

whether, after what had been said, it was wise or polite to press a division, when the motion of Dr. Charteris was practically one for delay in regard to a very important point. He was sure the Colonial Committee had nothing to hide, and the more information they afforded the more would their missions be supported by the congregations of the Church.

Mr. Muir said that all the information in the hands of the committee was given in detail, either in the body of the report or in the appendix. The committee, after years of experience in carrying on their work, had come to the conclusion that they could not possibly judge of the circumstances connected with the votes they made; for it was impossible to say here, with any degree of authority that would command respect in the colony, how the money was to be spent. Hence the general character of the grants. He defied the Assembly to follow any better plan than to operate through the advice of local boards in the colonies, for every attempt to expend money direct from 22 Queen Street was simply a bonus for every species of abuse. As to the second question in Dr. Charteris' motion, he might say beforehand that it was utterly impossible for the committee to answer it. The committee did not give money which was used to promote internecine war between the two Churches in Canada; they gave money only for Christian work, and apart altogether from denominational influence.

Dr. Masson thereafter, in response to the appeal made by Dr. Watson, withdrew his motion, and that of Dr. Charteris was declared carried.

The Moderator, in name of the Assembly, returned thanks to Mr. Mitchell for his interesting and able address. He might, the Moderator said, assure his brethren in Canada that whatever division of opinion might exist among them as to this grant of money, all of them were deeply interested in the progress of Presbyterianism in the colony with which they had so close connection, and in which so many of them had enjoyed a generous hospitality. (Applause.)

THE SCOTCH PRESBYTERIAN ASSEMBLIES.

NEARLY all all of the Presbyterians of Scotland are represented in the three Assemblies which meet in May—those of the Kirk, Free Kirk, and the United Kirk. They are all large bodies, the last-named having been lately increased by union with the Reformed Presbyterian Church. The Free and U. P. Churches, being free from state connection, meet in Assembly and Synod, and transact their business after the manner of the American Presbyterian Assemblies; but the opening of the Assembly of the Church of Scotland is a more important and ceremonious affairs. The opening day this year was on May 23d. The ceremonial began with a levee at eleven o'clock, held by the Lord High Commissioner in Holyrood Palace. The Earl of Roslyn was this year the commissioner appointed to represent the Queen, and a long list of noblemen and municipal and other dignitaries gathered in the reception room. Among them were the lord-provost, magistrates, and town council of Edinburgh and Leith, in their official robes, accompanied with halberdiers and other officers. Many other municipalities were also represented. "The approach," in the words of *The Scotsman*, "of the commissioner was announced about eleven o'clock by the Queen's trumpeters, and his grace (wearing the uniform of an ambassador, with a grand cordon and collar of the order of Charles III of Spain) entered the gallery, preceded by the ushers and accompanied by Dr. Hamilton Ramsay, purse-bearer: Rev. Dr. Russell, chaplain; the sheriff of Mid Lothian and Haddington, and other gentlemen. The presentations were immediately proceeded with." After the ceremony of presentation, which occupied about twenty minutes, the procession formed and marched, where Dr. Phin, the retiring moderator, preached the sermon. The procession was headed by the police. After them came the moderator of the Assembly, the solicitor-general, and the municipal authorities; then a detachment of dragoons, with six of the Queen's trumpeters; after whom rode the lord high commissioner and party, the rear being occupied by private car-