

under encouraging auspices. In Amsterdam, where Mr. Van Andel now labours, the year has been one of unexampled "progress and prosperity. Mr. Edwards still continues his work with unwearied perseverance in Breslau. And the only anxiety felt is about Pesth, where Mr. Moody's vacant place yet remains to be filled up.

Mr. Moody Stuart, in giving in his Report, has always something fresh and suggestive to say. He mentioned that during last winter a Jewish rabbi came to Edinburgh, and delivered two lectures upon Judaism. These lectures had been little noticed, but there were notable things in them. "He spoke very ably and affectingly upon the necessity of a definite religious creed. In Scotland we were taunted with bigotry, but he had seen that there was no bigotry like the bigotry of infidelity. He had said he wished the people of this country knew what the intolerance and fanaticism of unbelief were." The lecturer defended Judaism, he expounded it, he went over the history of the Jews in a very interesting manner; but he was careful to tell his hearers that he did not wish to make them Jews, because they could not become Jews whatever they did. "From the moment," said Mr. Moody Stuart, "that the Jewish religion (which was once the true religion) became a false religion, it ceased, so far as I know, to desire to propagate itself." The Jews, however, are intensely anxious that no Jews should become Christians; and to prevent that occurring, there has been established in one place in England an anti-missionary society. It is cheering to hear that in the opinion of the Convener there have been more conversions of Jews made within the last forty years, than there were during all the preceeding eighteen hundred years, since the destruction of Jerusalem. He has no doubt, moreover, that the whole system of Judaism is being undermined.

The Finances of the Free Church, seen at a glance, are as follows:

The collections exceed by £4000 the receipts of the previous year, owing to there having been a special collection for the evangelization of the masses, and to there being an increase in nearly all the collec-

tions. The abstract of the whole funds raised during the year 1871-72 showed there had been raised for the Building funds, general and local, £56,628, 17s.; Sustentation, purposes, £148,214, 1s. 10d.; Congregational funds, £140,941, 3s. 4d.; Education (including Government grants, £8478, 4s. 4d.; fees from pupils, grants, &c., £3565, 7s. 4d.), £21,895, 0s. 7d.; College funds, £10,963, 19s. 7d.; Missions, £52,586, 3s. 2d.; Bequests, &c., £1340, 4s. 3d.—making a total sum of £432,523, 9s. 9d. The aggregate of funds this year is very large, being £19,200 in excess of the amount of the previous year.

The Foreign Mission Report was given in by Dr. Duff. The funds for the year amounted to £33,000.

The United Presbyterian Synod was a peaceful and successful meeting. Liberty was granted to congregations to use instrumental aid in music.

The following overture from the Presbytery of Glasgow was brought forward and supported by Mr. Niven, Maryhill:—

"It is humbly overtured by the Presbytery of Glasgow, that the Synod express its strong condemnation of the prevalent system of arbitrary deportation of the natives of Polynesia from their island homes in foreign vessels, largely owned or worked by Britons; also, that the Synod urgently desire the British Government to take early action against this practice, fraught with so many instances of frightful inhumanity and injustice; and that a letter to the foregoing effect be addressed to Her Majesty's Minister for Colonial Affairs, to be signed by the Moderator and Clerk of Synod."

The Irish Assembly presented some remarkable scenes. After a long debate the organ question was voted upon and the result was a *tie*—152 on each side. Thus the matter was left till another year. The Sustentation Fund is already greatly better than the *Regium Donum* for the prosperity of the church.

The French Protestant (Reformed) Synod met lately, in a free assembly, for the first time since the old days of bloody persecution. Alas, the pure old church has become sorely degraded and spoiled by heresy. Among the first acts of the revived Synod was to *divide*. Rationalism was rampant. It had to be cnecked, expelled. The orthodox party led by the veteran Guizot, won a noble victory.

The Jesuits are to be expelled from Ger.