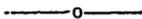


of something like 70 or 80, but the late division shows these figures cut down in a full house to 15.

The Scottish Universities have a good chance of getting represented in Parliament at no distant date. Mr. Stirling, M. P., for Perthshire, is to move that one of the seats taken from St. Albans and Sudbury, be given to our ancient *Almæ Matres*. He is said to be supported by the Conservatives, who now number the half of the lower House, and many independent members. The proposed constituency is to be drawn from the several General Councils of St. Andrew's, Glasgow, Aberdeen, and Edinburgh. In all those bodies there is now a majority in favor of the Church of Scotland. The question will soon be decided.

A very popular appointment has been made to St. Columba Gaelic Church, Glasgow. Dr. Norman McLeod (the old Dr.) is entirely laid aside. His nephew, a son of Dr. John McLeod of Morven, is newly licenced. He is only 22 years of age, but has been almost unanimously elected by the patrons to this important parish. The people are nearly all for him. Glasgow has now, therefore, three Norman McLeods and the youngest of them bids fair to rival both his namesakes. I mention this circumstance because I know that the name of McLeod is not only known but deeply respected in your Province.

The clergymen recently ordained here to labor in their native country, seem to have been very prompt in beginning their work. Report says they arrived in Halifax on a Friday and were preaching in Pictou on the Sabbath. It is just like them—quite accords with the character which they maintained here for energy and zeal. Nova Scotia will no doubt soon learn their worth if, indeed it has not done so already. Their absence makes a sad blank here in many a circle. "It's not lost, however, that a friend gets" and such your Colony is. God prosper and bless all its interests both sacred and civil!



COMMISSION OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

A meeting of the Commission of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland was to have been held in Edinburgh yesterday, but there was not a quorum of members present.

THE MISSION TO BRITISH GUIANA.

The report of the Rev. Alex. R. Irvine, D. D., and Rev. Thomas Monro, A. M., commissioners appointed by last Assembly to proceed to British Guiana, was, we understand, read to the Special Commission on yesterday week, and was to have been submitted to the meeting yesterday. Having been favoured, however, with a copy of the report, we are enabled to present our readers with a brief abstract of its contents. It commences by a narration of their proceed-

ings in connection with the *fama* which had been raised against Messrs. Harper and McCulloch, ministers of the Church of Scotland in the colony. Due investigations having been made into the charges, the commissioners felt it to be their painful duty to draw up libels against Messrs. Harper and McCulloch—against the former for slander, and the latter for drunkenness—and a meeting was held on the 14th December for the purpose of trial. On the diet being called against Mr. McCulloch, he pleaded guilty to two of the charges of drunkenness, and resigned his charge. Mr. Harper, on being called, objected to the relevancy of certain of the charges preferred against him, but his objections having been over-ruled, the trial proceeded. Four of the counts were found proven, and sentence of suspension from the ministerial office was pronounced against him. Provision was duly made for the supply of ordinances in the parishes of Messrs. Harper and McCulloch during the vacancies. The commissioners next proceeded to investigate the charges made against the Demerara clergyman contained in Mr. Duff's "address to the General Assembly of 1860." These charges were discovered to be unfounded, and the commissioners felt it their duty to censure Mr. Duff for his rashness. After touching on some other points, the report proceeds:—

"Very soon after our arrival in the colony we became satisfied that our Church labours under very serious disadvantages from the insufficient number of ministers to occupy the spheres of duty assigned to her. These are of two kinds, one arising from the great extent of the parishes, and the other from the necessity of vacant parishes being supplied by ministers, most of whom are overburdened with the duties of their own cures. We brought this subject under the notice of the Governor, and proposed to him to obtain a grant supplemental to that which has been recently assigned to the clergy of the Church of Scotland. But, while giving us to understand that there would have been little or no objection to the Clergy En'owment Bill embracing additional provision for that purpose, had application been made for it while that measure was under the consideration of the Combined Court, he informed us that there were very serious obstacles in the way, now that the measure had become law. There appeared to be an understanding or rule adopted by the local government, that the ordinance, when once passed, should remain undisturbed for the nine years over which it extended, and of which about seven years are still to run. Our communication with other parties tended to confirm the view taken by the Governor.

Under these circumstances, all that could be at present accomplished was, to endeavour to supply by local voluntary effort, in the meantime, what could not otherwise be obtained; and the idea of a missionary associ-