

of the Church of Scotland than such a statement as that given above.

The July *Missionary Record*, p. 120, gives the entire missionary contributions of the Church ("EXCLUSIVE OF LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS,"—these words having been added this year, I think, for the first time) as in all, £76,233. Keeping in view this exception, and without attempting at present to estimate its amount, we find the missionary contributions of the three Churches stated thus in their official accounts for 1864-65:—

Church of Scotland as above,	£76,233 0 0
Free Church (public acc'ts. p. 36),	
" Missions and Education,"	69,812 0 0
United Presbyterian Church (Proceedings of Synod, p. 192),	50,690 0 0

The impression thus given is very different from that produced by the previous figures!

Without dwelling longer on comparisons, I proceed to attempt an estimate from various sources, of what the Church has been doing and giving during the by-gone year.

Let us put the weak point first: that weak point, confessedly, is our *Foreign Missions*. The sums raised for them are painfully small, though by no means so small as is often supposed. I take them to amount to about £19,000. This includes India, the Colonies, and the Jews.

The India mission accounts for the year represent as raised at home (including, of course, dividends, &c.) £6347, 19s. 10d.; and in India, four supplementary sums (at Calcutta, Bombay, Sealkote, and Gwah) £2228, 19s. 5d. The Ladies' Association, last year, raised at home (including interest) £2276, 8s.; and in India (Calcutta and Madras), £295. St. Stephens's congregation (Edinburgh) raised also for their Ghospura Mission £275, 8s. 2d. These sums nearly represent the efforts of the Church for India, and they amount together to £11,423, 5s. 5d., painfully little—but more, twice more, than we sometimes see it called. For the Colonies, the sum raised by the Church at home was £3771, 9s.; for the Jewish Mission of the Assembly, £3514, and by the Ladies' Association £259—making, for the Jews, £3773.

The entire contributions of the Church for Foreign Missions (including, say £300 for the 'Foreign Churches Committee') amounted last year to £19,267, 14s. 5d.

II. HOME SCHEMES.

That Foreign Missions are the weak point of the Church, will be evident from this single fact—the immense disproportion between what is given to them, and what is raised for purposes at home.

The first object on the list of the Home Schemes of the Church is the voluntary offering for the poor collected at the church-door from Sabbath to Sabbath. The amount of this, in 770 parishes, for the past year, is given us in the Report of the Board of Supervision. This was £19,218. Of this sum, £9678 were actually "expended in relief of the poor." A large part of the balance was also employed for charitable uses. There remain 114 "unassessed parishes," whose offerings for the poor are not included in the above sum. The distinction between these and the assessed parishes is, that the poor of the former are supported entirely by voluntary contributions, of which the church-door collections form the first, and generally the chief, element; they are therefore in these parishes much larger than in the others. The seventh part of £9678 would be their proportional offering; I am not estimating their real offering which is actually "expended on relief," too high when I set it down as £2060. The first item in the Church's gifts for home is, therefore, £11,678.

The second item on the list of the Church's home operations is Education. Here, fortunately, we have conclusive proof of the inadequacy of our official representations, though we have not yet the means of arriving at the full measure of what the Church is doing for education. The Education Blue-book for 1864-65 gives us not only the amount of Government grants to the churches for schools, but the amounts raised by them in voluntary contributions and for building purposes. Appendix No. 2 gives the following figures for Scotland:—

Amount raised last year by voluntary contributions—	
Church of Scotland	£22,614 4 6
Free Church,	11,108 16 0
All other Churches,	3,861 0 0

To this must be added the sums raised last year for building, as follow:—

Church of Scotland,	£2392 16 0
Free Church, and all other Churches,	593 2 9

Taking the sum of these figures, we have the Church raising, in voluntary contributions, last year (from 9578 subscribers) the sum of £25,007, 0s. 6d.; and all other churches together (from 6935 subscribers), £15,562. The number of subscribers (which is also given in the Blue-book) is valuable, as showing that these contributions for education do not mainly come from a few of the larger heritors, but are the *bona fide* gifts of the people. It is interesting in various points of view to add, that the Church schools in connection with the Privy Council raised last year, in *school pence*, £37,224; and all other Churches, in the same way, £23,724.

But there are other Church schools, not connected with the Privy Council, and not referred to in the Blue-book. Some of these are aided by the General Assembly's Committee, others are supported entirely by local effort. Of the latter I attempt to form no estimate whatever. As to the former, I am informed, on the best authority, that about £1500 of the Education Committee's grants are spent on such schools, and to this must be added the £979, 11s. 9d. raised by the Ladies' Gaelic School Association last year.

The above sums, *not one of which is an estimate*, represent the sums raised by the Church of Scotland for education last year to be £27,456, 12s. 3d. Even that is not the full extent; and be it noted that I do not include in the above the £4000 expended in education by the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge, which is practically a Church society.

The third item on our home list is what is called specially Home Mission work. I content myself here with the following extract from the Report of the Committee to last General Assembly: "From the schedules returned to the Committee, we find that the amount of local supplements during the past year was nearly £5600. If to this sum there be added (1.) The revenues of many chapels which are altogether self-supporting—(2.) Of a still larger number of parochial missions in populous places which receive no aid from the Home Mission Scheme—and (3.) The local contributions for the erection of various chapels, which item alone cannot be estimated at less than £12,000—it may confidently be stated that the Church of Scotland is raising for Home Mission purposes, not merely the £5541, 11s. 4d. which have passed through your Committee's treasury, but a sum hardly, if at all short of £35,000. Your committee hope to be able by another year, to present full and accurate statistics on this very important subject."—Report, p. 6.

I am anxious that my figures should carry no exaggeration with them, and from this sum of £35,000 I therefore subtract the local supple-