

TESTIMONIAL TO THE REV. DR. WARDLAW.—On Wednesday night a soiree in honour of the Rev. Dr. Wardlaw for his long, faithful and distinguished services as a minister of the Gospel, was held in the City Hall, Glasgow, which was filled to overflowing. The chair was occupied by Wm. Milroy, Esq., who was supported on the right by Dr. Wardlaw, Dr. Kidston, Dr. Alexander, of Edinburgh, Dr. Symington, John Henderson, Esq. of Park, and Dr. Macfarlane; on the left by Sir James Anderson, Lord Provost, Dr. King, Dr. Buchanan, Professor Thomson, Dr. Robson, Rev. Mr. Cullen, Rev. J. R. Campbell, Edinburgh, Dr. Runciman, and Dr. Struthers. The meeting was addressed by the Rev. Dr. King, Professor Thomson, the Rev. J. R. Campbell, and Mr. W. P. Paton, who requested Dr. Wardlaw's acceptance of a silver tea service (valued at about 140 guineas) in testimony of the high respect and esteem for him, and sense of his long, faithful and laborious services as an eminent minister of the Gospel, and as pastor of the Church, entertained by his friends and congregation. Dr. Wardlaw returned thanks in an eloquent address.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.—On Wednesday evening the 45th annual general meeting of the Bread-street branch of this Association, was held at the London Coffee-house, Alderman Sidney, M. P., in the chair. The proceedings having been opened by prayer, the Chairman said he was glad to be able to congratulate them upon the prosperity of the society. In the address which they heard in the House of Commons the other night, in which the Prime Minister propounded self-government to all our colonies to the utmost bounds of the world, he had not mentioned a word about religion, because the Bible Societies, and other kindred institutions, preceded him there, even before regular government was established. It appeared from a view of the plans and operations of the society which was submitted to the meeting, that, during the forty-five years of its existence, the society had put into circulation nearly 22,000,000 copies of the Scriptures, either in whole or in part, and its expenditure for this purpose had exceeded £3,500,000 sterling. The receipts for the past year alone had amounted to £95,933 16s. 1d., arising from the usual sources of donations, annual subscriptions, sales, and legacies; the payments during the same period having been £88,831 1s. 2d., and its engagements had exceeded £67,000. There had been issued from its depositories, at home and abroad, within the same years, no fewer than 1,107,518 copies, and, if the aggregate issues of foreign Bible Societies were added to those of the British and Foreign Bible Society, the grand total would amount to more than 36,000,000 copies of the entire Bible or New Testament, or integral portions thereof, in different languages. The society had promoted the distribution of printing, or translation of the Sacred Volume, in whole or in part, directly in 81, and indirectly in 59 languages or dialects. Within the United Kingdom there were no fewer than 3,217 auxiliary branches or associations, and 525 in the British colonies and their dependencies. There were also more than 50 principal foreign societies, with their respective branches, spreading their salutary influence over the states of Europe, all more or less effective in the distribution of the Scriptures. The adoption of the Report having been passed, several practical resolutions were agreed to, and officers for the ensuing year were elected, and the meeting separated after the usual courtesy to the chairman.—*Sun.*

KINGSTON CHURCH.—The Rev. Robert Pollok has been presented with a handsome pulpit gown, cassock, Bible, and Psalm-book, by a few ladies of the church, as an expression of their esteem and gratitude for his unwearied efforts and great success in promoting the temporal and spiritual prosperity of the congregation. They have also presented Mr. Andrew Leckie, the precentor, with a gown and Psalm-book for his exertions in improving the psalmody of the church.—*Edinburgh Post.*

EDINBURGH CITY MISSION.—The annual public meeting of this Association was held on Tuesday evening in the Music Hall, A. Earle Monteith, Esq., in the chair. The hall was well filled by a large number of clergymen belonging to various denominations, and of influential private citizens. From a statement made by Mr. Clarkson, the Superintendent of the Mission, it appeared that "the time spent by the agents in their districts amounted to 28,088 hours; they had held 2280 meetings, the aggregate attendance at which reached to 54,561; they have paid 43,860 visits, 5508 of which have been to persons in distress; they had distributed 24,138 tracts, and 15 copies of the Scriptures; had taught three Sabbath schools, attended by 165 young people, and had sent 105 children to day-schools." From the Treasurer's Statement it appeared that the income last year was £1153 1s. 7d., and the expenditure £1073 2s. 3d., leaving a balance of £49 19s. 4d., scarcely as much as will enable the Society to carry on its operations for a month. The Rev. Dr. Innes, the Rev. Dr. Cunningham, Rev. Dr. Alexander, Rev. Dr. Grey, Adam Black, Esquire, James Blackadder, Esq. &c., took part in the proceedings.

RESIGNATION OF THE REV. DR. RITCHIE.—At the meeting of the United Presbytery of Edinburgh, on Tuesday, the Rev. Dr. Ritchie came forward and tendered his resignation as minister of the United Presbyterian Church, Potterrow, stating, at the same time, that he was unable to continue his ministerial duties at present, and that, as he intended shortly to leave the country, he was desirous of having a testimonial from the Presbytery to show that his resignation was accepted spontaneously, and that he was an ordained minister of the Church. It was resolved to appoint the Rev. Mr. Kirkwood, the Rev. Mr. Parlant (Tranent), and Rev. Mr. Thompson (of Peebles), as a Committee to confer with the session of Potterrow Church, and the clerk was ordered to summon the Rev. Dr. Ritchie and the congregation to appear at the next meeting of Presbytery, in order to furnish sufficient reasons for the acceptance of the resignation.

THE NEW INDEPENDENT COLLEGE.—We entirely participate in the opinion expressed by the *British Banner*, as to the great weight of those considerations which have governed Dr. Alexander's decision to remain in Edinburgh; but we still indulge the hope that it may not prove final, as the Committee are still in correspondence with the learned gentleman, although with but slender hope of changing his determination. With regard to the other chairs, the definite arrangements will be made public in the course of a few days. The Rev. Dr. Harris, it is hoped, will be induced to accept a theological professorship although his decision has not yet, we believe, been communicated. Dr. William Smith, and Dr. Lankester, have, we believe, severally accepted the appointments tendered to them; and we are happy to learn, that the experience of the venerable Drs. Pye Smith and Henderson have been secured by their acceptance of honorary professorships in the New College.—*Patriot.*

PAROCHIAL SCHOOLS OF SCOTLAND.—Mr. Edwards of the British Museum, on being asked by the Select Committee appointed by the House of Commons to consider the state of the Public Libraries, whether he thought the state of education in Scotland inferior to that of the continent, answered that he thought it far superior to the condition of a great many Continental States. On being farther asked to what he attributed this superiority, he replied, "I think very much to the wise and provident foresight of preceding generations, that had taken legislative measures to bring schools almost over the length and breadth of two-thirds of Scotland, making efforts to secure their permanence, and committing them not merely to the chances and hazards of voluntary efforts, and occasional local subscriptions, but really providing for them by legislative measures."

LONDON SOCIETY FOR PROMOTING CHRISTIANITY AMONG THE JEWS.—The Rev. H. A. Stern preached several eloquent and appropriate sermons last week on behalf of this Society in St John's, St James', and St Peter's Episcopal Chapels in Edinburgh. On Thursday last a meeting was held of the friends of the Society, when Mr. Stern gave an interesting account of his labours as a missionary among the Jews in Arabia, Persia, and Kurdistan. The right Rev. Bishop Terrot was in the chair. The meeting was opened with prayer by the Rev. V. Faithful of St Paul's Chapel, and was addressed by Professor Kelland, the Rev. John W. Ferguson, H. Robertson, Esq., and W. Bonar, Esq.

STATISTICS OF THE JEWS.—An official publication informs us that there are hardly more than from 4,000,000 to 5,000,000 Jews in the whole world; whereas Buddhism numbers 400,000,000 adepts; Brahminism, 200,000,000; Christianity, 230,000,000 to 250,000,000; Mahomedanism, from 130,000,000 to 150,000,000; and Fetichism (or pure idolatry), from 80,000,000 to 100,000,000.—The 5,000,000 Jews are thus distributed:—there are some 500,000 in Syria and Asiatic Turkey; 250,000 in European Turkey; 600,000 in Morocco and North Africa; 50,000 to 80,000 in Eastern Asia; 100,000 in America; and about 200,000 in Europe, viz. 13,000 in England; 1594 in Belgium; 850 in Sweden and Norway; 6000 in Denmark; 70,000 in France; 52,000 in the Low Countries; 1,120,000 in Russia (more than one-fifth of the entire race); 631,000 in Austria and its dependencies; 214,431 in Prussia; 175,000 in the German States; and 4000 in Italy.

CONSECRATION OF A GREEK CHURCH.—On Sunday the first building erected in England in connection with the Greek Church was consecrated with unusual ceremony. The edifice is situate in London Wall, opposite All Hallows Church, and is designed for the accommodation of the families of the Greek merchants resident in London, and has been erected at a cost of nearly £10,000. The interior is richly ornamented, and in general appearance is not unlike the chapels of the Roman Catholic body. It is intended that there shall be one service every Sunday, commencing at eleven o'clock.

PRECOCITY, NO MARK OF GENIUS.—"What is the use of thee, thou gnarled sapling?" said a young larch-tree to a young oak. "I grow three feet in a year, thou scarcely as many inches; I am straight and tapery as a reed, thou straggling and twisted as a loosened withie." "And thy duration," answered the oak, "is some third part of a man's life, and I am appointed to flourish for a thousand years. Thou art felled and sawn into paling, when thou rottest, and art burned after a single summer; of me are fashioned battle-ships, and I carry mariners and heroes into unknown seas." The richer a nature, the harder and slower its development. Two boys were once of a class in the Edinburgh Grammar School—John ever trim, precise, and dux; Walter ever slovenly, confused, and dolt. In due time, John became Baillie John of Hunter Square; and Walter became Sir Walter Scott of the universe. The quickest and completest of all vegetables is the cabbage.—*Thomas Carlyle.*

MR. MACAULAY'S EXTRACTION.—The historian's grandfather, the Rev. John Macaulay (who had a brother, the Rev. Kenneth Macaulay, incumbent of Cawdor) was minister of South Uist, whence he was translated, in 1755, to Lisinore, and, in 1765, to Inverary. He was in Inverary when Johnson and Boswell visited the Highlands in 1773. Boswell very characteristically says of him, "Being a man of good sense, he had a just admiration of Dr. Johnson." In the following year (1774) Mr. Macaulay was translated to Cardross, Dumbartonshire. This gentleman was married to the daughter of a small Argyllshire proprietor, Mr. Campbell of Inversragan. His distinguished grandson has, therefore, a strong dash of Highland blood in his veins.—*Inverness Courier.*