

yearly contribution per family was £1 14s. 9d. The Report on the State of Religion was of a hopeful character. Attention was called to the importance of meetings for united prayer, Bible classes, and Evangelistic Services. The report as to the Sustentation Fund was highly encouraging. There are now 561 congregations, being an increase of four during the year; 544 are connected with the Sustentation Fund. The congregational subscriptions amounted to £24,484 14s. 1d., showing an increase of £568 17s. 11d. The thanks of the Assembly were tendered to Prof. Smyth, the convener of the Sustentation Committee. Thos. Sinclair, Esq., who had been previously joint convener, was appointed convener. The report was received, and the recommendations of the committee adopted. From the report of the Foreign Mission Committee, it appeared that the collection had fallen slightly below that of last year. There had, however, been an increase in the number of Christian teachers, communicants and pupils. There had been 154 baptisms in the course of the year. In connection with the report Rev. W. Wells, missionary to India, addressed the Assembly. The Rev. J. Hewitt, who had volunteered for missionary work in India, also addressed the House.

Deputations from the Free Church and the English Presbyterian Church were present, the deputation from the Free Church consisting of the Rev. Prof. Blaikie, Rev. J. Wells, D. Dickson, Esq., and T. McMeeking, Esq., and that from the English Presbyterian Church consisting of Rev. Dr. D. Fraser and Charles Wilson, Esq. The Reports on Evangelization, the Irish mission, the Dublin Mission, and the Connaught Schools were all highly encouraging. We have as yet received only part of the proceedings of Assembly.

SYNOD OF ENGLISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

This Synod met this year in Regent Square Church, London. Dr. D. Fraser, of Marylebone, was unanimously chosen Moderator. A new and pleasing feature in connection with the meeting of Synod was the observance of the Lord's Supper, which was succeeded by a prayer meeting. The Report of the Home Mission Committee was highly encouraging. Nine new congregations had been formed during the year. It was proposed that Ministers should engage in Evangelistic Services in particular places for three or four months at a time.—The Report of the Foreign Mission Committee was also highly interesting and encouraging. In connection with the Report several of the missionaries of the Church in China and elsewhere addressed the Synod, giving hopeful details of their work. The report of the Sabbath School showed a very considerable increase since 1872, the increase being 361 teachers, 3,532 scholars, and 104 senior pupils in advanced classes. The College Report was not encouraging. The whole number of theological students was only 11, and at the beginning of the Session of 1873-4, no students presented themselves for examination. The Committee, however, did not see any cause for uneasiness. The Sustentation Fund Report was highly favourable. A stipend of £150 had been paid to each Minister, and it is hoped that soon it will be brought up to £200. It was hoped by many that there would be union between the English Presbyterian Church and the branch of the United Presbyterian Church in England. But this hope has been disappointed in the meantime. The Union Committee was, however, continued. A resolution was adopted with reference to the state of the Established Church, and a special committee was appointed for the purpose of co-operating with other evangelical Nonconformists, with a view to such common action as may be necessary. A most interesting and effective missionary meeting was held, in connection with the synodical meeting, in Exeter Hall.