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THE MONTH.

THE REV. W. R. MOWLL, the late Canon Hussey's successor at North Brixton, reports that the attendances at Holy Communion during 1892, the first year of his ministry there, were 5,405, viz.: Early morning, 437; mid-day, 1,339; and evening, 3,629.

We learn from the *London Diocesan Magazine* that to the present date the amount received this year by the E.L.C.F. is £11,000. This is an increase of £4,200 on the amount received during the same months of 1892, and exceeds the income for the corresponding period of any previous year in the history of the fund. "Such a report is very satisfactory. It is possible to make it because of the generous answer that has been given to the special appeal which the Bishop of Bedford and his council have been compelled to issue; and we hope that, encouraged by such success, the friends of the Church in East London will maintain their efforts, and make this year memorable as the first in which the fund will have attained the income of £20,000 that is necessary to its work."

From the report of the Chief Registrar of Friendly Societies, it appears that the aggregate of institutions of this kind in England and Wales amounts to 33,094, with 9,911,781 members, and funds to the extent of £94,321,269. There is thus an average of nearly £10 for each member. In Scotland the societies number 1,816, with 1,091,042 members, and funds amounting to £4,687,998, or a little over £4 for each member. In Ireland the societies number 640, with 86,494 members, and funds amounting to £1,017,639, or nearly £12 for each member. The aggregate of the funds for the United Kingdom thus exceeds £100,000,000. In the Chief Registrar's summary building societies represent more than £51,000,000, while friendly societies—not of the collecting class—have funds exceeding £22,000,000, industrial and provident societies being credited with about £19,000,000. Miscellaneous societies complete the list.

The minutes of the Primitive Methodist Conference have just been published, giving the statistics of that body. It appears that the connexion has 5,850 chapels and rooms in trust, the value of which is returned as being £3,496,910, but upon which mortgage and other debts rest to the extent of £1,068,912. There are 1,112 "travelling" preachers, and the membership of the churches is reported to be 195,027, an increase for the year of 1,559. There are 4,322 Sunday-schools belonging to the connexion, with 450,233 scholars (an increase of 7,338) and 61,488 teachers (an increase of 462). The number of adherents, in addition to members, is said to be 598,364.

A meeting of the council of the Metropolitan Hospital Sunday Fund was held at the Mansion House under the presidency of Sir S. Waterlow. It was stated that the sum available for distribution this year had been £35,400, against £40,228 last year. The report of the committee appointed to distribute the fund was submitted and approved.

The results of the week of self-denial held by the Salvation Army last October have now been completed, and the accounts show that the amount actually received is £50,002 5s. 5d., or £2 5s. 5d. over the amount asked for. The amount collected the previous year by the same method was £30,000. The largest sum is credited to the British Isles with £22,727; then come the United States with £7,291; Australia, £7,106; Sweden, £3,041; Canada, £2,893; New Zealand, £1,931; South Africa, £1,600; France and Switzerland, £1,124; Holland, £875; Norway, £484; Denmark, £437; Finland, £175; India, £163; Germany, £115; Belgium, £26; and Italy, £8. It is stated that in Finland the Government have expelled all but native officers. The cost of the appeal was £3,229.

The Duke of Westminster has sent a donation of £500 towards the funds of the Metropolitan Hospital, Kingsland Road.

The Mercers' Company have contributed 500 guineas towards the fourth quinquennial fund of the London Hospital.

The Corbett Hospital, Stourbridge, presented to his native town by Mr. John Corbett, formerly M.P. for Mid-Worcestershire, has been opened. The gift consists of a mansion, now to be used as a hospital, an estate of thirty acres, and a sum of £5,000 for endowment and outlay on the building.

Mr. George Scott, managing director of Messrs. C. Kinloch, wine-merchants, who died last April, leaving personalty exceeding £115,000 in value, bequeathed £500 to the London Hospital, £250 to the Aberfeldy Home and Hospital, and £1,000 each to the Universities of St. Andrews and Edinburgh for scholarships.

Bequests of £2,000 each have been made by the late Mr. Richard Vaughan, of Elms Lea, Bath, to the following societies: S.P.G., C.M.S., S.P.C.K., Colonial and Continental Church, and Bristol Church Extension. Mr. Vaughan has also bequeathed £1,000 to the British and Foreign Bible Society, and £1,000 to the incumbent of Holy Cross, or Temple Church, Bristol.

The *Bath and Wells Diocesan Magazine* contains the following with regard to Mr. James Broadmead's legacy of £10,000 for the distressed clergy of the Diocese: "A correspondent writes to point out that while Mr. J. Broadmead was anxious to secure this money

to the Church, and to arrange for its safety in case of disestablishment, and was still corresponding about poor benefices in Somerset, and discussing matters with his nephew, Mr. T. E. P. Broadmead, he was called away before anything had been actually done in the matter to make it any legal obligation for Mr. T. P. Broadmead to hand over the £10,000. He was, in fact, carrying out his uncle's wishes, and not merely administering a legacy, and though those who know Mr. Broadmead and his family know they could not have acted otherwise, it is, perhaps, only right that the general public should be aware of the facts of the case."

Mr. Lavie, of Worcester, has placed in the hands of the Ecclesiastical Commissioners the sum of £700 towards the augmentation of the endowment of St. Anne's Vicarage, Fence-in-Pendle, Burnley.



Obituary.



THE death of Mr. J. D. Allcroft removes one of the best known and most munificent of Evangelical laymen. He was a great church builder, and administered his patronage with the utmost care. For seven years he was President of the C.P.A.S., and only resigned a month or two ago when his last illness had supervened. His sympathies went out to Evangelical work of all kinds. In conjunction with the late Mr. Samuel Morley and with Mr. George Williams he secured Exeter Hall for the Y.M.C.A., and his anonymous gifts were distributed with equal kindness and discretion. He was an ardent Protestant, of late a warm supporter of the Church Association, and one of the promoters of the St. Paul's reredos suit, in which he was not well advised. Mr. Allcroft died after three months of more or less acute suffering, and his body was laid to rest at Stokesay.

At the Rectory of Whippingham, near Osborne, on Saturday, July 29th, an inquest was held respecting the death of Mrs. Prothero, the wife of Canon Prothero, the rector. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased lady had for a long time suffered from sleeplessness, and had taken drugs to produce sleep. This had affected her brain. On Friday afternoon she left her bedroom, and was found lying in the garden under an open window, from which she had evidently jumped. She died soon afterwards. Every care had been taken for her safety. A verdict was returned to the effect that the deceased lady committed suicide while insane. The news of her sad end created a profound impression at Osborne. The funeral took place on Tuesday. Several ladies and gentlemen from Osborne attended. They included Miss Manns, representing the Queen; Sir Henry Ponsonby, Sir John