

cluded a motion approving of the report; renewing the expression of the Assembly's unabated anxiety to promote the religious interests of their countrymen in the colonies, and earnestly recommending the object to the liberality of the Church; congratulating the Church in Canada on the appointment of Dr. Leitch as Principal of Queen's College, Kingston, an appointment which had been hailed with approbation and confidence both at home and in Canada; approving of the recommendation in the report with regard to the four students from Nova Scotia, and authorising the Presbytery of Glasgow to take them on trial for license; re-appointing the committee (Dr. Stevenson, convener)—and recording the thanks of the Assembly to them for their services.

Dr. Fowler said he thought the report an extremely gratifying one. From his personal knowledge he could assure them that the Assembly's proceedings in regard to the Colonial Committee's report were watched with great interest by thousands of their countrymen abroad, who had established channels of communication by which they were made aware of all that was done in their behalf. He was extremely happy that there would again go forth to their countrymen abroad in the colonies an expression of unabated determination to do everything they could to promote their religious welfare.

REPORT OF COLONIAL COMMITTEE.

Dr. Hill referred to a passage in the report of the Colonial Committee as to the four students of divinity from the lower province of British North America, who were completing their curriculum of study at Glasgow, and proposed that the recommendation in the report should be agreed to as to authorising the Presbytery of Glasgow to dispense with the writing of circular letters in the case of Mr. Grant, and to grant these students license in conformity with the law, applicable in ordinary cases only within the Highland districts of Scotland.

REPORT ON ARMY CHAPLAINS.

Dr. Cook of St. Andrews read the report of the Recommending Committee as to army chaplains which stated that no application had been made to the committee to recommend any one to be appointed as a chaplain in the army. The attention of the committee, however, had been much directed to the whole matter connected with the supply of religious ordinances to Presbyterian soldiers. Besides the four Scottish garrison chaplains at Edinburgh, Stirling, Fort-George, and Aberdeen, there were now Presbyterian chaplains stationed at Aldershot, Shorncliffe, Chatham, London, and Dublin, and four non-commissioned Presbyterian chaplains attached to the army in India. Over the whole army the proportion of Presbyterians to other soldiers had been stated to the committee by the Chaplain-General as about one-seventh, found

ed on the regimental returns. Taking the number of soldiers in the army at 140,000, there would thus be about 20,000 Presbyterians, besides wives and children, and for such a number the provision hitherto made was obviously inadequate. There were in all seventy-eight army chaplains regularly commissioned, and of these only six were Presbyterians, or about one thirteenth of the whole number, instead of one-seventh. As soon as it was announced that a force of from 5000 to 6000 men was to be sent to China, the committee communicated with the Chaplain-General, and also with the Secretary for War representing the expediency of appointing a Presbyterian chaplain to accompany the force; but the Secretary for War considered that, from the composition of the force, a Presbyterian chaplain was not required. The committee was of opinion that a small select committee should be appointed for the purpose of promoting any measure for the religious interests of Presbyterian soldiers, with power to receive and apply funds for that object.

The case of the Rev. Mr. Grieve was again brought up, and after parties being fully heard he was solemnly deposed from the holy ministry.

TUESDAY, May 22.

APPLICATION FOR ADMISSION BY A FREE CHURCH MINISTER.

A petition from the Rev. Donald Cameron, who had felt it his duty to resign his position as an ordained minister of the Free Church, craving to be admitted a minister of the Church of Scotland, was read, along with extracts from the Presbytery of Dunkeld, expressing their earnest and unanimous recommendation that he should be received.

Dr. Hill moved that the application be referred to a committee; and, after a few words from Dr. Cook, who said that such petitions should, according to the standing orders, be printed, the motion was agreed to.

TRICENTENARY OF THE REFORMATION.

Mr. Maxwell Nicholson read the report of the committee, which shortly recommended that, besides Sabbath evening and other special services appropriate to the occasion, that the Assembly should appoint the 20th December next to be observed by all the Presbyteries of the Church as a day of solemn thanksgiving for the benefits conferred by the Reformation.

Principal Tulloch then submitted a series of resolutions acknowledging the great and manifold blessings which had flowed from the Reformation, and which called for their unceasing thanksgiving, and declared that it ought to be celebrated especially by this Church, which protested against Popish error and held fast by the faith, and that this celebration should be held on the 20th December next. He said that whatever might be their special views, there was no difference of opinion among Scotchmen as to the Reformation