

Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society, the annual meeting of which was lately held. There are several Medical agents in the service of this Society viz., Dr. Wong Fung at Canton, Dr. Evans at Mirzapore, in India, and Dr. Paterson at Madras.

**MISSIONARY OPERATIONS AT CANTON.**—The warlike operations which have been carried on at Canton, have in the meantime interrupted all missionary work. During the past year, nineteen members had been added to the Mission Church of the London Missionary Society.

**FREE CHURCH MISSION AT CALCUTTA.**—MR. RAJENDRA CHANDRA.—Mr. Rajendra Chandra, who was for many years a distinguished student at the Free Church Institution in Calcutta, and was baptized in 1853, and who has recently finished with great distinction his medical studies in London, has been delivering addresses on the progress of Christianity in India.

**FAREWELL BANQUET TO DR. LIVINGSTONE.**—Dr. Livingstone previously to his leaving England was entertained by upwards of 300 of the elite of literature, science and art, at a farewell banquet. Besides Dr. Livingstone, the speakers of the evening were Sir R. Murchison, Count Platen, the Duke of Argyll, Mr. Baxter, M. P., Sir B. Brodie, Lord Ebury, the Bishop of Oxford, and the Bishop of St. David's. Dr. Livingstone was favoured with an interview with the Queen, who expressed the warmest interest in his mission. Dr. Livingstone subsequently delivered his final public address to the Students of the University of Glasgow.

**ILLNESS OF DR. DE SANCTIS.**—Dr. De Sanctis, whose name is intimately connected with the progress of Italian Evangelization, has been dangerously, it was for a time feared hopelessly unwell. His illness was in a great measure brought on by over-exertion and exposure.

**THE ORGAN QUESTION.**—There was incidentally brought up at a recent meeting of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, a discussion on this subject, in connexion with an overture with reference to the intercourse and correspondence between the Free Church of Scotland, and sister churches. Dr. Candlish, who introduced the overture, proposed that in the maintenance of ecclesiastical communion and intercourse, regard should be had to *purity of worship*. In this he had special reference to the introduction of organs into some of the Churches of the Presbyterian Synod in England. Dr. Hanna and others opposed Dr. Candlish. The overture was carried by a considerable majority. Dr. Guthrie has published a letter expressing his strong disapproval of the course of Dr. Candlish in this matter.

**CHELTHAM.**—A new Church in connexion with the English Presbyterian Church, was lately opened by Rev. Dr. McCrie, who on the following evening, delivered a lecture in the Town Hall, on "The Martyr Bishops of England."

**CIRCULATION OF THE BIBLE IN SPAIN.**—In the course of two years 100,000 copies of the Bible, or separate bound portions of the Bible, have been circulated in Spain. The efforts of the

Priests to arrest the circulation of the Scriptures have hitherto been without effect.

**FREE CHURCH COLLEGE.**—The number of theological Students in the Free Church College has of late greatly diminished. They amount in all to 167. Formerly they have been at least 200.

**CHURCH RATES.**—Shortly before Lord Palmerstone's defeat, the second reading of a Bill for the immediate and unconditional abolition of church rates, was carried by a large majority.

**CONTRIBUTIONS TO FREE CHURCH SCHEMES.**—For the nine months ending 15th February, 1858, there was an increase in the receipts for the Sustentation Fund, to the amount of £569 10 5, but a decrease in the amount applicable to the equal dividend of £101 6 4. There was a small decrease in the amount received for the Education Scheme. For the Foreign Mission Scheme there was a gross increase of £3,067 16 8.

**HAVELOCK SCHOLARSHIPS.**—It is proposed to establish in connexion with the Baptist College, Regent's Park, two scholarships for Indian Science, under the name of the "Havelock Scholarships."

**COLLEGES IN THE UNITED STATES.**—By the annual statement just printed, it appears, that in forty-seven colleges of the land there are 8540 students, of whom 2082 are professors of religion. There were during the last year 529 hopeful conversions. There are 987 who intend to become ministers. According to the fullest report we have ever seen, there are 122 colleges in the United States, of which 113 are Protestant, and 9 are Roman Catholic. Of the Protestant colleges, 16 are controlled by the Baptists, 18 by Methodists, 8 by the Episcopalians, some 11 by the Congregationalists, 2 by the Unitarians, and one by the Universalists, and the remainder (62) by the various branches of the Presbyterians.

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN NEW BRUNSWICK.**—We learn from the *Colonial Presbyterian* that a Bill has been introduced into the Provincial Legislature in New Brunswick for the incorporation of the Synod. The object is simply to enable the Synod to accept the conveyance of an academy or other building, and hold it as Synod property. The Bill, although opposed by some members of Established Church of Scotland, passed the Lower House. It also passed the Upper House, but with an amended title, which is in effect tantamount to a rejection.

**NEW BRUNSWICK—A NEW SCHOOL BILL.**—A new School Bill has been introduced into the Legislature of New Brunswick, which, it is said, will recognize the Bible.

**FREE CHURCH, CALLS, INDUCTIONS &c.**—The Rev. J. McIntosh, has been ordained to the pastoral charge of the congregation at Aberlour. The Rev. Mr. Trail of Inverness, has been called to the Tron Church Glasgow. The Rev. Mr. Milne has been inducted as minister of St. Leonard's church, Perth. The Rev. A. Bannatyne, of Warrenford, Northumberland, has been called to the vacant congregation of Union church Aberdeen.

## THE REV. GEORGE STEVENSON.

The Rev. George Stevenson, lately our esteemed missionary in India, whose return is already known to our readers, has been received as an ordained minister by the Presbytery of Stirling, with which he was formerly connected. We quote the proceedings of Presbytery in his case, including his own speech. His career as a missionary to the heathen, and his connexion with our Canadian Church, have been very suddenly cut short. But we trust he may be spared for great usefulness in the Lord's vineyard.

### PRESBYTERY OF STIRLING.

This Reverend Body met on the 2d instant—the Rev. Mr. Drummond, Clackmannan, Moderator.

The minutes of last meeting having been read, the Rev. Dr. Bent expressed the great pleasure he felt at again seeing in the midst of them the Rev. Mr. Stevenson, late of Tullibody, who, he understood, was to make a statement to the Presbytery in reference to the circumstances which led to his return from the missionary field to which he was recently appointed in India by the Canadian Church, and to his appearance that day.

Mr. Stevenson then addressed the Presbytery. He said—It is with no ordinary feelings that I now appear in the midst of you, beloved fathers and brethren, with whom for upwards of thirteen years I was associated in the work of the Lord, and from whom I parted not eighteen months ago for the foreign field, with very faint expectation of every meeting you again here below. When I took my leave of you it was with the purpose of proceeding to India, and of founding in Bengal a mission in connection with the Canadian Presbyterian Church for the conversion of the idolatrous natives of India to the Christian faith. The Canadian Church wished a distinctive mission of its own, in a locality where no missionary had yet laboured, and where there was a sufficient native population; and at their meeting of Synod, in June 1856, appointed another labourer and myself to go forth to Bengal and form such a mission. Ultimately it happened that the brother appointed to go forth with me was prevented from doing so, and I was sent forth alone, but with the distinct assurance that I should not be allowed long to labour alone, but should immediately be followed by one or two younger labourers. On arriving at Calcutta, after consulting with Dr. Duff and other friends of mission in Calcutta, as directed by the Canadian Church, Bancorah was fixed upon as the seat of the Canadian mission. Bancorah was a place in the interior of Bengal, possessing a large native population—it was totally unoccupied by missionaries of any Church, and it contained three European residents—a judge, a magistrate, and a doctor—who was also an extensive indigo planter. To that station I proceeded in the middle of February, 1857, after spending a fortnight in Calcutta, making myself acquainted with the plans and operations of the different missionary bodies in the city. I remained at Bancorah for three months and a half, endeavouring to acquire the vernacular language—narrating in the neighbouring villages with a catechist furnished me by Dr. Duff, and conversing on the subject of Christianity almost daily with English speaking young men, principally connected with the Government school at Bancorah. While pursuing these labours, the mutiny of the Bengal sepoy army broke out at Meerut—extending to Delhi, and in a very short time spread over the whole of the Bengal Presidency. Bancorah was one of those stations generally regarded as peculiarly unsafe, as there was a company of sepoys stationed there. It was wholly unprotected by British soldiers; it was the seat of a treasury, where a large sum of money was known to be