

ing in place of the paragraph in the deliverance relating to Canada:—

That, inasmuch as the Assembly has not sufficient information as to the purposes for which grants made to the Churches in Canada are put, the Colonial Committee be instructed to bring up at a subsequent diet, in so far as in their power—(1) a statement of the respective amounts given to the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and to the Presbyterian Church in Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland. (2) Definite information to enable the Assembly to know whether any portion or portions of the grants made by this Church go towards maintaining denominational strife. (3) A statement of the cases in which the sums sent to Canada are for fulfilling any pledges made by the Committee, and the nature of the obligations or pledges. That meanwhile the Assembly reserve consideration of the subject of the relations of the Committee to the Churches in Canada, and generally reserve the consideration of the relations of this committee to the Committees on Continental Churches and on Missions to the Jews until the reports of these committees have been received.

Dr. Story, Roseneath, seconded the amendment. He called attention to the fact that the grants given for education by the Colonial Committee, including the sums paid to the professors in Queen's College, amounted to £1075, or above a fifth of the whole income of the scheme. Now, with the Dominion of Canada growing to such enormous proportions, it was perfectly monstrous that a Church with no larger resources than theirs, and whose own divinity halls were so much in need of supplementary salaries and bursaries, should pay so much from year to year for the support of education in the Dominion Church. (Hear, hear.) He trusted that the Committee appointed to inquire into this matter would turn their attention specially to that point, and bring up a report to the Assembly as to whether expenditure of that sort should continue, or should, as he thought it should, be put a stop to. (Hear, hear.)

Sir James Fergusson said that the Church of England was constantly sending out money in aid of all the Churches

of the same communion in the colonies. The Church of England did not think the less of a Church because it became independent of the home Church. So he thought they should be the more encouraged to help the Presbyterians in Canada, because they had been able to set up a separate Church. (Hear, hear.) Each case ought to be studied, however, on its merits, and assistance ought not to be given where the people of a colony were able to do for themselves. Distinctions among the Presbyterian Churches in all the colonies were tending to disappear, and fragments of Churches were tending to come to a centre. The last thing that the Assembly should do should be to give a grant to keep up the distinctions. He believed their grant would be well bestowed for many a year to come even in a colony so rich as Canada, for they must remember that the distant parts of Canada were as far from the centres of settlement as almost from the mother country. He ventured to deprecate anything that would check support given to the Colonial Committee, for he thought that the schemes of the Church required to be pressed more on their congregations than less so.

Principal Pirie said that the last thing that was thought of was to take any step that in any measure might diminish the power of the committee for good. They believed that every recommendation which was made was calculated to strengthen in very great measure all the committees of the Church, and that the neglect of the suggestions put forward was one of the causes why the funds of special schemes had fallen off. He objected with Dr. Charteries to general grants and allowances, and what he considered was a statement of the circumstances under which the money had been paid and the objects for which it had been applied. He maintained it was the duty of the bodies in Canada who claimed money from them to show that in particular cases it was needed. That £550 granted to an institution for teaching in Canada was unaccountable, and ought to be explained, and until it was explained the Assembly ought not to grant the money.

Dr. Watson, Dundee, appealed to the convener of the Colonial Committee