

state that it had been resolved to commence a second mission in Madras in connection with Mr Braidwood of the Free Church, through an arrangement similar to that already existing between the London Missionary Society and the Medical Society. Mr David H. Patterson, who had pursued his studies under the auspices of the society, and who had gained a prize for the best essay on medical missions in 1853, had been selected for this field, and would leave for his destination in three or four months. It was also stated that Dr Wong Fun, the first Chinese who had ever graduated at a European university—having been educated under the guidance of the society, and proved himself in every way a person of great promise—was about to proceed to Canton as an accredited agent of the London Missionary Society. The Committee, it was said, could not but rejoice at the assurance, that thoroughness, and accuracy in professional knowledge, dexterity and skill in practice, with amenity of manners, and kindness of heart, were, in the person of their brother, Dr Wong Fun, likely to be brought into exercise in a high place in the field of missions. The report concluded by congratulating the society upon the success of its "Students' Aid Scheme" which had provided two such persons as those about to be sent forth; and by announcing the purpose of proceeding with this scheme with vigour, that so, in some degree, the demands for men made upon the society from different parts of the world might be satisfied.

THE EDINBURGH BIBLE SOCIETY.—The annual meeting of the friends of this society took place in January. The Lord Provost presided. The efforts of the society, both at home and abroad, during the past year have been attended with considerable success. Mr Haldane stated the substance of the annual report. During the past year, he said they had distributed upwards of 48,000 Bibles, being 2700 more than during the previous year, and 29,000 more than they had done in 1847. Numbers of copies have been given to the militia regiments stationed here, as well as in other parts of the kingdom. The progress of the society in Ireland continued to be very marked. During last year they had established three new auxiliaries there, making seven in all. The committee had got printed a new edition of

the German school Bible without the Apocrypha. The first impression of 5000, which they had distributed throughout Germany, had been exhausted, a large proportion of the issue having been introduced into the national schools, thus superseding, to a great extent, Bibles with the Apocrypha. A considerable number of Bibles had been distributed in the French camp at Boulogne, but the committee regretted that, for prudential reasons, they were unable to furnish the details of this movement. A new Bible society had been instituted at Bosle for circulating the Bible without the Apocrypha. They had distributed 9600 copies—the Roman Catholics freely buying Luther's translation, and making no objection that it did not contain the Apocrypha. A number of English and Gaelic Bibles had been sent to the Scotch brigade in the Crimea, of which Colonel Kennedy, R. A., had taken charge, and who reported they had been of great service, and had come at the right time. The committee had been compelled to delay for some time any very extensive distribution in China, being still advised that there was but little prospect of beneficial circulation. On the motion of Mr Somerville, seconded by Dr Candish, the report was approved of, and ordered to be printed and circulated. Several other gentlemen afterwards addressed the meeting.

HEALTH OF DR DUFF.—"We are glad," says the *Edinburgh Witness*, "to understand that there are private letters in town from Dr Duff, one dated at Nagpore, January 10, and another at Jubbulpore January 18. In each of these letters, he refers shortly to the state of his health. In one he says 'I am thankful to God that, in the main, I have held out in a way greatly to encourage me for the future.' In the other Dr Duff says, 'With gratitude to God I have to say that I continue as well as could have been anticipated.' If our readers have followed this unwearied friend of India through his labours at Bombay, Puna, and elsewhere, since his arrival out, the intelligence now communicated may appear far more encouraging than some expected when Dr Duff left Europe. Let the hope be cherished and the prayer offered that he may yet have many days before him to spend and be spent for India."

We are sorry to learn from the *Bombay Gazette* that Dr Duff the great Free