

farther steps taken without the consent of the presbytery."

We should have before mentioned what the same informant has told us, that the Rev. William Ritchie, formerly of St. Luke's, Demarara, has been inducted to the pastoral charge of the congregation of New-Market. The next meeting of the Presbytery is to be held at Toronto on the 2d day of October, at 7 o'clock P.M. Mr. Ritchie to preach on the occasion.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.—On Thursday, May the 17th, the Venerable Assembly of our Church met in Edinburgh. About 12 o'clock, the Lord High Commissioner (Lord Belhaven) and suite repaired to the High Church. The Rev. Dr. Gardiner of Bothwell, Moderator of last General Assembly, preached from 2d Cor. iv. 7.

Divine service being concluded, his Grace the Commissioner and suite proceeded to the Tron Church, where the Assembly met, and was constituted with the usual solemnity.

Dr. Gardiner after acknowledging the high honour which had been conferred on him by the kindness of the last General Assembly, proposed as his successor, the Rev. Dr. William Muir, who thereupon was elected Moderator, and took the Chair accordingly.

A full report of the proceedings will, of course, not be expected here. We shall therefore give a brief outline of some of the most important questions discussed by the Venerable Assembly.

OVERTURES RELATIVE TO THE CONVERSION OF THE JEWS.

Mr. Lorimer said it was needless to take up the time of the House by the reading of all the overtures on this interesting subject, as all of them were to the same effect. The Presbytery of Glasgow to which he had the honour to belong, in common with many Presbyteries, and not a few Synods, had sent up a most cordial overture on this very important subject.—Not less than twelve or fourteen overtures to the same effect were lying on the Assembly's table. The first Overture which, he believed emanated from the Presbytery of Glasgow on this subject, originated, not from ministers, but from a large number of influential christian laymen; and in his mind it contained a fresher and deeper interest on that account. The gentleman who drew up the memorial which led to this overture from the city of Glasgow, he was happy to say, was a member of this Court; and as he inherited no small portion of the spirit, talent, and christian love of some of the most distinguished fathers of our Church, he would not hesitate to give his name, Mr. Robert Wodrow, well known in Glasgow, a man admired and esteemed by all who knew him. It would be presumptuous in him (Mr. L.) in such an Assembly of fathers and brethren as this, to urge the claim of the Jews upon them, from the consideration of their past history; their present condition, or future prospects. He was satisfied that the only feeling of which they would be conscious in connection with the claim which the Jews had upon them, must be the feeling of the church of Christ—the feel-

ing of regret that they had been so long in taking up their cause. He trusted that they should no longer forget ancient Israel, and that the delightful harmony which had prevailed in their inferior courts on this subject was an earnest of the warm-hearted unanimity with which it would be received in this Court; and that the time when God intended to favour Zion was at last approaching. The only difficulty he had heard started was the danger of distracting the attention of the church with too many separate objects. He confessed he was much impressed with the importance of this consideration. One of the great errors in the prosecution of missionary objects had been undue expansion; but the Jews stood on a footing so very peculiar, that he conceived no danger of their breaking in upon the concentration of christians in the benevolent efforts they were making for enlightening the darkness of thousands of their other fellow creatures. No parties could plead the same argument as the Jews for being admitted into the christian church. They could do nothing as a church for the Jews unless they decidedly and distinctly took up their case. They had not yet fathomed the liberality of their people. Never had any of them been impoverished by giving to the cause of God; and the zeal which had been manifested in all parts of the country in sending up these overtures, was a proof that there was a great deal of latent affection towards God's ancient people, and which must lead them to believe that it had only to be called forth by the church. It would not interfere with the claim of the missionaries. The one cause would aid the other. God never made one duty inconsistent with another. The great Head of the church had already in a remarkable manner established a connection between the cause of the Jews and the India mission. At this moment the India mission were instructing twenty Jewish children in one of their schools in Bombay. Jewish parents were applying to the mission for the admittance of their children to the benefit of christian education. When good people were thinking and praying at home about what steps they ought to take in the matter of their conversion, a voice came from abroad—from their missionaries, inviting them to enter into the Jewish field, and assuring them that there was ample scope for labour at their very doors. Mr. Lorimer concluded by moving that the General Assembly approving of the object contemplated in the many overtures transmitted to them, appoint a committee to take into consideration in what way it might be best carried into effect, and report to the Assembly.

Mr. Dempster of Denny rose to second the motion. It was certainly a most interesting subject in itself, and it was not the less interesting that the subject of the conversion of the Jews, the ancient people of God, should have been brought before the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and for the first time he believed in any established church, on a day which is dear to the Jewish people, and hallowed in their minds by many sacred recollections. He could not avoid stating that the conversion of the Jews would be of the utmost advantage to the cause of christianity among the Gentiles, for with them would the fulness of the Gentiles be brought in.

Mr. Buchan of Kelloe rejoiced that this subject received so large a share of the attention of the Church of Scotland, and anticipated the happiest results from it. The Jewish nation had been scattered over the face of the earth like chaff before the wind. In all their trials and their afflictions they had remained unmingled with other nations, a circumstance which had never occurred with any other people. It was the infallible word of prophecy that the Jews were to be restored, and it was surely their most incumbent duty to do every thing in their power to spread the light