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The membership of the Free Church of Scotland for the year ending May 15th 1884, numbered 322,265, as compared with 314,604 at the corresponding date last year, and 314,027 at the same date of 1882, and 212,429 at May 15th 1881.

THE PRESBYTERIAN REVIEW for July is well filled. There are four leading papers.

I. Rev Dr. James Richards and his Theology, by Prof. R. B. Welch.

II. "The Proper training of young converts", by Rev. T.S. Hamilton. This is a paper on one of the most important subjects connected with Church life and work. Were it scattered broadcast in tract form it would do great good. It is one of the articles that should be read and studied by all.

III. "Melancthon" by Rev. Dr. Schaff A sketch of the life and teachings of the Great Reformer. The name and fame of the author is a guarantee of the excellence of the work.

IV. "The Religious belief of Shakspeare" by Rev. James O. Murray, D.D.

These leading articles are followed by twenty-five pages of "Notes and notices on important subjects connected with Biblical study," after which come eighteen pages of "Reviews of Recent Theological Literature."

THE CHURCH IN JAPAN.

Built into the foundation of a new church at Komatsu, Japan, are two hundred stones which were thrown at the christians, or into their premises, by the enemies of the new faith. The opposition has not hindered the work, but has rather, in other ways than this material method, aided in the establishment of the truth. The Church at Imabari, of which the Komatsu Church is an out station, now numbers 230 members, and at a recent meeting of the women 130 were present.

One of the oldest Missionaries in Japan expresses the opinion that Japan will be a Christian nation within ten years. Another Missionary of long experience allows fifteen years. Can it be wondered at, that with such a prospect before them, the call for instant help, in all possible ways, is most pressing? Dr Davis writes: "I think there are Missionaries on the ground who will see the time when our usefulness, save in exceptional cases will be at an end; when the native Church will have assumed such a position of strength and independence, that it can work better, in most cases, without the foreign element than with it." But this is the time when foreign helpers are greatly needed for the development of native evangelical agencies.