

age at Sealkote last year, and there are now sixteen orphans in the institution chiefly from the famine districts, and many more are very soon expected.

"The Association also opened a new orphanage at Bombay about four months since. As yet only three orphans have been received.

"There is likewise a flourishing female orphanage at Calcutta since the year 1841. At the date of last Report there were forty orphans in the institution, with several day schools numerously attended. At Madras the female orphanage contains thirty-seven orphans, and at the examination last December, upwards of 630 girls were present, all receiving instruction at the several day schools supported by this Association.—*News of the Churches.*

NUMBER OF MARRIAGES CELEBRATED BY CLERGYMEN OF DIFFERENT CHURCHES.—

We make the following extract from the second annual detailed report of the Registrar-General:—

"It appears that during 1856 there were 9,863 marriages celebrated according to the forms of the Established Church of Scotland; 4,645 according to those of the Free Church; 2,875 according to those of the U. P. Church; 1,953 according to those of the Roman Catholic Church; 360 according to the Episcopal Church; and 984 according to those of the various smaller religious denominations. In 24 instances the form of the ceremony is not stated, and in 35 cases the marriage was irregular. Seeing that the religious profession of the people was not taken at the census of 1861, these numbers afford the only means we now possess of estimating in a rather rough way, the proportion of the population attached to each church; and the estimate thus procured cannot be far from the truth, as it is the custom in Scotland for the clergyman of the bride to perform the nuptial ceremony. Taking it for granted that the results furnished are sufficiently accurate for all general purposes, it appears that, in every hundred marriages, 47.6 are celebrated by clergymen of the Established Church, 22.4 by the Free Church, 13.9 by the U. P. Church, 9.4 by the Roman Catholic Church, 1.7 by the Episcopal Church, and 5 per cent. by other denominations. These numbers, therefore, indicate the proportion of the population attached to each religious denomination.

FREE CHURCH STATISTICS.—The Free Church possesses 800 places of worship, erected at a cost of £734,641. She has laid out £339,000 on 665 manse for her ministers. She has built 620 Schools at an outlay of £207,700. Besides these, there are churches manse, and schools to the estimated value of £50,000, erected at the expense of private

individuals, and not appearing in the public accounts. The three colleges of the Free Church cost her £52,459; her Normal Schools cost £22,564; her Assembly Hall, £8500; her offices in Mound Place, £7500. The total cost of buildings has been £1,422,364. Besides these, the Church is possessed of properties in connection with her various mission stations in India and Africa, a chapel and a mission-house at Malta, and a church at Gibraltar. Finally, she is possessed of investments in securities of various kinds, belonging to the widows' fund, the aged and infirm ministers' fund, and the several schemes, amounting in all to £226,754. All these properties and values may be called the fixed capital of the Free Church. To give life and motion to the whole, she has acquired a yearly income, most remarkable for its steadiness and constancy, which may be stated in round numbers, but quite within the mark, at £264,000. Of this annual revenue, the sum of 112,000 belongs to the sustentation fund; £100,000 to the local congregational fund; £14,000 to the purposes of education in schools and colleges, and £38,000 to missions.—*Record of the Free Church.*

ONE of the oldest evangelistic societies in Scotland has held its usual anniversary this month. The "Monthly Visitor" Tract Society, which sends a religious tract monthly to every home in the city of Edinburgh, has issued 2,776,901 tracts during the year which has just expired, and 50,116,001 tracts since it commenced its operations. The receipts of the Society for the last year amounted to £1867, 16s. 6d.

THE Leith Sabbath-School Union held their annual meeting on the 18th inst. There are now 35 Sabbath-schools connected with the Union, 440 teachers, and 4540 scholars, being an increase of 8 schools, about 100 teachers, and 1400 scholars since last year.

In consequence of the illness of the editor, the publication of the *Record* has been delayed a few days, and the usual summary of the month is omitted.

We are willing to allow agents a commission to the extent of forwarding six copies for the price of five; or we will send ten copies for 6 dollars. Single copies, 3s. 1 1-2d.

All communications intended for publication to be addressed to Joan Costley, Pictou Academy; letters on business to be addressed to Mr. William Jack.

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