

ism and Infidelity. A proposal was made and favourably received to prepare a Hymn Book for children. A friendly deputation was received from the Congregationalist Union. The report of the Jewish Mission was by no means encouraging. There are but four Jews under instruction as the fruit of a year's effort of one missionary. The Home Mission Report was highly encouraging; and the same can be said of the Foreign Mission Report. This church, small as it is, has 10 missionaries and 3 medical missionaries, 41 native evangelists and 12 students in China. In Amoy alone 132 have been added to the Church. In all Formosa 255 were added during the year. Other stations have been richly blessed. The contributions during the year amounted to £9,259.

The Synod has a Widows Fund of about £5000 and only 2 Widow. The Aged and Infirm Ministers' Fund amounts to £3473.

The Sabbath Schools give instruction to about 25,000 children. The advance of general education throughout the country makes it doubly necessary for religious teachers to be vigilant and diligent. Resolutions in favour of Union with the United Presbyterian Church in England were passed by a vote of 157 to 6. The Union will take place in 1874. Deputations were received from the Scottish Churches, Dr. Cairns representing the U. P. Church, and Dr. C. J. Brown the Free Church. Dr. Brown indicated the course to be pursued with respect to Union in Scotland. An abstract of his speech will be interesting.

He spoke of the noble efforts of the missionaries in foreign lands connected with the English Presbyterian Church, and the marvellous results which had attended their labours; and he also spoke with reference to its peculiar and distinctive calling at home. There are three things likely to increase vastly the power of this calling in England. First, the striking of the happy medium between a restless, endless innovating on the one side, and a too rigid adherence to the whole of the details of a traditional Presbyterianism on the other.—Secondly, their new Sustentation Fund was really indispensable to the making of large progress over England generally, apart from the wealthy towns. Thirdly, their continuing to increase their numbers as they had

been marvellously doing of late, and seemed likely to do on a larger scale, in about twelve months, when getting the start of those in Scotland, they should be happy enough to consummate their Union with their beloved brethren, the U. P. Church. In Scotland they would be painfully obliged, owing to practical difficulties standing in the way, and for the sake of peace in their Church, to suspend at the next Assembly the Union negotiations which had been going on these ten years. But in suspending they should not abandon nor bury them. And if they should pass into law, as of course they would, the Mutual Eligibility Overture, then not only should it not be as a permanent substitute for Union, but, on the contrary, it should be partly used for the purpose of preserving the whole ground which had been gained during these past nine years, in the hope that the Lord might by-and-by open the way for resuming these negotiations—that was to say, not beginning where they began in 1863, but taking up again the thread, as it were, at the place where it should be laid down.

The Sustentation Fund has succeeded well, and the scheme is to be diligently prosecuted.

It is proposed to raise a memorial fund of £20,000 in commemoration of the Union about to be consummated, the memorial to consist of a Church and Assembly Hall in London or Westminster. The following are the statistics of the body:

8 Presbyteries, 134 congregations, 1631 office-bearers, 25,060 communicants, and 29,037 seat-holders in the church. The increase of congregations had continued—having more than doubled in thirty years. A total debt yet remains upon churches and manse amounting to £35,580. The number of communicants had materially increased. The financial position of the church was most satisfactory; the total amount received for congregational purposes being £58,695; and for the schemes of the church £9204; and if to these are added the extra receipts from the Edinburgh Committee for Foreign and Home Missions, the Brownley Bequest, legacies, and other sources, the grand total received this year appears to be £72,960, which divided by 25,069 communicants, gives an average per head of £2 18s. 2d., against £2 17s. in 1871.

The amount paid for stipends by the congregations amounted to £35,831.

A resolution was passed with regard to the progress of Romanism in the Church of England as follows:

“That the Synod receive the overture