

We have no space left to refer to Foreign Missions and kindred subjects. The total receipts of the Free Church for the year approached Half-a-Million pounds sterling.

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### United Presbyterian Synod.

This Synod met at Edinburgh, on the 15th May. Dr. Edmond was chosen Moderator for 1871. From the statistics it appears that the students of Divinity number 139. The income for Foreign Missions, £30,288. The Foreign expenditure amounted to £30,000. A gift of £17,500 was received from the late Mr. Paton. Additions to the membership of the church this year 6142. Congregations receiving supplement number 228. The Statistics of Missions show that the Synod's operations are being carried on in Jamaica, Trinidad, Old Calabar, Caffraria, India, China, and Spain, by 38 ordained European Missionaries, 7 ordained Natives, besides teachers &c. The Synod cordially approved of the proposed Union with the Free Church. The case of Rev. F. Ferguson was amicably settled, by Mr. F. stating his acceptance of the orthodox doctrines concerning the future world.—The Synod agreed to petition the Houses of Parliament in favor of National Education. Much aid is being given to Continental Churches.—The Foreign Missionary Reports were highly gratifying.

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### Canada Presbyterian Church.

The General Assembly of the Canada Presbyterian Church met in Quebec last month. The venerable Dr. Willis came all the way across the Atlantic in order to discharge his duties as retiring Moderator. Rev. John Scott, London, Ont., was elected Moderator for the present year. The Report of the Union Committee was in the main approved, and much earnestness was manifested in forwarding the cause and removing obstacles. Rev. Mr. Inglis of Hamilton has been elected Professor of Systematic Theology in Knox College. Permission has been granted to a congregation in London, Ontario, to use an in-

strument to aid them in singing, and the question has been sent down to presbyteries. The resolution granting this permission was adopted by a vote of 62 to 31.—The Assembly has exerted itself to promote missionary work among the French population, among the Indians and in China.

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### BISHOP PATTESON ON THE POLYNESIAN LABOURERS.

[From the New Zealand Herald, March 13]

The following memorandum concerning the removal of natives of some of the islands of the S. W. Pacific to Queensland and the Fiji Islands have been handed to us for publication:—

The object of this memorandum is to inform the General Synod of the means frequently adopted in the islands of the S. W. Pacific to procure labourers for the Queensland and Fiji plantations.

I am not now concerned with the treatment of these islanders on the plantations, which I have never visited. My duty is to state what has occurred in the islands, and to make known the character of the trade as it is carried on there.

Assuming that H. M. Consul at Levuka, Fiji Islands, and the Government of Queensland do all that lies in their power to guard this traffic from abuse, and assuming that they succeed in affording some security to the islanders while on the plantations, it is certain that they do not and they cannot restrain lawless men from employing unjust means to procure so-called labourers in the islands; they cannot know what is done by the masters and crews of the numerous vessels engaged in the trade; they are absolutely without power to enforce any regulation as to the number of persons kept on board, the amount of food given to them, the treatment of the sick, and the general management of the whole transaction.

Whatever measures may be proposed or adopted to obtain humane and just treatment for those islanders while in Queensland or Fiji, there is absolutely no check whatever upon the proceedings of the men engaged in procuring these islanders for the labour markets of Queensland and Fiji. No regulation can prevent men who are bound by no religious or moral restraint, from practising deception and violence to entice or convey natives on board their vessels, or from detaining them forcibly when on board.

Much is said about engagements and contracts being made with these islanders. I do not believe that it is possible for any of these traders to make a *bona fide* con-