

These were by far the largest and most interesting meetings ever held in Inverness, and what adds to their value and importance, they were thoroughly catholic in their spirit—Presbyterians, Methodists, Baptists, and Independents all meeting cordially and fraternally together. Whilst the area of the church was densely crowded, there were present on the platform not fewer than ten ministers.

The church is a handsome Gothic edifice, after a plan by Mr. Andrew Peebles of Quebec, and reflects great credit on the congregation of Inverness.

We may add that pieces of music were tastefully sung by the young people of the congregation, both in English and Gaelic, in the intervals between the speeches.

After having stated thus much it can hardly be necessary to add, that the people separated well pleased with the intellectual treat which they had received.

General Religious Intelligence.

PROGRESS OF RELIGION IN BRITAIN.—The various religious periodicals report many interesting symptoms of the progress of religion in Britain. In London various special means are still employed for the spiritual improvement of all classes, the highest as well as the lowest. The special missionaries employed for the benefit of the cabmen have not laboured in vain. Many of them now attend divine worship on the Lord's day, as well as Bible classes. A Library has been established, and several societies with a view to the cultivation of economy, temperance, &c. About 2000 cabmen are now members of these clubs, and not a few both among cabmen and cab proprietors are decided followers of the Saviour. Preaching to the aristocracy has been resumed by Captain Trotter, Mr. Blackwood and others, who give addresses in Willis's Rooms every Saturday at half-past three in the afternoon. There is good reason to believe that these efforts have not been fruitless.

In various parts of England, as in the West Riding of Yorkshire, religious revival is also advancing.

Special preparations have been made for having suitable services for foreigners and strangers in London during the season of the great exhibition. An association has been formed for the distribution of Bibles and Tracts, of which the Bishop of Winchester is president. The Bishop of London, Sir Culling E. Eardley, Hon. A. Kinnaird and others have taken a prominent part in promoting these important objects.

THE BICENTENARY CELEBRATION.—The Bicentenary of the ejection of Non-conformist ministers of 1662 still occupies general attention. Proposals are made suggesting that the Presbyterian churches should take up the matter at their meetings of assemblies and Synods. We regret to observe that some unpleasantness has been occasioned by certain charges of dishonesty in regard to the use of the fornicularies of the Church of England which have been made by some of the non-episcopal ministers. In consequence of this, Canon Miller of Birmingham has publicly intimated his withdrawal from the Bible Society. Other evangelical clergymen, who take a more comprehensive view of matters, have intimated that they do not intend to withdraw from coöperation with their non-episcopal brethren.

THE EDUCATIONAL QUESTION IN SCOTLAND.—The Lord Advocate's Educational Bill has called forth a large amount of discussion. The bill proposes, first, to appoint an Educational Commission, consisting of twenty members, four officials from each of the Universities and four to be nominated by the Crown, who are to be charged with the carrying out of the details of the Bill. The Bill contemplates three classes of schools, viz: First, Rural schools, which are to be supplementary to the Parish schools; second, District schools, in populous villages and districts, not being Royal Burghs; and third, Burgh schools.