

in devotional exercises, and at a quarter to three adjourned

SATURDAY, MAY 26.

The Assembly resumed this morning at half-past eleven.

**PSALMODY.**—DR. MACPHERSON read the report of the committee on Psalmody and Hymns, recommending to the favourable consideration of the Assembly the collection of 25 Hymns now laid on the table, which they suggested should be sent down to Presbyteries, and the committee reappointed to receive suggestions.

The report was ordered to lie on the table.

**THEOLOGICAL TEACHING.**—An overture from the the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale, in favour of the establishment of a more full and regular course of theological training, and one from the Presbytery of Linlithgow, anent the superintendence of students and preachers, were remitted to a committee.

The Assembly then adjourned at six o'clock till Monday morning.

**LORD HIGH COMMISSIONER.**—On Sabbath his Grace attended divine service in the High Church. The Rev. Mr Gray, of Lady Yester's lectured on the twenty-third Psalm, and afterwards preached from 1st John iii. and 2, "It doth not yet appear what we shall be." In the afternoon the Rev. Mr. Shaw, of Ayr, preached an eloquent discourse, selecting his text from St John xx. and 22, last clause, "and be not faithless, but believing." His Grace was accompanied by the usual court attendants in the throne seat, to the right of which we observed Lady Belhaven and other ladies. The official pews in front of the galleries were filled by the Lords of Session and Judiciary in their court costumes, the Moderator of the General Assembly and ex-Moderator in full canonicals. The Right Honourable the Lord Provost in ermine robe (partially covering a very richly ornate velvet full court dress), the Magistrates, Lord Dean of Guild, Deacon Convener, and 14 other Councillors in their scarlet cloaks. The arrangements for ingress and egress were such as to conduce to the comfort and convenience of the public, notwithstanding the crowds that obtained admission at both diets. A prayer meeting was held in St. Andrew's Church in the evening at seven o'clock, Lady and Lord Belhaven, R. Ramsay, Esq., P.B., the Rev. Mr. Russell, and the Moderator, were among those present. The devotional services were conducted by the Rev. Mr. Young of Mochrie, and the Rev. Mr. Carrick of East Kilbride. The church was well filled, and the collection was devoted to the five schemes of the Church of Scotland.

MONDAY, MAY 28.

The Assembly resumed to-day at twelve o'clock.

**JEWISH MISSION REPORT.**—MR. TAIT, Kirkliston, read the report of the Committee for the conversion of the Jews.

Mr. TAIT addressed a few remarks to the Assembly, enlarging on the statements given in in the report. He expressed his warm sympathy with the proposal to establish a missionary at Jerusalem, and his regret that the state of the funds did not warrant the committee in entering more heartily into the object, particularly as they had not yet been able to send a missionary to Paris, where there were 20,000 Jews among whom he might labour.

DR. GRANT moved that the General Assembly approve of the report. The Rev Doctor said that the report bore the marks of the master that had traced it, and gave to them such accounts of this missionary undertaking as were well fitted to give them encouragement, and to satisfy them that the work was being done with zeal and vigour, and with great Christian prudence and discretion.

DR. AITON, Dolphinton, moved that the Assembly remit the overture of the Synod of Glasgow and Ayr to the Committee for Conversion of the Jews, with instruction to appoint an ordained missionary to Jerusalem. He had been most hospitably and kindly entertained by the English Bishop there. He had drawn the attention of the bishop to the anomaly that there was no representative of the Church of Scotland in Jerusalem, and he said that when he went home he would promote by every means in his power the sending out by this Church of a missionary there. But first, he asked the bishop's advice and concurrence, lest it should be thought they wanted to compete instead of co-operate with the bishop's agents there. The bishop at once told him that no such impression would ever enter into his mind, that he would hold out the right hand of fellowship to any missionary from this Church, as he had done to all the missionaries of the reformed Christian Church from wheresoever they had come.

DR. ANDERSON, Newburgh, seconded Dr. Aiton's motion.

After some remarks from Dr. Bisset, Dr. Paull, and others, it was agreed to recommend the subject of the overture to the favourable consideration of the committee:

The MODERATOR then conveyed the thanks of the Assembly to Mr. Tait, and expressed his peculiar satisfaction in doing so to a co-presbyter for thirty years.

The Assembly adjourned at a quarter to one A.M., till seven o'clock next day.

TUESDAY, MAY 29.

The General Assembly met at 11 o'clock. After praise, and the reading of a portion of the Scriptures by the Rev. Dr. Simpson of Kirknewton, the meeting was constituted with prayer by the Moderator.

**ANSWER TO THE ROYAL LETTER AND ADDRESS BY THE ASSEMBLY TO THE THRONE.**—

The MODERATOR here, on behalf of the Assembly, respectfully asked His Grace the Lord High Commissioner to do the Assembly the honour of presenting the answer of the Assembly to her gracious Majesty's Royal Letter, and also the address of the As-

sembly on the War in the East, to which His Grace replied that he would have much pleasure in so doing.

**THE ELECTION OF LAW AGENT OF THE CHURCH.**—Mr. Bell was declared elected by a majority of 25 votes, and was thereafter duly sworn in and inducted into office; after which Mr. Bell briefly thanked the Assembly for the high honour which their kindness had conferred on him, and said that he would endeavour to discharge the duties which they had now devolved on him to the best of his ability.

**PROPOSED NEW PRESBYTERY.**—A petition was presented from the Presbyteries of Dunfermline, Auchterarder, and Kirkaldy, praying for the disjunction of certain parishes, and the formation of them into a new Presbytery of Kinross, on the ground of their remoteness from the parishes to which they at present belong, and the extreme difficulty of intercommunication in the district.

**PSALMODY OF THE CHURCH.**—The Rev. P. C. CAMPBELL, Professor of Greek, King's College, Aberdeen, laid on the table of the Assembly a motion on this subject, to the following effect:—"That the Assembly approve of the diligence of the present Committee, discharge the same, instruct their thanks to be given to the Convener, and appoint a new Committee to consider the whole matter, and particularly the selection of hymns printed by them, (which, however, they were not prepared to sanction) and report to the next General Assembly.

The Rev. Dr. MACPHERSON, the Convener of the Committee, was thereupon called to receive, through the Moderator, the thanks of the house which were accordingly tendered to him, in due form and acknowledged by him.

The Moderator having pronounced the benediction, the Assembly adjourned at twelve o'clock, to meet on Wednesday (this day) at eleven o'clock A.M.

WEDNESDAY, May 30.

The Assembly met at eleven o'clock.

**THE SCOTCH SYNOD IN ENGLAND.**—A letter was read from the Scotch Synod in England in connection with the Church of Scotland (signed by Dr. John Cumming), containing the usual expressions of respect, attachment, and sympathy towards this Church. It stated that the Synod had petitioned against the Lord Advocate's Education Bill. The Moderator was requested to prepare a suitable answer to this address.

**THE EDUCATION SCHEME.**—DR. JOHN COOK (Haddington) gave in the report of the committee for increasing the means of education in Scotland, particularly in the Highlands and Islands:—

DR. PAULL, Tulleynessle, moved the adoption of the report. Dr. Paull referred to the considerable increase that had taken place in the number of the scholars and of the schools, and to the fact that they had now nearly twenty thousand of the youth of the land in regular training, and enjoying