

that, he thought, had already been done to a degree, which was not for edification. Already several chapels had been taken out of the hands of the Free Church for no reason apparently than that they might have the privilege of holding them standing empty, for there they stood. If they really wanted the chapels in the locality, let them vindicate their right; but further than that he would never go.

Dr. Robertson concurred in the spirit of the remarks made by Dr. Lee. He had been opposed from the beginning to taking one church from the Free Church which they were using advantageously, and which they had not the means of using. He concurred in the admirable remarks of Dr. McLeod as to the working classes. He should not say anything about the working classes indulging in tobacco, and it would ill become him to say anything about snuff, as he indulged in it himself. (Laughter.) He should say nothing about them indulging in a cup of good ale, as the father of the Reformation himself spoke about his sitting "comfortably indulging in a cog of good nappy." (Laughter.)

Principal Tulloch said the principle of the operations of the Anti-Popery Committee were in his point of view indefensible, and he thought they did not result in good to the cause of Christ, and certainly did not result in good to the Church of Scotland. He had had occasion carefully to look into the history of Protestantism in its earlier aspects, and he had been persuaded that, from the very beginning, mere controversy never to any extent wherever introduced, aided Protestantism in comparison to the harm it had done. And he was sure of this, that if controversy had ever done good, it had been conducted by an amount of learning, historical lore, and penetration into the sources of knowledge, which it was impossible to command in the ordinary agents of such a mission.

Dr. Robertson had an insurmountable objection to the appointment of missionaries branded with the name of "Anti-Popish."

TRICENTENARY OF THE REFORMATION.—The Assembly then took up the overtures on this subject, and on the motion of Dr. Hill, seconded by Principal Tulloch, agreed to appoint a committee to consider and report to next Assembly as to the best means of celebrating the tricentenary.

After disposing of some unimportant business, the Assembly adjourned at six o'clock till Monday.

#### MONDAY, MAY 30.

The General Assembly met this morning at half-past ten—Rev. Dr. Cook, Moderator.

THE PRESENTEE OF TRUMISGARRY.—A petition was laid on the table, praying the Assembly to authorise the Presbytery of Uist to recognise the ministerial status of the Rev. Mr. McDonald, who had lately been presented to the parish of Trumisgarry, and grant him induction. Mr. McDonald, it was stated,

was a native of Uist, who went to Canada early youth, where he studied in Queen's College, and there received ordination. He labored in Canada with great acceptance and success; but had to come back to this country a short time ago for his health. The parishioners of Trumisgarry whose church was vacant, having heard him preach, unanimously sent a petition, backed by the principal heritor, to the Home Secretary, praying that Mr. McDonald might be presented to the vacant charge, and the consequence was that a presentation and recommendation had been issued in his favor.

On the motion of Dr. Robertson, seconded by Dr. Anderson, Newburgh, a committee of members residing in the West of Scotland was appointed, before whom Mr. McDonald should be cited to appear, and who, on being satisfied with his qualifications, should have power to authorise the Presbytery to grant him induction.

THE ENDOWMENT SCHEME.—Dr. Robertson gave in the report of the committee on the Endowment Scheme. After an eloquent exordium as to the duty of the Established Church in the extension of the Gospel, as to the relative duties of the Home Missions and Endowment Schemes, the report went on to say:—At first the efforts made by the committee were attended with encouraging measures of success, but subscriptions now to be reported, the committee regret to say, were less favorable aspect. In several of the provinces, it is true, munificent sums have been subscribed by individual noblemen and gentlemen, and probably additional subscriptions of this class might have been obtained had there been any corresponding movement in parishes. But the fact ought not to be concealed from the venerable Assembly, that in parochial subscriptions in particular there has been a lamentable falling off. The amount of subscriptions reported is considerably less than even the average of the sums reported for not a few preceding years. Of one of the subscriptions of the munificent amount of £1000, your committee cannot forbear to make special mention. It comes from a nobleman who has many powerful claims on the Church of Scotland. The Assembly will understand that the committee refer to the Right Hon. Lord Belhaven, who the other day, without solicitation, subscribed the sum that has been mentioned in favor of the Lanarkshire Group of Chapels. There has been collected for the third group of chapels alone upwards of £10,000; and already have four of the chapels of this group, the number to which the committee were limited by their arrangement with the subscribers, been erected in parish churches *quoad sacra*. But more encouraging still, for each of other ten chapels of this group, the requisite balance of endowment, amounting to upwards of £1100, which had to be provided by local efforts, has either as in most of the cases, been wholly made or is now nearly so. Several of these chapels