

REPORT

OF

COMMITTEE ON COLONIAL CHURCHES.

THE Committee for promoting the Religious Interests of Scottish Presbyterians in the British Colonies, Report respectfully to the General Assembly, that, during the last year, their labours have been more extensive and diversified than at any former period.

The accounts which have reached them from Australia, and especially from New South Wales, of the state of the Scottish Church there, are, on the whole, of a gratifying character, and indicate a marked improvement in the amount and efficacy of the provision made for the religious instruction and edification of our countrymen in that remote region. It is stated by the Rev. John M'Garvie of Sydney,

1st, That the Clergy of the Church of Scotland have obtained a complete documentary recognition of their Presbytery by the Colonial Government.

2d, They have received an assurance that no money will be issued from Government, for building Churches, Ministers' dwellings, &c., &c., as well as for Salaries, outfits, and introduction of additional Ministers, without the sanction and approval of the Presbytery. All communications from Presbyterians on these subjects must come through the Presbytery, who are thus brought directly into contact with Government.

3d, At the end of every year a certificate from the Moderator is required, stating that the Ministers have been engaged as such