

STATISTICS OF LIBERALITY.

At a late meeting of the Established Presbytery of Glasgow, Statistics were submitted by Mr. Brownlie, which represented that church in Glasgow as at the top of all the churches for the amount of their contributions to the cause of Christ. The accuracy of the returns was questioned by Dr. James Taylor of Renfield U. P. Church in his own Presbytery, on which the Reformed Presbyterian Magazine comments as follows:

"His statement was thoroughly conclusive on two points. 1. That the manner in which the Established Presbytery had taken the returns was unreliable in itself, and altogether unfair to the other churches. In justice, however, to Mr. Brownlie, it ought to be stated that he vouched for the correctness of the statistics of his own church only. 2. That the comparisons of liberality were entirely delusive, whatever standard was adopted. It was said that the Park church had raised £7. 3s. per member last year, and that that was the highest average of any congregation in Scotland. Dr. Taylor was able to state that Dr. Buchanan's congregation had raised during the same year £7 10s. per member, and Dr. Candlish's, £10 10s. Over the whole churches the average is nearly as follows.—Established Church, 13s; Free Church, £1 10s.; United Presbyterian Church, £1 8s. To be of any use, statistics ought to be taken on a uniform principle, and handled with absolute impartiality.

It is time our own statistics were turned to more practical account. On the point in question it will be found that our rate, by last returns, is \$9.10 per family or \$7.73 per communicant, being 43 cents over the highest of the three Scottish Churches.

We have no desire to claim a place in the scale of Christian giving to which we are not entitled, and we therefore express our belief that the conclusion that we give more than the Free and U. P. membership in proportion to our numbers, would be fallacious; the error arising from the fact that our members in full communion bear a smaller proportion to the whole body of givers than in the Parent churches. The rate per family would furnish a more accurate test, but we are not furnished with sufficient data for comparison on that foundation.

This is an honourable rivalry, and by all means let the church who gives most liberally have the praise to which it is justly entitled.

The Canada Presbyterian Church Pulpit is a handsome volume of 280 pages duodecimo, published by James Campbell & Son, Toronto. It contains 20 Sermons, by prominent Canadian ministers.—The subjects treated are vital Gospel themes, and the treatment is generally vigorous, fresh, and thoughtful. It is remarked in the Preface that the publication of this volume "has been undertaken to supply a want which has for some time been felt to exist, and which every year renders more apparent, namely, a means for estimating the power of an influential and growing church." It is hoped also that these and sermons similarly published will be helpful to personal piety and family devotion, and, in remote parts of the country, destitute of the stated ministry of the Word, furnish readers with sermons of unquestioned merit. These Twenty Sermons are all above common-place, and some of them are very excellent. We hope that the Publishers will be encouraged to add at least five more volumes to the series.—The externals of the book are all that could be desired,—print, paper and binding being quite "English" in style.

Our Foreign Missions.

The Missionaries in Britain.

Our last number noted arrival of Messrs. Murray, McKenzie and Robertson, with their wives, in England, and their intention to sail from Liverpool in the steamer *Great Britain* on the 14th December. They visited Glasgow and next spent a week in Edinburgh. Being invited to return and attend a farewell missionary meeting in Glasgow, they accepted the invitation. Before the time of holding the meeting, Mr. Murray decided on going by the Mediterranean and Suez Canal route, and left for