

The various reports given in were well received. That of the Secretary, detailing the work of the Evangelization committee during the past year, entered faithfully into all the trials and difficulties of the work. The Treasurer enlarged on the various sources of income, urging still larger collections from the churches, and gratefully exhibited, even in these bad times, a balance capable of closing the financial year in December without a deficit. The vested funds, both in America and Italy, were dwelt upon, as well as the five purchases of buildings made during the last five years, closing with the most remarkable of all, that of Milan, which has been secured by one single noble friend of the Free Church at an expense of £3,630 sterling. Mr. Haskard read the gratifying report of the Aged and Infirm Ministers' and Widows' and Orphans' Fund, congratulating the Assembly on the fact that as yet there had not been a single applicant for aid. The College Report referred to the immediate prospect of an able theological professor from Scotland being settled in the new premises in Rome, and the likelihood of a second professor being sent from America to aid this young church. The Report of the Deputation had much to tell of the wonderful way in which God had opened the hearts of His children to give of their substance for this work. Various objects which had been given by enthusiastic foreign friends as pledges of sympathy were exhibited; and as the Report of the Revising Committee of all the administrations of the church was more than ordinarily laudatory, the whole Assembly was greatly moved, and special thanksgivings were offered to God for all His care and kindness during the past year.—*Cor. of Evan. Christendom.*

Practical Papers.

THE GREAT BATTLE.

BY REV. J. O. RYLE.



ALL men ought to love peace. War is an immense evil, though it is a necessary evil sometimes. Battles are bloody and distressing events, though sometimes nations cannot maintain their rights without them. But all men ought to love peace; all ought to pray for a quiet life.

All this is very true, and yet there is one war which it is a positive duty to carry on. There is one battle which we ought to be always fighting. The battle I speak of is the battle against the world, the flesh,