In the presidency of a General Conference the bishops succeed each other in rotation from day to day in the order of their seniority in office, though the presidency of a bishop is not indispensable to the proceedings of a General Conference. In the absence of the bishops the Conference may choose a Chairman from among its members. Our bishops have no diocesan limitations, but each is a bishop of the entire Church; but they meet annually the first week in May and assign to each an "Episcopal District" and the oversight of the Annual Conferences therein for the succeeding twelve months.

Excepting when interrupted by the Civil War, our General Conference has met quadrennially since 1846. Its sessions have been held as follows: First session in Petersburg, Va., 1846; second session in St. Louis, Mo., 1850; third session in Columbus, Ga., 1854; fourth session in Nashville, Tenn., 1858; Fifth session in New Orleans, La., 1866; sixth session in Memphis, Tenn., 1870; seventh session in Louisville, Ky., 1874; eighth session in Atlanta, Ga., 1878; ninth session in Nashville, Tenn., 1882; tenth session in Richmond, Va., 1886; eleventh session in St. Louis, Mo., 1890; twelfth session in Memphis, Tenn., 1894. The thirteenth session will be held in Baltimore, Md., in 1898, if the place of meeting be not changed by the bishops, as it can be. It also lies within their powers to call a meeting of the General Conference at any

time, and a majority of the Annual Conferences may do the same; but no extra session of the General Conference has ever been called. Should such a meeting be called, it will be composed of the members of the last preceding General Conference, unless the Annual Conferences choose to elect new delegates.

From 1846 to 1866 only ministers who had attained to elder's orders were eligible to the General Conference, and only elders and deacons in the ministry could participate in the proceedings of an Annual Conference. The General Conference of 1866 submitted to the Annual Conferences a resolution for the introduction of lay representation into both the General and the Annual Conferences. This resolution the Annual Conferences approved, making it a law of the Church. This law became effective in 1870, and since then the laity, in equal number with the clergy, have sat in our General Conferences, and four from each presiding elder's district in our Annual Conferences. Lay delegates to the Annual Conference are elected by the District Conferences; to the General Conference by the lay members of the Annual Conferences. Laymen so chosen must be twenty-five years of age and have been members of the Church for six years next preceding their election.

Clergy and laity sit as one body in our Conferences, but in the Annual Conference the laity have no vote on the "character" of a clerical member, and in the General Conference their vote may be taken separately from that of the clergy at the request of a fifth of its members; though no measure can be passed without the concurrence of both classes of representatives.

The General Conference is our only lawmaking body. Its legislative powers are limited by the constitution contained in the six Restrictive Rules of the Discipline. These Rules cannot be set aside or changed but by a three-fourths vote of all the members of the several Annual Conferences present and voting, and a two-thirds vote of the succeeding General Conference. The General Conference is a judicial as well as a legislative body. It reviews all the records of the Annual Conferences, and hears and determines questions of appeal from their acts.

The Annual Conferences do not exercise legislative functions. Their powers are ministerial and executive; indeed, they are but convenient divisions of the territory and membership of the Church for the easier and more effective administration of the authority and laws of the General Conference, the whole polity of the Church contemplating our ecclesiastical organization as a unit.

Sixteen Annual Conferences were represented in our first General Conference in 1846, the fifteen represented in the Louisville Convention and the East Texas Conference, organized in 1845. By the growth of Church and Conference membership, the extension of our boundaries, and the planting of missions abroad, the number of our Annual Conferences has increased till we now have forty-seven, with a membership, clerical and lay, according to our last General Minutes, as follows :

Conference.	Traveling Preachers.	Local Preachers.	Members.
Alabama.....	176	186	46,313
Arkansas.....	117	218	25,270
Baltimore.....	213	116	45,230
Brazil Mission.....	27	9	1,098
Central Mexico Mission.....	42	33	3,169
China Mission.....	30	10	517
Columbia.....	21	13	1,322
Denver.....	12	8	901
East Columbia.....	25	25	1,645
East Texas.....	107	239	32,717
Florida.....	143	156	21,571
German Mission.....	19	17	1,184
Holston.....	219	272	53,015
Illinois.....	66	79	7,940
Indian Mission.....	152	250	17,118
Japan Mission.....	27	18	532
Kentucky.....	133	107	28,334
Little Rock.....	132	168	30,364
Los Angeles.....	26	23	2,170
Louisiana.....	140	104	27,999
Louisville.....	180	228	44,008
Memphis.....	173	251	56,421
Mexican Border Mission.....	30	22	1,764
Mississippi.....	157	156	35,070
Missouri.....	196	173	41,264
Montana.....	16	1	781
New Mexico.....	14	3	955
North Alabama.....	220	413	57,736
North Carolina.....	184	133	62,966
North Georgia.....	300	420	91,569
North Mississippi.....	163	160	42,959
North Texas.....	182	289	45,048
Northwest Mexican Mission.....	17	11	815
Northwest Texas.....	247	440	62,756
Pacific.....	83	47	7,939
South Carolina.....	245	160	71,317
South Georgia.....	215	246	59,948
Southwest Missouri.....	167	164	30,613
St. Louis.....	126	151	26,896
Tennessee.....	224	324	65,250
Texas.....	108	117	20,972
Virginia.....	260	149	82,201
West Texas.....	99	96	16,098
Western.....	33	17	3,171
Western North Carolina.....	192	194	64,492
Western Virginia.....	107	150	22,195
White River.....	93	158	24,215
Total.....	5,858	6,724	1,387,828

Total preachers and members, 1,400,410.

At the completion of the organization of our Church in 1846 we had :

Traveling preachers.....	1,519
Local preachers.....	2,833
White members.....	327,284
Colored members.....	124,961
Indian members.....	2,972
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Total.....	459,569

In 1860 we had :

Traveling preachers.....	2,784
Local preachers.....	5,353
White members.....	537,136
Colored members.....	207,776
Indian members.....	4,160
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Total.....	757,209

The result of the Civil War upon our membership is told in the table for 1866, which reads as follows :

Traveling preachers.....	2,488
Local preachers.....	3,829
White members.....	425,404
Colored members.....	48,742
Indian members.....	701
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Total.....	481,164

In the interim of these years two thousand one hundred and ten battles had been fought on a question of interpretation of the Constitution of the United States, and these tables show in part the cost to us of the mighty struggle. Our loss of property has not been estimated, nor have we symbols to express or methods to compute the loss of the enthusiasm of our youth who perished in the Civil War. The General Conference of 1866 practically reorganized our Church, which began anew her career under largely new conditions, and the growth of her membership from 481,164 at that date to more than 1,400,000 at the present indicates in part the success of her labors.

Missions.

THE first missionary society of the Methodist Episcopal Church was organized in New York City in 1819 by Joshua Soule, then Senior Book Agent of the Church, Nathan Bangs, and others. This Society was adopted by the General Conference of 1820. It had for its object the propagation of the gospel in our own country. The first foreign missionary of the Church, the Rev. Mellville B. Cox, of the Virginia Conference (though he was a native of Maine, and spent the first years of his ministry in New England), went out to Liberia in 1832. This African Mission and an attempt to plant the Church in Brazil and Buenos Ayres were the only foreign missionary enterprises of the Church up to the time of its separation in 1844. The Louisville Convention of 1845 adopted a temporary plan for the supervision of the missionary interests of the Church until a delegated General Conference should order otherwise.

The General Conference of 1846 organized a general missionary society under the control of a board of managers domiciled in Louisville, Ky. Each Annual Conference was required to organize a Conference Missionary Society, auxiliary to the Parent Board.

In 1866 the General Conference created two Boards—one called the Foreign Board and the other the Domestic Board, the first having charge of the foreign missions and the missions to the Indians; the other having charge of all our domestic missions. The Foreign Board was located in Baltimore, Md., and the Domestic Board in Nashville, Tenn.

In 1870 the General Conference discontinued the Foreign Board, and placed all the foreign missions, and

all others not provided for by the Annual Conferences, under the care and control of one Board. This Board was located in Nashville, Tenn., and has had entire control of all our foreign missionary operations up to the present time. Each Annual Conference has a Conference Board of Missions, having absolute control of all the missions under its care and the money raised for their support.

The General Board consists of a President, a Vice President, two Secretaries, and twenty-five Managers, elected quadrennially by the General Conference. The bishops are *ex officio* members of the Board. The present officers and managers of the General Board are as follows :

Officers.—Col. E. W. Cole, President; Rev. P. H. Whisner, Vice President; Rev. H. C. Morrison, Rev. W. R. Lambuth, Secretaries; Thomas B. Holt, Treasurer.

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ence; Rev. J. A. Anderson, Arkansas Conference; Thomas D. Fite, Nashville, Tenn.; Rev. A. J. Lamar, Alabama Conference; Rev. W. D. Kirkland, South Carolina Conference; Rev. E. E. Hoss, Holston Conference; Rev. C. G. Andrews, Mississippi Conference; T. S. Weaver, Nashville, Tenn.; T. P. Weakley, Nashville, Tenn.; Rev. W. A. Candler, North Georgia Conference; Rev. C. W. Carter, Louisiana Conference; Rev. R. K. Brown, Tennessee Conference; Rev. R. N. Sledd, Virginia Conference; Rev. H. C. Christian, Pacific Conference.

Foreign Missions.

CHINA MISSION CONFERENCE.

Commenced in 1848. Organized as a Conference in 1886.

THE China Mission was founded in 1848 by authority of the General Conference of 1846. The first missionary sent to that field was the Rev. Charles Taylor, of the South Carolina Conference. Rev. Benjamin Jenkins, also of the South Carolina Conference, was sent out as the colleague of Dr. Taylor. The first station occupied was Shanghai, on the eastern coast of China. In 1852 Rev. W. G. E. Cunyningham, of the Holston Conference, was sent out; and in 1854 Rev. D. C. Kelley, of the Tennessee Conference; Rev. J. W. Lambuth, of the Mississippi Conference; and Rev. James L. Belton, of the Alabama Conference, were sent to China. In 1859 Rev. Young J. Allen, of the Georgia Conference, and Rev. M. L. Wood, of the North Carolina Conference, sailed from New York for Shanghai.

The Civil War cut off the supplies from home, and Allen and Lambuth were left to provide for themselves and families. They obtained employment, and were able to remain in the field. After Allen and Wood were sent out sixteen years elapsed before another missionary was appointed to China. In 1875 Rev. A. P. Parker, of the Missouri Conference, was appointed to that field. Since then the China Mission has been greatly enlarged, and blessed with a good degree of success. In 1880 C. F. Reid joined the China Mission; 1881, G. R. Loehr; 1883, D. L. Anderson, W. H. Park; 1885, W. B. Bonnell; 1887, W. B. Burke; 1888, M. B. Hill, J. L. Hendry; 1889, H. L. Gray; 1890, B. D. Lucas, T. A. Hearn; 1893, R. A. Parker; 1895, J. B. Fearn, E. Pilley, O. E. Goddard; 1896, W. B. Nance. Total, 24.

The China Mission was organized as a Conference in 1886, and is now in regular working condition as a Conference, with twenty-six members, thirteen foreign and thirteen native. At the session of the Conference for 1894 there were eight lay members present, making a total membership of thirty-four.

The statistical report of the Conference shows a Church membership of 493 natives and 24 foreigners. During the year 107 adults and 18 infants were baptized. The register shows for 1894 503 probationers or candidates for Church membership.

This Mission Conference possesses exceptionally good educational and benevolent institutions: the Anglo-Chinese College, Buffington College, Soochow Hospital, West Nanzing Dispensary, Sunday School Board, and general school work. The China missionaries have labored faithfully and wisely in laying the

foundations of the Church in that vast and benighted empire. They are now hopeful that the sowing of a half century is about to yield a rich harvest.

JAPAN MISSION CONFERENCE.

Commenced in 1886. Organized as a Conference in 1892.

The Board of Missions at its annual meeting in 1885 resolved to establish a mission in Japan, and appropriated \$3,000 to begin the work. Dr. J. W. Lambuth, then in China, was requested to visit Japan, which he did, and reported favorably. Bishop McTyeire, who had charge of the China Mission, transferred Dr. J. W. Lambuth and his son, W. R. Lambuth, M.D., and O. A. Dukes, M.D., to Japan. The first meeting of the Japan Mission was held in Kobé September 17, 1886. In 1887 the mission reported six foreign members, one Chinese, and one Japanese. In 1892 the mission was organized into a Mission Conference. In 1894 there were ten foreign missionaries, and three native helpers, making thirteen members of the Conference, also nine on trial. During the year there had been 105 baptisms, 70 adults and 35 children. There were 18 local preachers in the several circuits and stations, and 532 Church members. The Japan Mission promises to be a fruitful field of labor. Bishop Galloway says: "Japan is white to the harvest." The reports to the Board at home from the Japan Conference show that it is well organized and doing efficient work. There are five lady missionaries in Japan under the care of the General Board: Mrs. M. I. Lambuth, Miss A. D. Bryan, Miss Ida M. Worth, Miss Nannie B. Gaines, and Miss Emily H. James.

BRAZIL MISSION CONFERENCE.

Commenced in 1874. Organized as a Conference in 1886.

Rev. Junius E. Newman, for some years a member of the Alabama Conference, settled in Brazil just after the Civil War in the United States, and preached, as he had opportunity, to the English-speaking people of São Paulo, where he organized a small society. In 1875 he was recognized by the Board of Missions as a missionary of our Church in that country, and J. J. Ransom, of the Tennessee Conference, was sent to join him. After spending some time with Mr. Newman in Santa Barbara, he went to Rio de Janeiro, where in 1877 he began missionary operations.

The Brazil Mission Conference has 11 members, according to the Minutes of 1894, and 3 probationers. There were during the last year (1894) 280 baptisms, 187 adults and 94 infants. In the several circuits and stations there are 9 local preachers and 1,098 Church members. This Mission Conference is doing a good work, especially in its educational institutions. The missionaries are intelligent and zealous. The mission is prosperous.

CENTRAL MEXICO MISSION CONFERENCE.

Commenced in 1873. Organized as a Conference in 1886.

In 1873 Bishop Keener visited the City of Mexico, and was so impressed with the importance of occupying it immediately as a mission field that he purchased property for a place of worship, and in June of that year sent Alejo Hernandez, a converted Mexican, to occupy the station. He preached only a few months when he was stricken with paralysis, from which he never recovered. He died at Corpus Christi September 27, 1875

In December, 1873, Rev. Joel T Daves was placed in charge of the mission. Hernandez, though paralyzed, was able to render Daves valuable assistance until a short time before his death. He was ordained an elder by Bishop Keener in 1874. Two other converted Mexicans were employed to assist Mr. Daves in mission work. In the latter part of the year 1775 Mr. Daves retired from the mission, leaving a membership of 83.

In February, 1878, Rev W. M. Patterson, of the Memphis Conference, was appointed Superintendent, and at once entered upon the discharge of his duties. He extended the work into the States adjacent to the City of Mexico, and organized a most efficient system of evangelistic operations. Property for churches was purchased, and a printing press was set up, a paper established, and much valuable work done. At the close of the first year Dr. Patterson reported 268 members and 12 native preachers. The ninth session of this Conference was held in Toluca, Mexico, October 25-29, 1894. There are now 4 foreign missionaries belonging to the Conference and 37 native preachers, with a Church membership of 3,169, and 33 local preachers. There were during the year 1894 480 baptisms, 262 adults and 218 infants.

MEXICAN BORDER MISSION CONFERENCE.

Commenced in 1874. Organized as a Conference in 1885.

This work was connected with the West Texas Conference until 1885, when it was organized into a Mission Conference. Alejo Hernandez was appointed to the Mexican Mission at Larado, Webb County, Tex., in 1871. He was at the time a member on probation of the West Texas Conference. In 1872 he was sent to Corpus Christi, and from there, after a few

weeks, he was sent to the City of Mexico. See account of the Central Mexico Mission Conference, p. 17.

NORTHWEST MEXICAN MISSION CONFERENCE.

Organized in 1890.

The General Conference of 1890 authorized the Mexican Border Mission Conference to divide, and in October following, the Northwest Mexican Mission Conference was set apart, and was regularly organized at its first session, held in El Paso, Tex., November, 1891. There are now 3 foreign missionaries and 14 native preachers.

Statistics.—Missionaries, 2; missionaries' wives, 2; native preachers, 14; members, 821; Epworth Leagues, 2; Epworth League members, 65; Sunday schools, 21; scholars, 632; churches, 10; sittings, 2,000; rented chapels, 11; parsonages, 5; value of churches, \$21,200; school for boys, 1; pupils, 40; school for girls, 1; pupils, 35; total value of mission property, \$35,873; collections for Missions and Church Extension, \$919.83.

INDIAN MISSION CONFERENCE.

Organized in 1844.

The territory of this Conference lies west of Arkansas, between Kansas and Texas, and is bounded on the west by Texas and Mexico. It is a fertile and beautiful country, containing about 69,000 square miles, and has a population of over 80,000. The Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Cherokees were removed from east of the Mississippi to this territory at different periods of time between 1833 and 1840. Methodist Missions were established in the Indian Territory soon after the removal of the first tribes from the East, and have been continued down to this day. The In-

dian Mission Conference was organized in 1844 by Bishop Morris, adhered South in 1845.

Statistics.—Districts, 9; stations and circuits, 141; presiding elders, 9; preachers in regular work, 95; preachers as supplies, 51; total filling appointments, 155; local preachers, 250; white members, 12,503; Indian members, 4,714; total, 17,467; increase, 4,205; infants baptized, 865; adults baptized, 1,593; Epworth Leagues, 9; Epworth League members, 296; Sunday schools, 237; teachers, 1,312; scholars, 10,091; collections for superannuated preachers, etc., \$488.61; for Foreign Missions, \$1,965.59; for Domestic Missions, \$1,607.51; for Church Extension, \$486.40; for Bible Society, \$5.20; for presiding elders, \$2,263.73; for preachers in charge, \$2,992.90; for Bishops' Fund, \$249.60; number of church edifices, 190; value, \$107,508.50; charges, 127; value of parsonages, \$30,278; district parsonages, 2; value, \$2,200; schools, 4; pupils, 502; value of property, \$64,000.

Domestic Missions.

EACH Annual Conference has control of all the domestic missions within its bounds. The limits assigned to this little manual will not permit even a partial notice of this department of Church work. Full information may be found in the Annual Report of the General Board of Missions for 1895.

Our Western Work.

THIS division includes nine Conferences to which the General Board of Missions appropriates more or less money annually: Columbia, East Columbia, Pacific, Los Angeles, Denver, Montana, Western, West Texas, and New Mexico.

MISSIONS OF THE GENERAL BOARD.—FROM REPORTS OF MISSIONARIES.

NAME OF MISSION.	OUR FOREIGN WORK.													Total Value of Mis- sion Property.*	Self-supporting Churches.	Collections for All Purposes.								
	Missionaries.	Wives of Missionaries.	Single Ladies.	Native or Local Preachers.	Other Native Helpers.	Members.	Increase.	Probationers.	Churches.	Value.*	Parsonages.	Value.*	Boarding Schools.				Teachers.	Pupils.	Day Schools.	Teachers.	Pupils.	School Buildings.	Value.*	
China.....	16	13	1	14	32	493	56	503	11	\$ 26,091	15	\$ 48,110	2	15	247	33	34	539	4	\$ 68,440	\$142,641	2	\$2,078	
Japan.....	18	13	4	6	23	632	25	106	7	6,994	2	8,115	3	26	165	12	18	349	3	44,665	53,774	.....	1,615	
Brazil.....	11	11	.....	15	9	1,098	164	.....	6	40,375	1	3,500	5	30	396	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2,067	
Central Mexico.....	4	4	.....	37	33	3,169	669	.....	31	67,892	8	37,379	1	2	44	11	.....	200	.....	.....	95,271	.....	644	
Mexican Border.....	3	2	.....	26	22	1,734	158	.....	17	26,608	5	2,080	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	75	.....	.....	28,688	1	2,278	
Northwest Mexican.....	2	2	.....	14	11	809	52	.....	10	21,300	5	9,800	.....	.....	5	17	.....	307	.....	.....	31,700	.....	998	
Total Foreign Work.....	54	45	5	112	130	7,835	1,124	609	82	\$189,860	36	\$108,984	11	72	852	63	69	1,470	7	\$113,105	\$401,949	3	\$9,682	
Indian Mission Conf.....	152	.....	.....	250	.....	17,118	3,980	.....	190	\$107,508	.....	\$30,278	4	.....	502	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$64,000	.....	.....	.....
OUR WESTERN WORK.																								
Columbia Conference.....	21	.....	.....	13	.....	1,356	155	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
East Columbia Conference	25	.....	.....	25	.....	1,645	190	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pacific Conference.....	83	.....	.....	47	.....	7,926	973	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Los Angeles Conference..	26	.....	.....	23	.....	2,168	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Denver Conference.....	12	.....	.....	8	.....	901	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Montana Conference.....	16	.....	.....	1	.....	780	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Western Conference.....	33	.....	.....	17	.....	3,171	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
West Texas.....	99	.....	.....	96	.....	16,088	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
New Mexico Conference....	14	.....	.....	3	.....	954	83	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total Western Work.....	329	.....	.....	233	.....	34,989	1,410	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
German Mission.....	19	.....	.....	17	.....	1,184	54	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Grand total.....	554	45	5	612	130	61,126	6,568	609	272	\$297,368	36	\$139,262	15	73	1,354	63	69	1,470	7	\$113,105	\$465,949	3	\$9,682	

* Mexican Currency.

The Woman's Foreign Missionary Society.

Organized in 1878.

THE Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was organized in May, 1878, under a constitution provided by the General Conference held that year in the city of Atlanta, Ga. Its business affairs and the general management of the work were placed under the control of a "General Executive Association;" but in 1882 the constitution was revised, the objects and methods of the organization more clearly defined, and the name "General Executive Association" changed to Woman's Board of Missions." Subsequently the word "Foreign" was inserted in the constitution and charter, so that the name now reads "Woman's Board of Foreign Missions." This Board consists of a President, Vice President, two Secretaries, a Treasurer, a Recording Secretary, and six Managers, to be elected quadrennially by the Woman's Board at the annual meeting next succeeding the session of the General Conference. (For further information on the subject, see the "Discipline," and the Annual Reports of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions.)

The officers and managers of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions for the present quadrennium are as follows:

Officers.—Mrs. Juliana Hayes, Honorary President; Mrs. M. D. Wightman, President; Miss Maria L. Gibson, Vice President; Mrs. D. H. McGavock, Foreign Secretary; Mrs. S. C. Truheart, Secretary of Home Affairs; Mrs. T. B. Hargrove, Recording Secretary; Mrs. H. N. McTyeire, Treasurer.

Managers.—Mrs. W. G. E. Cunyningham, Mrs. J.

D. Hamilton, Mrs. I. G. John, Mrs. E. C. Dowdell, Mrs. Adam Hendrix, Mrs. W. B. Higginbotham.

The Society supports at present 38 missionaries, including 1 medical; 109 teachers and helpers, 12 boarding schools, 40 day schools, 1 hospital, 11 Bible women; women and children under instruction, 4,372. There are four mission fields under the care of the Woman's Board: China, Mexico, Brazil, and the Indian Mission. The Board appropriated at the last annual meeting, for 1895-96, \$83,225 to support the work in the four mission fields.

LITERATURE.

The organ of the Woman's Society is the *Woman's Missionary Advocate*, edited by Mrs. F. A. Butler, and published by the Book Agents, Barbee & Smith. Subscription price, 50 cents a year. It is a neat quarto monthly of 32 pages, well printed and beautifully bound. Mrs. Butler has good taste, versatility, and tact. Her editorial work has given great satisfaction to the Society. The circulation of the *Woman's Missionary Advocate* is at present 13,000. It contains a variety of interesting information concerning mission work at home and abroad.

The Little Worker is a juvenile publication adapted to children and youth. It is now in its fourth year, a great favorite with the little folks. Edited by Miss Annie M. Barnes.

Missionary Leaflets in great numbers are printed and distributed annually. Mrs. Bishop Wilson edits this useful department of missionary literature.

An annual report of the work done by the Society is published in a large pamphlet. The readers will find much valuable information in this annual.

Church Extension.

THE General Conference of 1882 organized the Board of Church Extension for the purpose of aiding frontier, small, and needy communities desiring the gospel from our Church to build houses of worship. The office of the Board was located in Louisville, Ky., and continues there. It is incorporated under a special act of the Legislature of Kentucky. The revenues of the Board are "derived from annual collections in every congregation, from special collections by the Corresponding Secretary, and by the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society and by the bishops, and from gifts, devises, and bequests." Each Annual Conference has an Auxiliary Church Extension Board which is entitled to retain control, and apply within the bounds of the Conference fifty per cent of all funds coming into its hands, the other fifty per cent passing to the Parent Board for administration.

City Boards of Church Extension may be organized in cities having three or more pastoral charges for co-operation in local Church Extension work. Their funds are to be raised by special collections, and no part of their work is to conflict with the collections and operations of the General and Conference Boards of Church Extension. The growth in favor with the Church of the purposes of these Boards is shown by the increase in collection from \$32,833.98 the first year of their existence to nearly double that amount in recent years.

The total collections from the institution of the Boards to December 1, 1895, amount to \$647,105.46. Besides the Annual Conference contributions and special donations for the general work, there has been

given and bequeathed to the Parent Board for the permanent loan fund \$101,222.99, legacies to the amount of \$30,000, yet to be paid over to the Board, not included. These funds are loaned to the churches on long time at six per cent. interest, and have earned over \$25,000, which has been added to the permanent loan capital.

These funds have been used to aid in the building of churches in all parts of our territory. The donations by the General and Conference Boards (not including those from the latter during the current year not yet reported) from the beginning to December 1, 1895, amount to \$548,128, while the loans returned or to be returned to the Board aggregate \$214,550. The churches helped number 3,009.

The officers and Managers of the Parent Board are: Presley Meguiar, President, Louisville, Ky.; R. B. Gilbert, M.D., Vice President, Louisville, Ky.; Rev. David Morton, D.D., Corresponding Secretary, Louisville, Ky.; John Ouerbacker, Treasurer, Louisville, Ky.; Fidelity Trust and Safety Vault Company, Depository, Louisville, Ky. All the bishops and the senior Secretary of the Board of Missions, Rev. H. C. Morrison, D.D., are Managers, *ex officio*. Rev. W. T. Harris, D.D., Jackson, Tenn.; Rev. F. B. Carroll, D.D., Van Alstyne, Tex.; Rev. C. I. Vandeventer, St. Joseph, Mo.; John L. Wheat, Esq., Louisville, Ky.; Rev. H. M. Neely, D.D., Denver, Col.; Rev. Beverly W. Bond, D.D., Front Royal, Va.; Rev. S. M. Hosmer, D.D., Birmingham, Ala.; John W. Paulett, Esq., Knoxville, Tenn.; George M. Rogers, Esq., Louisville, Ky.; Rev. John W. Lewis, D.D., Louisville, Ky.; T. L. Jefferson, Esq., Louisville, Ky.;

Rev. W. F. Cook, D.D., Atlanta, Ga.; Presley H. Tapp, Esq., Louisville, Ky.

Official organ, the *Church Extension Bulletin*, Louisville, Ky.

Printed blanks for application to the General Board for aid will be furnished upon request by the Corresponding Secretary at the address given below. Blanks for applications to the Conference Boards will be furnished by the Secretaries of the Boards respectively. The General Board can be addressed through its Corresponding Secretary, Rev. David Morton, D.D., 705 West Chestnut Street, Louisville, Ky.

Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society.

To find a home for the preacher is often more difficult than to find him a place to preach. Our Board of Church Extension very early in its operations felt the need of parsonages. At the next General Conference after its organization, 1886, it asked and obtained authority to organize a "Woman's Department of Church Extension," with Annual and District Conference adjuncts and local auxiliaries in the pastoral charges; "to collect funds . . . for purchasing or securing parsonages."

At the end of four years this department showed collections and receipts for its object to the amount of \$33,903.57. By this time the need of increased activity for the salvation of the poor of our cities, and for a more regular ministration of the gospel to our mountain population, was weighing on the conscience of the Church. To meet these needs the General Conference of 1890 enlarged the scope of the Woman's Department of Church Extension, changed its name to the

“Woman’s Parsonage and Home Mission Society,” and for the mission work, apart from parsonage building, endowed it with powers of independent administration; an endowment wisely used, the work of the Society having been carried on wherever practicable in conjunction with the Board of Church Extension and the Board of Missions.

This Society from 1886 to the end of the fiscal year, March 31, 1895, collected and received \$115,070.22. Out of this aid has been given to 784 parsonages, and the Society now has under its care two day schools, six industrial schools, and eight city missionaries. Perhaps the most important of these schools are the two in Florida for the education of the children of Cuban immigrants and refugees in that State. The city mission work of the Society has had encouraging results, both directly and in the zeal provoked in local churches of all sects for the recovery of the lost about them.

In addition to the moneys collected and work performed as above indicated, commodities to the value of thousands of dollars have been collected and distributed by this Society for the relief of distress and for the support of mission pastors in the mountains and in the far West.

The membership of this Society is now above 12,000. Its general work is conducted by a Central Committee of twelve women, elected by the Board of Church Extension. This Central Committee for the current quadrennium is constituted as follows:

Officers.—Mrs. E. E. Wiley, Emory, Va., President; Mrs. R. K. Hargrove, Nashville, Tenn., General Secretary; Mrs. George P. Kendrick, 820 Fifth Street, Louisville, Ky., General Treasurer.

Managers.—Mrs. Marcus Wolff, Miss Lucinda B. Helm, Miss Emily Allen, Mrs. Ellen Burdette, Mrs. J. A. Carter, Mrs. J. S. Key, Mrs. J. J. Tigert, Miss Belle Bennett, Miss Rebecca Robertson.

This committee holds its annual meeting, in connection with the Board of Church Extension, at Louisville, Ky. The office of the General Secretary is at Nashville, Tenn.

The Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society is chartered by the State of Kentucky, and is empowered to receive and hold in trust gifts, devises, and bequests made in behalf of the purposes for which it exists.

The following is the form of bequest or devise to the Society :

I give and bequeath to the Board of Church Extension of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, a corporation organized under the laws of the State of Kentucky, in trust for the Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society, to be held, paid, or applied as the Central Committee of said Society shall direct [here name the sum of money or describe the effects to be given], and the receipt of the Treasurer of the said Board shall be a complete discharge of my executor for the same.

Application to the Society for aid to parsonages must be made according to forms that will be furnished by the General Secretary at Nashville.

Forms for the organization of auxiliary societies and leaflets and tracts to promote an interest in them are sent out gratis from the same office.

The Society issues from our Publishing House a monthly periodical under the title of *Our Homes*, the price of which is fifty cents a year. Miss Lucinda B. Helm is the Editor and Agent of this publication. Her address is Nashville, Tenn.

Scarritt Bible and Training School.

THIS institution is located at Kansas City, Mo., and is under the care of the Woman's Board of Foreign Missions of the M. E. Church, South. Its buildings are elegant and admirably adapted to the purposes for which they were erected, thoroughly equipped, and complete in every appointment, with a Board of Managers, a well-organized medical fraternity, and an efficient corps of instructors—all under the judicious supervision of Miss Maria Layng Gibson, Principal and Secretary of the institution. The object of this school is to train missionaries for home and foreign work, Sunday school teachers, nurses, etc. It is opened to students of all denominations, and offers them the twofold advantage of the refining influences of a happy Christian home and thorough systematic training for Christian work. The need for an increased number of trained laborers in all the fields of Christian beneficence is apparent to any intelligent observer. In every other department of human effort, where any degree of intelligence is required, some special training is supposed to be necessary; certainly where instruction and counsel are expected, and where professional knowledge is demanded, special training is essential. This training the Scarritt Bible and Training School is prepared to give, and at moderate cost. It gives

1. A practical knowledge of the Bible by careful study of each book, its language, literature, and subject-matter, with regular drill in methods of teaching it, also instruction in Christian evidences, Old Testament history, and kindred subjects.

2. The study of Church history, history of Missions,

with some account of the condition and needs of the several fields, and the necessary qualifications of missionaries.

3. To advance the great interests of Sunday school work by training teachers for regular class work, and such normal work as will fit them to lead teachers' meetings in the home churches.

4. To afford an opportunity of lectures on elementary medicine and nursing.

5. To give practical training in all branches of city mission work—viz., Bible reading, industrial schools, mothers' meetings, house to house visiting, prison reform, and the reformation of fallen women.

6. To aid churches and pastors to solve the problem confronting them in all our great cities: how to reach and help the neglected classes.

7. To test the fitness of candidates for home and foreign mission work; their physical strength, mental capacity, and religious character.

There is no charge for tuition. The terms are so moderate that \$150 will cover all expenses for board, and \$10 for books.

Nine students of this school are already in the field: three in China, one in Siam, one in Brazil, and one in Japan, all doing good work.

This institution was founded by the liberality of Rev. Nathan Scarritt, of Kansas City, whose honored name it bears.

All communications should be addressed to Miss Maria L. Gibson, Principal and Secretary, Scarritt Bible and Training School, Kansas City, Mo.

Sunday School Department.

THE General Conference of our Church has recognized from the beginning of its history the Sunday school as one of the most important departments of Christian work, and has accordingly provided for its organization and control. The preachers in charge of circuits and stations are required to form Sunday schools "in all our congregations where ten persons can be collected for that purpose." "The Quarterly Conference of each circuit and station is a Board of Managers, having the supervision of all the Sunday schools within its bounds." Each Annual Conference is required to "establish a Sunday School Board, which shall give special attention to all Sunday school interests within its bounds." The General Conference elects quadrennially a "Parent Sunday School Board," which has general supervision of all the Sunday school interests of the Church. This Board consists at present of the following members: B. M. Washburn, of the Alabama Conference; Robert Magruder, of the Baltimore Conference; J. R. Pepper, of the Memphis Conference; J. O. Willson, of the South Carolina Conference; and J. H. Kirkland, of the Tennessee Conference. The Sunday School Editor is *ex officio* Chairman of the Board.

Sunday School Literature.—The General Conference also provides a wholesome denominational literature for its Sunday schools, adapted to the use of teachers and the several grades of scholars.

1. The *Sunday School Magazine* was issued first in 1870 under the editorial management of Rev. A. G. Haygood (now bishop), the Sunday School Secretary of the M. E. Church, South. It was a thirty-two page

monthly. It has been enlarged to sixty-four pages. It contains the current International Lessons, "Normal Department," "Doctrinal Teaching," "Orientalisms," "Lesson Illustrated," "Primary Class Teaching," "Teacher's Question Drawer," with "Editorial," "Miscellany," etc.

2. The *Senior Quarterly*, for Bible classes and advanced scholars, has thirty-two pages 8vo, and contains the International Lessons, with brief expository notes, questions, catechism lessons, etc.

3. The *Intermediate Quarterly*, thirty-two pages, 8vo, has the International Lessons, with expository notes and other helps adapted to the intermediate and younger classes.

4. *Illustrated Lesson Paper* for the primary classes, with questions, illustrations, etc.

5. *Our Little People*, four pages, with illustrations and lesson story, intended for the infant class teacher.

6. The *Sunday School Visitor*, a beautiful Sunday school paper, is published in three forms—*weekly*, *monthly*, and *semimonthly*, tastefully illustrated, and filled with matter adapted to children and young people. It is the oldest publication of the Sunday school series, being now in its forty-fourth year. Its publication was begun in Charleston, S. C., in 1851, under the editorship of Dr. T. O. Summers.

The circulation of the Sunday school literature is very large, sufficient to supply all our Sunday schools.

In addition to the above periodical literature, the department has a series of graded Sunday school libraries, besides a large miscellaneous assortment of books suitable for families, schools, and churches. These books have been selected with great care by compe-

tent persons, and the number is being constantly increased.

CHILDREN'S DAY.

This popular institution of the Church is properly placed under the care of the Sunday School Department. The law establishing it as an annual festival reads as follows: "The third Sunday in May or as near thereto as practicable, shall be observed as Children's Day throughout our Church with appropriate services, and on that day collections shall be taken up for the aid of needy Sunday schools and the advancement of the Sunday school work under the direction of the Annual Conference Sunday School Committee." Ten per cent of the money raised on Children's Day is to be forwarded to the General Sunday School Board at Nashville, Tenn., to be distributed by the Board under such regulations as may be deemed most advisable.

Statistics.—According to the General Minutes of 1894 there are: Sunday schools, 13,873; Sunday school teachers, 99,338; Sunday school scholars, 811,579.

The collection on Children's Day in 1894 amounted to \$8,088.50. Ten per cent. of these collections, or \$808.85, came to the General Board. The Board has an invested fund from the Centennial year collections (1884) of \$10,000, the interest on which is annually collected.

The Sunday School Department is at present under the editorial management of Rev. W. D. Kirkland, D.D., Sunday School Editor of the M. E. Church, South.

Epworth League.

THE organization of Epworth Leagues in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was first authorized by

the General Conference which met in St. Louis, Mo., in May, 1890. The first League was organized at First Church, Memphis, Tenn., in December of the same year. Since then the growth has been very rapid, and it stands to-day as one of the remarkable facts in the history of our Church. The General Conference of 1890 placed the general direction and supervision of the work in the hands of the Sunday School Committee. At the session of the Conference in 1894 the work of supervision was put into a more direct form. The Epworth League Board of Control was appointed, a General Secretary elected, and a weekly paper (the *Epworth Era*), as the official organ of the Epworth Leagues, was ordered published. The central office was located at Nashville, where the records are kept and the interest of the general work looked after.

Before 1894 the Leagues were not chartered. Since September of that year 2,300 Leagues have been chartered, with an aggregate membership of 103,500. The membership of Junior Leagues as reported and chartered is 5,250.

The League throughout the Church is rapidly increasing. It is becoming better understood, and better sustained. There are few Districts without at least one organization. Our foreign missionaries are recognizing the need of the work, and there are now from one to five well-organized Leagues in all our mission fields except Brazil. A marked feature of League work in the past year has been the growing interest in the cause of Missions. The State organizations of Texas and Alabama have already sent out missionaries, pledging their support, while other States have the same matter under consideration. The Tennessee Conference Ep-

worth League Conference at its last annual meeting, in April, 1895, pledged an amount sufficient for building a missionary boat to be used in the mission work in China. A number of individual Leagues are assisting in the support of missionaries in the field, educating native converts, and contributing to other lines of work.

The constitution and by-laws of the League, and other helpful literature, have been translated into the languages and dialects of the various mission fields.

The sale of the books of the Reading Course has been unsatisfactory for the past two years, but there is promise of great improvement in this department for the coming year. The adoption of the general Topics for the devotional meeting has become almost universal. They are used in common by the M. E. Church, the Methodist Church of Canada, and the M. E. Church, South.

The *Epworth Era* is filling an important place in the work of the League, and its circulation is on a steady increase.

Board of Control.—The last General Conference appointed a Board of Control, into whose hands the management and general supervision of the Leagues was placed.

The time for their regular meeting is in May of each year at Nashville. The following are the members: Bishop R. K. Hargrove, President, Nashville, Tenn.; Rev. J. E. Harrison, First Vice President, San Antonio, Tex.; Rev. J. W. Newman, Second Vice President, Talledega, Ala.; Prof. W. R. Webb, Third Vice President, Bellbuckle, Tenn.; J. U. Rust, Treasurer, Nashville, Tenn.; Rev. S. A. Steel, General Secretary, Nashville, Tenn.; John B. Rader, Fresno, Cal.;

A. E. Whitaker, St. Louis, Mo.; J. F. Browinski, Carrollton, Ky.; W. B. Thomas, New Orleans, La.; J. D. Crooks, Waverly, Ill.; J. A. Clifton, Charleston, S. C.; J. E. Wray, Macon, Ga.; W. W. Pinson, San Antonio, Tex.

Executive Committee.—Bishop R. K. Hargrove, Nashville, Tenn.; Rev. J. E. Harrison, San Antonio, Tex.; Prof. W. R. Webb, Bellbuckle, Tenn.; J. U. Rust, Nashville, Tenn.; Rev. S. A. Steel, Nashville, Tenn.

Office Assistant.—W. S. Parks, Nashville, Tenn.

Board of Education.

OUR Board of Education was organized by the General Conference of 1894. There are one hundred and ninety-eight schools and colleges owned by and under the care of our Church. To bring these schools into communication with each other, to harmonize their courses of instruction, and to devise means through Annual Conference and local organizations for their better support were the chief ends for which this Board was created. Its work so far has been preparatory and introductory, but this initial work has already told for good upon our schools, and is giving tokens of the future value of its labors to our educational institutions.

Members of the Board.—R. J. Bigham, D.D.; Bishop C. B. Galloway, D.D.; Bishop E. R. Hendrix, D.D.; W. A. Candler, D.D.; J. D. Hammond, D.D.; J. H. McLean, D.D.; J. H. Kirkland, LL.D.; R. E. Crockett, A.B.; J. H. Carlisle, LL.D.; W. B. Hill, Esq.; A. Coke Smith, D.D.; B. N. Duke, Esq.; E. W. Cole, Esq.; T. H. B. Anderson, D.D.; J. S. Kennedy, D.D.

Officers.—Bishop C. B. Galloway, D.D., President, Jackson, Miss.; Bishop E. R. Hendrix, D.D., Vice President, Kansas City, Mo.; Chancellor J. H. Kirkland, Ph.D., Recording Secretary and Treasurer, Nashville, Tenn.; Rev. R. J. Bigham, D.D., Secretary, Nashville, Tenn.

The American Bible Society.

THE American Bible Society became the authorized agency for the Bible work of the Methodist Episcopal Church by action of the General Conference in 1840, and this action was adopted by our first General Conference in 1846. Both branches of Episcopal Methodism have for more than half a century contributed to the treasury of the Society, and have in turn been aided by its benefactions. Our obligations to this Society have always been recognized, and never more distinctly than by our last General Conference, which declared it to be “the indispensable ally of our missionaries in the foreign field,” and made it the duty of all our pastors to present once a year to each congregation in their charges the claims of the American Bible Society, and to report the contributions raised by them for that purpose. This action has already increased the contributions of our Church to this Society, and still larger contributions are confidently anticipated. Besides its endeavors, through its own colporteurs, to put a copy of the Holy Scriptures in every human habitation in our own country, the American Bible Society has printed these Scriptures in near a hundred different languages and dialects for the enlightenment of the world. Its work is constantly expanding, and it both needs and deserves the most generous support of all the Churches.

Our Publishing House.

THE Publishing House of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was established in Nashville, Tenn., by the General Conference of 1854. The funds in hand and in prospect for its foundation at the time its seat was chosen aggregated \$386,152. E. Stevenson, of the Louisville Conference, and F. A. Owen, of the Memphis Conference, were the first Agents of the House. At the General Conference of 1858 Dr. J. B. McFerrin, of the Tennessee Conference, was elected Agent of the House, and Dr. Richard Abbey, of the Mississippi Conference, Financial Secretary. The Civil War intervened between these appointments and the next General Conference, which was held in New Orleans in 1866. After the fall of Fort Donelson, in 1862, the House was taken possession of by the Federal authorities, and held and used for military purposes till the close of the war. "Much of the stock and material of the House were used up and the machinery greatly injured." It was a matter of debate whether or not, in the wasted condition of the country, it would be wise to resume the operations of the House. It was decided to resume. Dr. Albert H. Redford, of the Louisville Conference, was elected to the Agency, and was continued in the office till 1878. He labored from first to last under great difficulties. He began without working capital. Heavy debts had to be carried from the start. In 1872 the buildings were burned. Energetic and hopeful by natural disposition, the Agent hesitated not to rebuild on a larger scale. The money panic of 1873 came on, and the General Conference of 1878 had not seen the end of it. The accumulation of its liabilities and the depreciation of assets due to the commer-

cial condition of the country put the Conference in alarm for the House. It was resolved to make an extraordinary effort to save it. Dr. John B. McFerrin was again called to the Agency, and \$300,000 of four per cent bonds, payable in 1900-1920, were issued for the relief of the House. The Church took the bonds with promptness and alacrity. The House was relieved. The Government resumed specie payment in 1878. Business everywhere revived. The House prospered. Dr. McFerrin was continued in the Agency till his death, April 3, 1887. At that date, by the report made but two days before, the indebtedness of the House was \$68,400, showing how large a part of the bonds of 1878 had been canceled.

The Book Committee elected Dr. J. D. Barbee, of the Tennessee Conference, to fill out the unexpired term of Dr. McFerrin as Book Agent. The General Conference of 1890 reelected Dr. Barbee Agent and Mr. D. M. Smith Assistant Agent, and the Conference of 1894 continued them in their respective offices. By the assistance of the pastors and the loyal support of the members of the Church these Agents, supported and aided by the wise counsels of an intelligent and experienced Book Committee, have been able to clear the House of all debt, improve its property, greatly increase its facilities for work, and disburse many thousands of dollars to the Annual Conferences to aid in the support of their "superannuated and worn-out preachers, their wives, widows, and children." The condition of the House was reported to the Annual Conferences of 1895 as follows:

Total business from all departments	\$355,013	08
Gain in assets for the year	44,877	14
Cash and sinking fund March 31, 1895	56,320	16

ASSETS.

Total assets March 31, 1895.....	\$700,272 54
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LIABILITIES.

Outstanding bonds.....	\$9,000 00
Overpayments on the part of customers.	2,027 95
Am't on deposit by Sunday School B'ds.	1,631 56
	<hr/>
Total liabilities	12,659 51
	<hr/>
Capital as per ledger.....	\$687,613 03

The Book Committee, under whose oversight the Book Agents administer their trust, had large powers conferred on it by the General Conference of 1878. It consists of six clerical and seven lay members, and is elected by the General Conference. It prescribes rules and regulations not inconsistent with the acts of the General Conference for the government of the Agents in the conduct of the House, takes monthly account of its ongoings, and makes annual settlement with the Agents. It can suspend an Agent at any time for mismanagement or misconduct in office, and appoint some one else to his place; and with the advice and concurrence of "one or more of the bishops" has power to debar from his place till investigation and trial be had any connectional editor against whom charges of "misconduct or inefficiency in his office" may be brought.

The following were elected by the General Conference of 1894 the Book Committee for the current quadrennium: W. H. Morgan, J. D. Hamilton, R. A. Young, T. D. Fite, Collins Denny, J. M. Binkley, Paul Whitehead, R. W. Millsaps, J. A. Odell, J. M. Mason, W. P. Lovejoy, Richard M. Scruggs, W. C. Kendrick. Mr. Scruggs having resigned from this Committee, his place was filled at the last annual meet-

ing by the election of Mr. S. M. Kennard, of St. Louis, Mo.

Officers.—W. H. Morgan, Chairman; J. D. Hamilton, Secretary.

The editors in charge of the periodical publications of the House are: Book Editor and Editor of the *Methodist Review*, Jno. J. Tigert, D.D., LL.D.; *Christian Advocate*, E. E. Hoss, D.D., Editor; J. W. Boswell, D.D., Assistant Editor; *Sunday School Magazine*, *Quarterlies*, *Illustrated Lesson Paper*, *Little People*, and *Visitor*, W. D. Kirkland, D.D., Editor.

The House does a general book business, keeps in stock standard and current literature, and solicits orders for any book in print and on the market proper for it to handle.

Other Churches.

BELOW we give some of the statistics of other leading evangelical Churches in the United States:

Denomination.	Ministers.	Churches.	Communicants.
Baptist (South).....	14,086	17,567	1,417,816
Baptist (North).....	7,817	8,732	901,643
Congregationalist.....	5,400	5,500	600,000
Lutheran.....	5,685	9,493	1,390,775
Methodist Episcopal.....	16,079	24,605	2,629,985
Presbyterian (South).....	1,337	2,776	203,999
Presbyterian (North).....	6,498	7,218	902,757
Presbyterian, Cumberland..	1,704	2,884	193,393
Protestant Episcopal.....	4,487	5,885	616,843

The "Colored Methodist Episcopal Church in America," with which we are associated in the support of Paine and Lane Institutes, has 1,297 preachers, 4,004 churches, and 170,718 members.

The other two leading African Methodist Churches have a total of 1,003,917 members and 6,838 preachers.

The Colored Baptist Church has 1,317,962 members and 5,188 preachers.

For these figures we are indebted to the tables of Dr. H. K. Carroll, of the *New York Independent*.

The Methodist Church in Canada has 2,064 traveling preachers and 267,740 members. Its missionary society has a membership of 47,127, and employs 501 missionaries, 82 assistants, 49 teachers, and 18 interpreters. The society's income for 1893-94 was \$234,153.62. This Church has its publishing house and general offices at Toronto.*

*The figures in this paragraph are from the Year Book of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

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