

are at work, and have been productive of much good. The sum of £3,453 stg. has been raised for parish and other missionary operations; the expenditure being fully accounted for under the various heads into which the Report is divided.

This Report, of which we have given a brief abstract, should afford matter for serious consideration to the office bearers of our church. It must be evident to every reflecting man, that the element of publicity must enter into all our calculations as to the progress either of individual congregations, or of the church as a whole. Some of our congregations have, for some years, had presented to them an annual report from the sessions and trustees, and this practice is yearly gaining ground. Some of these reports have been sent us, but the great demands lately made on our space, has hitherto prevented us from noticing them. But the statistics of our church, as a whole, are in a wretched state. A Committee on Statistics was appointed, of which the Rev. Robert Dobie was Convener, which presented a very carefully compiled statement of the position of our church, as far as information could be obtained. The persistent silence, however, of very many ministers and sessions, rendered practically useless the statement drawn up with great care and labour. Nor are committees on individual schemes of the church able to obtain information such as is necessary to lay before the Synod, through it to be communicated to the members of our congregations. The Committee on our Sabbath-schools did not receive answers from more than one-half of the schools which are known to be in existence in connection with our church. Surely it would not be a matter of great difficulty to give the few details asked for to enable the Committee to draw up a satisfactory state-

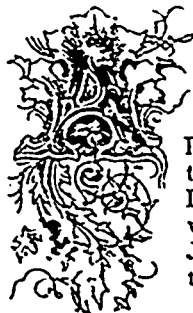
ment. The truth, however unpalatable, must be told; ministers and elders are not doing their duty in this matter; for it seems perfect mockery for members of Synod to pass resolutions, appointing committees for certain objects, if they refuse, in their individual capacity, to assist in the slightest degree to carry out these objects.

If our church in these Provinces is retrograding; let us know it; if it is increasing in numbers, let us see to what extent. If our congregations are contributing according to their means for the support of ordinances among themselves, and the spread of the Gospel among their brethren, let us have their exertions known, or, on the contrary, if we are not doing our duty in this respect, let us ascertain how far we are deficient, so that steps may be taken to remedy the evil. It is absolutely necessary to our well being that we should know our position exactly, our strength and weakness; that we should put aside from our thoughts every fear or hope of what others will say of us, and look at this duty as one which must be done if we are rightly to fulfil the mission laid upon every church of Christ.

BLACKWOOD'S MAGAZINE, January and February; the WESTMINSTER, LONDON QUARTERLY, and EDINBURGH REVIEWS for January, 1865. American editions.

We have received from Messrs. Dawson Brothers, Great St. James street, Messrs. Leonard Scott & Co's American re-print of these periodicals. It is almost superfluous to say anything in praise of these works which should be in the library of every man who would keep himself *au courant* with the literature of the day, and who desires to know what the best intellects of the time have to say on passing events and new literary productions. The price is wonderfully low.

## News of our Church.



An adjourned meeting of the Presbytery of London was held on the first Wednesday of March, the Rev. John Rannie, of Chatham, Moderator, *pro tem*. Sederunt with him Dr. George, Messrs. Bell, Stevenson, and Nicol, Ministers; James Crerar and James Struthers, Elders.

Arrangements were set on foot for the employment of a catechist or catechists during the summer months.

The clerk was instructed to write to Mr. Hugh Lamont, Probationer, in reference to the call forwarded to him several months before, from Glencoe, and to which no answer had been returned.

A deputation, appointed to visit Williams, gave in their report, which was sustained. Dr. George was appointed to preach in Williams on Tuesday the 14th inst, and preside at a congregational meeting.

The clerk reported that he had written to Mr. John Lunis, citing the congregation, or what had been the congregation, of West Brome.