

phia was—that it means hidden—it was not divinely inspired—it was not recognised by the Church—it was not mentioned at the first General Council—it crept in about the fifteenth century—it was only admitted into the canon by the Council of Trent; he told the congregation everything that Dr. Crombie had stated; that at one time it was the practice to bind up the Apocrypha with the Scriptures, but that time had gone by—it was now excluded from the canon—it was composed by uninspired writers—it was not read for the first four centuries—and many portions of it were false and fabulous. That was what he said; but he soon found the matter represented in the public prints as though he were the exponent of views the very opposite of those which he entertained. He regretted the proceeding, and he had no wish to act in defiance of the laws of the Church. He did it inadvertently, in the haste of the moment, and he had no intention of repeating it.

MODERATORSHIP OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.—The Rev. Dr. James Maitland, of Kells, will be proposed as Moderator of the next General Assembly.

PRESBYTERY OF AYR.—The Presbytery of Ayr met at Craigie on Thursday last, for the admission of Rev. D. Stirling as minister of that parish. The services were ably conducted by Rev. Mr. Finlay, minister of Kirkoswald, and at the conclusion of them, Mr. Stirling was warmly received by the respectable congregation assembled on the occasion.

CHAPELSHADE CHURCH, DUNDEE.—The Presbytery of Dundee received the minute of election, on Tuesday, the 1st. inst., of the Rev. John Francis Wight, presently missionary minister of West Wemyss, Presbytery of Kirkcaldy, to be minister of Chapelshade Church.

HOWOOD CHURCH, LOCHWINNOCH.—At a meeting of the congregation, held on Monday in the Parish Church of Lochwinnoch—General Macdowall, of Garthland, in the chair—the Rev. Mr. Millar, of Ayr, preacher of the gospel, was unanimously appointed to be missionary of Elliston Church at Howood, in the eastern district of the above parish.

PARRISH OF COULL.—The Presbytery of Kincardine O'Neil, met at Coull on the 3rd inst., for the induction of the Rev. Wm. Skinner, a minister of this parish.

PARRISH OF WATTEN.—Sir James Colquhoun of Luss, has presented the Rev. James Genamel, minister of Pulteneytown Chapel, to the church and Parish of Watten; vacant by the translation of the Rev. Donald McCaig.

PARRISH OF CARNOCH.—The Rev. James Skinner Mackenzie has been appointed minister of the parish of Carnoch, in the presbytery of Dingwall.

PARRISH OF ST. QUIVOX.—The Presbytery of Ayr, met at St. Quivox on Thursday, for the ordination of the Rev. Mr. Wilson, of Belhaven Chapel, Dunbar, to the charge of

that parish and congregation, vacant by the translation of the Rev. Mr. Charteris to New Abby. The Rev. Mr. Shaw, Ayr, conducted the services on the occasion.

GAELIC CHURCH, ROTHERSAY.—When the "Highlanders," last year, seceded from the Free Church, they formed themselves into a congregation in connection with the Established Church, and, after some litigation, got possession of the church, and chose for their pastor the Rev. D. M. Simpson. His ministrations among the Gaelic population have been very successful, and he has gathered a large congregation.

PRESBYTERY OF LONDON.—The Presbytery of London, at their ordinary meeting on Tuesday, transmitted an overture to the ensuing Synod, proposing that the Church should pass a Declaratory Act, explaining in what sense the Church holds the doctrine of the Confession of Faith, regarding the power of the civil magistrate in sacred things, and repudiating all persecuting principles which might be supposed to be involved in the language of the Confession.

UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS.—We understand that, at the meeting of the University Council of St. Andrews to be held on the 24th inst., the Rev. John Cook, D. D., will be proposed as representative of the Council in the University Court. The nomination of Dr. Cook will be made by the Rev. W. L. Alexander, D. D.

ST. STEPHEN'S SABBATH SCHOOL SOCIETY.—The annual soiree of this society was held last night in the Scottish Exhibition Rooms, Bath Street—the Rev. Mr. Nisbet, the minister of the parish occupied the chair. The report of the secretary stated the number of schools in connection with the society to be five, and the average attendance of children to be 435. Mr. Blaikie, in name of the society, presented Mr. Nisbet with a handsome pulpit bible. Mr. Nisbet expressed his thanks in a few feeling sentences.

The Rev. Archd. Nisbet, of Chicago, U. S., late of Glasgow, then addressed the meeting. After speaking of the importance of Sunday schools, he referred to their condition in America. This he described as most flourishing. He said there was not one Christian denomination in that country which did not, in its corporate capacity, give every attention to this important work. Indeed, he looked upon Sabbath schools in America as the great conservative element. Popery and infidelity, and spiritualism of the worst kind; and, worse than all, what was called Pantheism, had greatly increased among all classes, and the Sabbath schools were the grand engine whereby these errors might be overthrown. In general, the regular preachings of the gospel were not attended in that country as they are in this. It was very rare, indeed, in any city in America to see a church filled as they could be seen in Glasgow or Edinburgh; and the reason seemed to be that men were so