

of the word was in general characterized by earnestness of spirit and directness of appeal to the conscience, and the people in general heard with readiness of mind and growing intelligence. Open-air preaching had been carried on as in former years. The report referred to the growing Sabbath profanation arising from railway trains, and urged the ministers and elders of the church to renewed activity in the cause of Christ.

HOME MISSIONS.

The Rev. John McNaughtan gave in the Report on Home Missions. The mission had three objects in view. The first was to assist in the establishment of new congregations in destitute places, where assistance was required. The second was to provide occasional service, on week days and Sabbaths, to Presbyterians in places remote from settled congregations. In connexion with this there were about seventy stations kept up. The third department of the work was the itinerant work. Two itinerant missionaries had been appointed to labour in Munster, and a third would soon be appointed.

COLONIAL AND CONTINENTAL MISSION.

The Colonial Report was given in by Rev. W. McClure. It referred to Canada (which is largely aided by the liberality of the Mission Board), to New Brunswick, Vancouver's Island, British Columbia, New Zealand, Australia and Natal. To several of these colonies, missionaries and ministers had been sent during the year. The report dwelt on the beneficial results of union in Australia and New Zealand. Mr. McClure, in presenting the report, stated that the Committee intended to send out ministers to itinerate in New Brunswick, and might send a deputation to the United Presbyterian Church of America. The Rev. Mr. Bennett, of New Brunswick, and Messrs. Ward and Will, from Otago, addressed the Assembly.

The Continental Report was given in by Prof. Gibson. In the course of the report, reference was made to the moral and religious progress in Italy. In Pisa and Milan, Normal schools have been erected, and at Turin a mechanics' library. A commission for the preparation of school books had been appointed, and in the meantime a number of books had been brought from England, not only to be translated into the Italian language, but to be taught in the original, English being taught in many of the Italian schools. Prof. Gibson complained of the small amount of the collection for Colonial and Continental purposes, and urgently called for greater liberality, to enable the Committee to carry on and extend their important work.

ROMAN CATHOLIC MISSION REPORT.

This Report was given in by Dr. Edgar, and presented a short abstract of missionary enterprise for the past year in Connaught. The means employed are, preaching the gospel, prayer meetings, Sabbath and day schools, colportage, and lending libraries. There are connected with the mission 17 missionaries, who minister in 45 different districts, the average attendance each Sabbath being 1,400. In 35 Sabbath and day schools, there are 1,000 children, of 350 are Romanists. In Dublin also the work is prosecuted with vigor, and not without success.

FOREIGN AND JEWISH MISSIONS.

An interesting Report was given in on the subject of the Foreign Missions of the church. Reference was made to the difficulty of sustaining the missions, not on account of want of funds, but want of men. Dr. Glasgow, after about twenty-three years' service in the field, and by whom the translation of the Bible into Gujarati was accomplished, returns next year, while another missionary is in delicate health. In the meantime the work is extending, especially among the Dheds.

The Jewish mission was also reported to be on the whole prospering. Mr. Mr. Ferrette, who proposes soon to return to Damascus, is to employ a new