

"Then a report was given in by the Sustentation Fund Committee appointed at the previous meeting of Presbytery. This subject thoroughly interested all present, and was discussed in a way that showed much appreciation of its importance. Almost all the Chinese elders spoke on the subject, and seemed pleased that a plan for the fund had been drawn up. A deputation, consisting of Mr. Swanson and two native pastors and elders, was appointed to visit the congregations and report to next meeting of Presbytery."

The Presbyterian Synod of China met again at Chefoo, August 6. The Rev. G. W. Mateer, Moderator of the last Synod, preached the opening sermon, from the text: "My kingdom is not of this world." The Rev. Dr. Martin, President of the University at Pekin, was chosen Moderator. There were in attendance 31 members—16 of them native ministers or elders. During the past year 233 adult members were added to the churches on examination, making a total membership of 1,093; about one-half of this number are women. There are in all 40 schools, in which are 390 boys and 303 girls. There are 57 chapels and 51 native preachers; 21 organized churches; 13 ordained native ministers; 7 licentiates; 17 candidates. There are at present 27 missionaries in the field in connection with the Church.

### CHURCH OF SCOTLAND MISSION TO AFRICA.

THE Church of Scotland has in contemplation the establishment of a mission to Africa, which promises to be one of the most interesting and important of her Schemes. Dr. Macrae, of Hawick, is convener of a Sub-Committee of the Foreign Mission, which has the matter under consideration, and the following minute of the Acting Committee was agreed to at a late meeting:—

"Dr. Macrae laid on the table the report of the Sub-Committee on proposed mission to Africa, and gave explanations on many points on which information was asked. After full consultation, it

was agreed that without prejudging the results of further inquiries, the Committee record their high appreciation of the Sub-Committee's report, and of the very interesting statement made by Dr. Macrae, to whom the cordial thanks of the Committee are due for the great trouble he has taken in procuring information, and their earnest desire that, if possible, such a mission should be carried out. They remit again to the Sub-Committee to procure further details as to the practicability of organising a settlement in the neighbourhood of Cape Maclear; the method of communication with the coast; the means of conveying supplies to the mission; the products of the district; the probable expense at first, and annually; and other points on which information is required. Further, to report whether the mission should be industrial or otherwise; to make inquiry as to procuring suitable men; and, generally, to lay before this Committee at a future meeting such further information as may enable them to come to a decision on the subject."

The following description of the Coast of Lake Nyassa, in the neighbourhood of Cape Maclear, will be read with interest. It is from the book 'The Search after Livingstone,' by E. D. Young, its commander, and Livingstone's former fellow-traveller on the Zambesi:—

"We were now passing down a stretch of coast which it would be difficult to leave without a longing eye. To the traveller accustomed to the scorching feverish marshes, or the abrupt rocky gorges of the mountains, bordering on the lower Shirè, here seems a land to make all such hardships forgotten. A gentle, but sufficient slope leads one on to a tract of country which I have never seen equalled in Africa.

"For a settlement nothing more could be desired. Well watered by numerous streams, with large glades, splendid trees scattered about instead of forming an overgrown forest—every thing betokened health, and it seemed very hard not to let the eye rest on some signs or symptoms of husbandry.

"My comrades, equally with myself, were enthusiastic in the praises of this beautiful land, and Dr. Livingstone's