

Instrumental music came before the Assembly by reference from the Synod of Armagh. The decision was as follows:—

“That the common law of the Church excludes the use of instrumental music in the public worship of God; and that the Presbyteries be instructed to see that congregations conform to this law.”

There was a decline of 11,632 in the number of communicants. The sum of £11,404 was raised for Missionaries. The sum total raised by the Church was £94,000. The Assembly is divided on the question of applying to Parliament for an addition to the Regium Donum.

General Assembly of the Established Church of Scotland.

Dr. BARTY was elected Moderator.—There was a long discussion on the Irish Church question, which ended in the Assembly resolving to petition parliament against Mr. Gladstone's measures. A resolution against Patronage was lost by a vote of 150 to 154. A very strong Anti Patronage party now exists in the Established Church.

Dr. Norman McLeod gave an admirable report of his visit to India, and his investigations into the condition of Indian missions. His impressions were in a high degree favourable. He bears special testimony to the excellence and efficiency of the Free Church Missions there. He attached great importance to the work already accomplished by means of education. It was by Dr. Duff's system alone that he hoped to see the Christian Church accomplishing the most tremendous task ever given her to do—the overthrow of Hinduism. The address was more than two hours long, and was exceedingly able and instructive.

The contributions for Foreign Missions amounted to £20,883; this sum including £5,658 for the Colonies. Total contributions for the year, £165,093.

Synod of the Reformed Presbyterian Church, Scotland.

This Court met at Glasgow on Monday the 4th of May, when the Rev. C. N. McCaig of Lochgilphead was elected Moderator.

On the subject of the Union the Synod was unanimously favourable. Dr. Goold gave in the report of the Committee, and in supporting it made the following allusion to the Establishment question: “They [the Reformed Presbyterians] had held,” he said, “the principle of the national recognition of Christianity with the tenacity of a living belief for generations. The sacrifice which, as a Church, they made for it dated by centuries; and rather than abandon it they would continue in their

present isolation—a Covenant remnant in the land of martyrs. But it was possible to lose the spirit in adhering to the letter, and like the dog in the fable to snap at the shadow and forego the substance. National subjection to Prince Messiah was surely capable of a nobler embodiment and a more effective expression than by pecuniary endowments, or by the mere legal ratification of a Confession of Faith however sound. They could not get endowments now, they could not get the statutory recognition of evangelical Christianity now, except they allowed the State to have control over them as a Church. Let the Establishment be ever so valuable, it was in present circumstances unattainable. But they could attain what, after all, was unspeakably better than endowments or statutes in favour of truth by Parliaments that had little or no sympathy with the truth; they could form a Church, resolute because conscientious, powerful because united, commanding respect because stooping to no compromise, embracing all sections of the kingdom, and pervading all classes of the community, ringing in the ear of the nation and its rulers an unanimous testimony to the great truth affirmed in the Articles of Agreement, that ‘all in their several places and relations, and therefore civil magistrates in theirs, are under obligations to submit themselves to Jesus Christ, and to regulate their conduct by His Word.’”

It is gratifying to hear that the loss sustained by this Church a few years ago by the secession of several hundreds from its communion, and the formation of a remonstrant Synod, has been more than made up.

Synod of the Canada Presbyterian Church.

This Synod met in Montreal early last month. Rev. A. Topp, Toronto, was elected moderator. A loyal address to the Queen was adopted by the Synod congratulating Her Majesty on the safety of Prince Alfred. Dr. McCulloch, Rev. James Bennett, Dr. Bayne and Rev. D. Roy, from our own Church were present.

The Home Mission of the Canada Church is extensive:—

From these tables we learn that connected with the Committee's operations there are 77 mission fields, with 150 preaching stations, and 56 supplemented congregations. These represent altogether 4,599 families, an adult membership of 6,155, and an average attendance of 15,091. These mission stations and congregations contribute locally besides board for Missionaries \$22,762 41, and receive in aid \$3,583 75.

Comparing these results with those of last year, we find a slight decrease in the