

proceedings were of a private nature. The two principal subjects under consideration were 1st. The mode of conducting missionary operations in India; and 2nd. The means to be employed for increasing the missionary zeal in Scotland, and increasing the number of missionaries. There has been some slight difference of opinion as to the best mode of conducting missionary operations, whether preference should be given to the educational or the evangelistic. It is well known that it is the educational mode which has been chiefly carried on by the Free Church missionaries, and which Dr. Duff strongly recommends, although not to the exclusion of vernacular preaching. Several ministers and elders spoke on the subject, and various practical suggestions were made with reference to the increase of missionary zeal among the students and licentiates, such as missionary scholarships and missionary lectures. It was also suggested by some that missionaries might be sent out for a definite time, say ten or fifteen years. It was suggested, too, that there might be vernacular missions, distinct from the educational institutions; but all agreed that Dr. Duff and his noble band of associates must be sustained. A committee was appointed to consider the various suggestions made, and confer with the Foreign Mission Committee of the Free Church.

THE IRISH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH.

The correspondent of the *Presbyterian* gives the following account of the Church in Ireland:—

The Irish Presbyterian Church is in a more satisfactory condition than at any former period of its history. The reality of the awakening of 1859 is proved by the abundant fruits which have followed, in the decline of intemperance; in increased Sabbath sanctification, the attendance at public worship being devout and numerous beyond precedent; in a general observance of worship, and a revival of the good old plan of catechising on the Sabbath evening; in an increased demand for religious publications; in the province being covered with a net work of prayer meetings, (through the work of colportage in part,) and in "a growing disposition to read and speak on spiritual subjects," the zealous propagation of the truth, and in enlarged missionary efforts, as well as—last, not least—a higher standard almost everywhere attained, by the voluntary and loving gifts of a revived and earnest people. Public spirit also marks the Irish Presbyterians. They glow with zeal, and abound in gifts for Continental, and especially Italian, evangelization.

MODERATORS OF SCOTTISH ASSEMBLIES.—The Rev. Dr. Guthrie is to be proposed as the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Free Church. Dr. Bisset, of Bourtie, is to be proposed as the Moderator of the Assembly of the Established Church.

UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN EDINBURGH.—In the Edinburgh Presbytery there are now 54 congregations, with a membership of 24,288. Three congregations have been added during the year. The accessions during the year have been 2,776, and the removals by death 2,046. The average attendance is 27,820. The total amount for all religious objects raised during the year has been £29,392, being an average of £1 4s. 3d. from each member. There are 94 Sabbath schools, 908 teachers, and 6,007 children.

THE PROGRESS OF THE GOSPEL IN BELGIUM.—From the Report of the Belgian Evangelical Society, it appears that the progress of the Gospel has been very considerable in that country. There have been conversions, and in some places there have been many. Thousands have heard for the first time the glad tidings of salvation.

RELIGION IN PARIS.—The happiest results have followed the labours of Mr. Radcliffe in Paris. Many prayer-meetings have been kept up, and many have been converted to God. Mr. Radcliffe and Mr. Henry, son of Dr. Henry, of Ireland, intend soon again to visit France.