

they required their utmost sympathy and their continued support. They would meet with opposition in many quarters, and experience difficulties, of which those who had not been in India could form no adequate conception; and he mentioned this in the strongest terms just for the purpose of evoking a deep feeling of sympathy with them in their labors, and of calling on all interested in the Church to offer up their earnest prayers, that they might be helped in all times of embarrassment and difficulty. He could not help referring to another salient point in the report which had given him deep pleasure, and that was the catholicity of feeling evinced by the Metropolitan of India. (Applause.) It was a great point gained, to secure his co-operation. He questioned whether any of the great and good men who had preceded him in that high and honorable situation would have made the concession which so courteously and readily he had made; and he thought he was well entitled to the strong expression of approbation which was contained in the report. (Applause.) Another mark of catholicity he must mention he had ascertained from private sources. He happened to have been in communication with the Rev. Mr. Williamson, chaplain of Allahabad, and he had reason to know that the missionaries of North America, who had a congregation in Allahabad, had handed over to him the whole congregation, had retired from the sphere of labor, and had congratulated him on his arrival there. Now, he looked upon that as a real and most delightful token of Christian catholicity. (Applause.) He was sure it would meet with a warm response from all the members of this House. (Hear, hear.) They had now attained a most important position, and all of them must from the heart desire great success to their young friends who had gone out to labor. Still they were placed in a most anomalous position, particularly their army chaplains, who were so many bishops isolated, independent, uncontrolled; and he was sure it would require all the deliberative wisdom of that House to project some scheme which could be brought into effective operation, and some organization to which they could look with something of comfort and hope, for the efficient and harmonious working of the many bishops who were now in India. He hoped that what they had now obtained was but an instalment. He should be sorry, indeed, to think that they were not to have more than seven chaplains. They ought to have a larger number. It was a great point gained to have got the seven, but still he would impress upon the House the importance of obtaining a large augmentation. The officials of the English Church in India, numbered fifty or sixty; and though he congratulated the House on the measure of success already attained; he would impress upon the House the necessity of keeping their eyes open, and being

ready to take advantage of any facility which might be provided for still extending the branch of the Church in India. (Applause.)

The Assembly then engaged in devotional exercises, after which it adjourned till Saturday at eleven o'clock.

SATURDAY, May 19.

The General Assembly met this morning at eleven—Rev. Dr. Maitland, Moderator.

ANSWER TO THE QUEEN'S LETTER.

An answer to the Queen's Letter, thanking Her Majesty for the appointment of the Lord High Commissioner, and acknowledging the usual royal gift, was laid before the Assembly and adopted; and, in accordance with the usual form, his Grace undertook to transmit the document to Her Majesty.

PETITION OF MR. WILSON, LATE OF IRON GRAY.

This was a petition from Mr. James Wilson, late of the parish of Iron-Gray, who had been deposed for the sin of intemperance. The petitioner produced very strong testimonials of propriety of conduct for the last six years, as well as unanimous recommendation from the Presbytery of Dumfries.

Dr Hill expressed his admiration of the becoming manner in which the petition had been supported by the learned counsel. He was not sure that the Assembly could yet feel themselves in a position to grant the prayer of the petition, and to restore the petitioner to his former position as a licentiate of the Church; but he thought a case had been made out for sending the matter to a committee. He therefore moved that a committee be appointed to consider very carefully the evidence which the petitioner had produced, or might yet be able to produce, as to his repentance and reformation, and to report to a future diet of the Assembly.

A long discussion ensued, in which Dr. McPherson of Aberdeen, Dr. Bremner of Banff, Dr. Paul Banchory, Dr. Robertson, the Earl of Southesk, Dr. Pirie, Principal Tulloch, Dr. Lee, and others, took part; an opinion being expressed by some, that under no circumstances should a deposed minister be restored—the general feeling of the House was that of sympathy for a repentant brother, and at length Dr. Hill's motion was adopted without opposition.

REPORT OF JEWISH MISSION.

Professor Mitchell gave in the Report of Committee on the conversion of the Jews.

Collections have been made during the past year in behalf of the mission in 806 churches, being 12 more than last year. The amount of these collections is £2260 17s. 11d., as being compared with the preceding year, an increase of £207 6s. 3d. Contributions have been received from parochial and congregational missionary associations, amounting to £103 13s. 10d., being an increase