

collections taken in behalf of the funds.

On Tuesday, the 8th, a Tea Meeting, and afterwards a Public Meeting, took place, presided over by H. S. Barrett, Esq. (Wesleyan), one of the Aldermen of the city.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, urged the duty of Christians to uphold the cause of missions.

The SECRETARY (Rev. E. Miller), read the report, showing the satisfactory progress of the United Methodist Missions during the past year, and the increase of funds, and also alluding, among other things, to the determination of the directors to send two missionaries to China.

The financial statement was then submitted, £40 3s. 6d.

Mr. T. J. Crouch, Esq. (Wesleyan), Under-Sheriff, Mr. R. Giblin (Independent), Rev. E. McClean, M. A. (Church of Scotland), the Revs. J. W. Simmons, W. C. Robinson (Independent), afterwards addressed the meeting.

A collection was then made, and the secretary acknowledged the receipt of a cheque for £2, as the donation of Hon. Dr. Officer, speaker of the House of Assembly.

The Rev. E. MILLER moved that thanks be tendered to Mr. Alderman Barrett.

Mr. BARRETT briefly acknowledged a hearty vote of thanks, and the proceedings concluded with the singing of the Doxology.

#### LINCOLN.

THE anniversary services of the Lincoln Sabbath-School were held on Sunday and Monday, June 5th and 6th. Two sermons were preached by the Rev. J. Schofield, of Burton-on-Trent, on Sunday morning and evening. The examinations of the scholars, with a few recitations and singing, occupied the afternoon. On the Monday the scholars had their annual tea; afterwards there was a public tea, which was thinly attended. After tea, the Public Meeting was held, when addresses were delivered by the Rev. J. Schofield and Rev. J. Thomason (Primitive), and one of the school superintendents. Mr. T. Nicholson, of South Carlton, presided.

Collections were made at the close of

each service, and amounted to £9 11s. 2½d.

In consequence of a new Chapel being built on the site of the old one, the services were held in the Corn Exchange. An able, interesting, and encouraging report was read by the Secretary.

#### LONDON DISTRICT.

THE adjourned meeting was held at the Book Room on the 30th of June; the Rev. W. REED, presided.

The Tabular Statement showed an increase of two-hundred and nine members, with five-hundred and twenty-eight on trial.

Considerable progress had been made in the erection and enlargement of Chapels and school-rooms, but much more is contemplated.

The First London Circuit had purchased a very good Chapel in Clapton, which will be opened in a few days.

The Third London Circuit is preparing to build a large Chapel at Poplar, and a very good one at Limehouse, in a much more eligible situation than the one they now occupy. The other London Circuits also are busily engaged in enlarging some, and preparing to erect others.

It is expected that the Chapel and premises at North End, Fulham, will shortly be given to the Connexion by James Wild, Esq., as a deed is now in course of preparation.

In considering the "Grants" for Circuits, it was found that Croydon would not require any; Tunbridge and Wickham would not require so much for the coming year as they had in the past; so that, judging from the returns given, and the reports made, the District is healthy and growing.

Earnest prayers were offered, at the commencement and the close, for increased prosperity.

ROBERT BURELL,  
District Secretary.

#### NOTTINGHAM.

LAYING THE FOUNDATION STONE OF  
CHAPEL AND SCHOOL-ROOMS.

THE interesting ceremony of laying the foundation stone of a new chapel and school-rooms in Great Alfred Street, in connection with the "United Methodist Free Church," worshipping

in Shakespeare Street, took place last Monday. It appears that the United Methodist Free Church in Nottingham has been very successful. During the last three years the church members in the circuit have greatly increased, the town congregation having doubled itself. At Shakespeare Street Chapel galleries have been added to give increased accommodation. This congregation feeling that there was a populous district of many thousands of souls for whom the spiritual privileges of the neighbourhood were inadequate, determined on opening a preaching room and Sunday-school near the present site of the new chapel. So successful has it been that they decided on erecting the present building, which, when completed, will be a great ornament to the town. The weather was sultry, and at times overcast, but during the ceremony the sun shone with brilliancy, lending life and animation to the scene. There was a very large concourse of people present, and the windows of the houses in the vicinity commanding a view of the scene were lined with spectators. The friends and scholars of the Sunday-school met at the Shakespeare Street school-room, and walked in procession to the grounds, arriving there at three o'clock. The speakers and principal persons interested occupied the platform. Amongst those present we observed the Revs. W. Griffiths (Derby), Thomas Newton, Trevail, Guttridge, Ackrill, Mr. Thomas Kirk (Derby), Messrs. Atkin, Miller, Leighton, England, Page, Foster, Wigley, Smith, Broxholme, Perry, Dobson, Booth, &c., &c. The proceedings commenced by singing the hymn commencing:—

“Great is the Lord our God,  
And let His praise be great;  
He makes His churches His abode,  
His most delightful seat.”

The Rev. W. Trevail then read the 84th Psalm, after which the Rev. W. Griffiths, of Derby, offered up prayer. Mr. Marsh, Secretary to the Trustees, read an appropriate memorial.

All being ready for the laying of the stone, Mr. Nathaniel Broxholme then stepped forward, and presented S. Smith, Esq., with a beautiful silver trowel, on which was chastely engraved

the following inscription: “Presented to Sydney Smith, Esq., on his laying the foundation-stone of Great Alfred Street Chapel, Nottingham, in connection with the United Methodist Free Church, June 20th, 1864.” A mahogany mallet was next presented by Mr. George Chapman. The stone was then raised, and S. Smith, Esq., proceeded to place in the cavity a box hermetically sealed, containing a bottle in which were placed copies of the *Nottingham Daily Express*, and *Wesleyan Times* newspapers, the minutes of the last Annual Assembly, a photograph of the Rev. T. Newton, the Preacher's Plan of the Nottingham Circuit, along with the foregoing memorial. The stone having been lowered into its place and finally adjusted, S. Smith, Esq., proceeded to say, that he was thankful God, in His infinite goodness, had thought fit to permit him to lay the stone to His honour, praise, and glory. He felt himself unworthy of so glorious a task. Like others, he had for some time been looking above, and asking of the Lord was there nothing for him to do before he went hence. There were, he was thankful to say, many of the Lord's blessed people present that day who had come up to the help of the Lord against the mighty. The work he was engaged in was a necessary one; the stone must be laid before the building could be erected. An acorn was a small and insignificant thing to look upon, but when planted and watered with the dews of heaven it became a mighty oak. He laid that stone with the full hope that it would prove to many a house below to fit them to go to the House of God above. If any asked why was the chapel erected, they might look around and see the vast population growing up on every side. He trusted it might prove a blessing to the whole population—parents and children alike; and not only to them, but to future generations also. When a youth, few were wilder than himself; but he was there that day as a witness of God's glorious power to save for many a year past. He saw many around him who, like himself, were witnesses of this power, and he hoped to meet them in the world above. Sin had ruined thousands, but God's temples had saved thousands. He con-

cluded an earnest speech by saying that Nottingham was alive to the necessity of building sanctuaries for the worship of that God who liveth for ever, and it was no small honour to be allowed to be a doorkeeper in the house of God. He had experienced great pleasure in being there that afternoon, and he would not only help them by his presence, but his purse also. He would never make an offering of that which cost him nothing. He trusted they were all saying with him—the Lord should be their God, and Him only would they serve, and that God's blessing would be with them this day and evermore.

Another hymn was then sung, commencing—

“This stone to Thee in faith we lay.”

Rev. J. Guttridge, (president of the Connexion), said he saw the police were on the spot, which reminded him that if he had been engaged two hundred years ago doing what he was doing that day, they would have been there for a very different purpose; not to take care of him, but to take him into custody. The times were changed, they were not now living under the reign of Charles I. and Charles II., but under the auspicious reign of Queen Victoria. He remembered, in one of the most sagacious books he had ever read, the author said man will worship, he alone had the capacity to adore; there was not that capacity in the brute. If they got a sagacious elephant and tried to get a hallelujah out of it they could not. Man was made to love, serve, and enjoy God. God was therefore the great necessity and great want of man. The second proposition laid down was, that as man would worship, if he did not worship the right he would worship the wrong. As this was a place of worship they were erecting, it might be asked what kind it was. Egypt was called the land of the temples, so might England, but the temples they raised were widely different to those scattered over the land of Egypt. In England they had nearly forty thousand now; time was when they had not one, and they were the source of our truest, noblest security. He believed in our soldiers, in our garrisons, the sailors in our fleet, the guns bristling on our

coasts, the police in our streets, as securities to a great extent, but they were only secondary guardians. The mainstay and security of England was in her Bible, her Christ, and her God. If he wanted to show a young man what constituted the fortress of our fatherland, he would build a building like to the one the stone of which they were now assembled to lay. The speaker then proceeded to give an outline of what kind of worship would there be rendered. He was no bigot, but he loved his own Denomination better than any other because he believed there was no other like it. The building they were about to erect would be protestant in lieu of papal, acknowledging the sufficiency of Holy Scriptures, apart from tradition, and the right of private judgment in reading the Sacred Book. It would be Dissenting in lieu of Episcopalian, but, as in connection with dissenting churches there were differences, he might say that it would be denominationally known as a United Methodist Free Church. After tracing the differences that existed in the church government, between their body and that of the Wesleyan Methodists, he said he believed there was no assembly in England, or the world, that had the spirit of New Testament liberality on a larger scale than the United Methodist Free Churches; if they went further, liberty would get light-headed and rave again. It was likely, when this place of worship was built, that it would allure to its service men who were now leading lives contributing to the poverty and distress of the masses with which they were associated. He trusted that it would be a chapel, not only for respectable folks, but for the roughs. The rev. gentlemen concluded by giving some interesting anecdotes of some of that class who had been drawn to the new chapel they had erected at Sheffield, and who were now earnest Christians, and hoped the like good result would arise through the building the foundation stone of which they were that day met to lay.

The offerings of the assembly were then laid upon the stone, which amounted to the munificent sum of £180.

The hymn commencing—

“God bless our native land,”

was then sung by the choir, and the proceedings terminated.

The following is a description of the new edifice, of which Mr. Simpson, of Nottingham, is the architect.

The building, which is of brick and stone, having a dressed Bulwell stone basement story, forming a plinth to the superstructure, is about sixty-two feet long by forty-six feet wide in external dimensions, has three tiers of windows at either side, and two in front. The pewing of galleries and ground floor, which is disposed in the horse-shoe form, slopes amphitheatrically, concentrating upon the forum under the gallery at the rear.

The basement story is occupied in the centre by a spacious school room, having separate ingress and egress, while the back and front are divided into a suite of class rooms for week day communion. Contiguous to the school room is also a kitchen with tea-coppers and apparatus for the convenience of social gatherings.

Abutting upon the kitchen at the rear is a minister's vestry with a private approach, and a flight of steps leading from thence to the pulpit above.

The chapel, with gallery, when complete, will afford ample accommodation for between six or seven hundred worshippers.

The principal front to Great Alfred Street is ascended by a flight of eight steps, twenty-two feet wide, leading on to a recessed portico, supported by columns in four complete, forming an open lobby leading right and left to the entrances of ground floor and galleries, embraced by projecting angular towers, surmounted by mansard roofs with enriched crests. The principal cornice of the centre and wings is mounted by enriched vases resting upon corbelled projectures. The sides, as also the front, stand back from the boundary lines within wide areas guarded by an ornamental palisading. The style of the building is modern Italian or Venetian treatment, and will cost, including the ground, nearly £2,000, and will be an ornament to the town.

#### TEA MEETING.

After the ceremony of laying the stone was concluded, a tea meeting was

held in the school-room, Shakespeare Street. About four hundred persons sat down to tea. Trays had been kindly provided by the ladies, and the proceeds were given to the building fund. After tea, a public meeting was held in Shakespeare Street Chapel. The chair was occupied by Mr. John Leighton. Several exceedingly interesting addresses were delivered by the Revs. W. Eltringham, of Mansfield; J. Guttridge, of Sheffield; W. Francis, of Long Eaton;—Skinner, of Grantham; Akrill, of Leicester; Baudell, of Ilkestone; T. Newton, superintendent of the Circuit; and W. Trevail. Selections of sacred music were most effectively rendered by the choir in the intervals between the speeches. A collection at the close of the meeting made the whole of the day's receipts amount to about £200.

The Quarterly Meeting of the Nottingham Circuit was held on Monday, June 27th, the Rev. T. Newton in the chair. At the Preachers' Meeting, which commenced at eleven o'clock, a.m., amongst other important and interesting business, was the examination of a young man, who was received as an accredited local preacher. Several subjects came before the afternoon meeting for discussion, and were disposed of as follows:—The statement of accounts showed a balance in hand of about £11. Brother Lewis, a local preacher of great promise, was recommended to the Annual Assembly for the itinerant ministry. The Rev. T. Newton and Mr. Joseph Spray were chosen to represent the Circuit at the next Assembly. In prospect of the removal of our esteemed superintendent minister to another Circuit, it was resolved:—

“That the Rev. T. Newton having laboured here for three years with great success, and in harmony with his brethren, this meeting hereby expresses its high esteem for him, and earnestly prays that he may be made increasingly useful and happy in his future Circuits, and that he and his family may be had in the Divine care and keeping.”

Through the Divine blessing on the united labours of ministers and people, the Circuit generally is in a prosperous and healthy state. In some places

there is a loud call for more help, especially in the new part of Nottingham, where many thousands of people are collected together without any adequate means for the promotion of their moral and spiritual interests. It was therefore resolved,—

“That application be made to the next Annual Assembly for the appointment of a missionary, whose labours are to be devoted to that part of the town; and it is hoped that he, together with the labours of a female missionary already at work with good success, will, through the Spirit’s help, be the means of benefiting the people, and filling the new Chapel now in course of erection.”

The state of the Circuit generally will be seen from the following statistics, which were presented to the meeting:—

	1861.	1862.	1863.	1864.
Full Memb.	589	705	790	878
On Trial	18	150	78	154
Miss. Mny.	519/8	566/7½	687/5	1200/
Increase	—	116	85	88
Total increase of members in three years, 284. Increase in this quarter, 19, with 100 in trial.				

#### SEVENTH LONDON CIRCUIT.

A NEW school-room has been erected and an addition made to the Chapel at Miles Street, Vauxhall.

The opening services were conducted on Sunday, July 3rd, by the Rev. R. Bushell, Mr. Green, and Dr. Thomas, editor of the *Homilist*. A Public Meeting was held on the Monday, at which it was announced that the total cost of £405 had been realised.

#### PENTON STREET, WALWORTH.

We erected a new school-room at the back of the Chapel, a few months since, at a cost of £225, towards which we had realised £185. Last night we had a meeting of the friends, at which the Rev. R. Bushell presided.

The £40 due to the Treasurer, and £23 for forms and fittings were raised. This makes the second erection and enlargement in this Circuit in nine months, and both are out of debt.

July 12th, 1864.

#### MILE’S STREET, VAUXHALL.

It is with pleasure we record the erection of a new school-room, and extension of the Chapel—at Vauxhall. The Chapel will now seat two hundred adults and children, while the school will hold two hundred and fifty, and are both so situate with large, high, and wide doors between, that a speaker could be heard by all, if required. The cost will be about £450. The expenses incurred were all pledged at the opening, and promises and expectations will no doubt supply the fittings. It is opened free of debt, and it is hoped that others will be the same; so good an example cannot be too often followed. Though money-giving and numbers do not always progress together, yet it has here; for the members have doubled from twenty to forty while the extension was proceeding, and several conversions have shown God’s presence and blessing on the new building.

In December and January Public Meetings were held, and on Tuesday, April 26th, the stone was laid by F. Doulton, Esq., M.P. for Lambeth. Upwards of £60 was given or promised that day. It was opened by the Rev. R. Bushell, the superintendent of the Circuit, on Sunday, July 3rd. Dr. Thomas, of Stockwell, and Mr. Green, of Hackney, also preached. Collections £5 6s.

At the prayer meeting souls found mercy. On Monday, July 4th, John Doulton, Esq., took the Chair. Two hundred persons took tea, and the school-room was filled to overflowing. Revs. J. Baldwin Brown, Luke Wiseman, R. Bushell, T. Anthony, Messrs. Cuthbertson, McCurry, Bryon, and Symons, took part in the meeting. A hymn of rejoicing, and other appropriate pieces, were sung pleasantly by the young people, and upwards of £40 promised or paid down, so that the buildings were opened free of debt, and all that is to be done will be paid down for, an event unknown to Free Methodism in the London Circuits before.

W. M. S.

#### SHEFFIELD.—MOUNT TABOR CIRCUIT.

SHREWSBURY ROAD SOCIETY.

MR. EDITOR,—You will perhaps not