

or and its interests, who on many occasions stood forward to maintain its interests, has sunk under the weight of years. A great man; a true, sound, and learned man; a very accomplished man, who had occupied a very large space in the public eye for a very long time, and whose acquirements were of the most varied description, whose learning and whose information, in its minuteness and its earnestness, and its vast extent, often excited astonishment—who had presided over the University of Edinburgh, with so much honor, and who had left a character behind him that would long be remembered by his friends and acquaintances—it had pleased the Great Disposer of all to call him to his rest. They could not but miss such an individual from among them. All honor to the memory of our venerable and respected father! He made it to be matter of thankfulness to them that it had pleased God to spare him so long to dignify their Assembly, and to guide their councils; and he held it to be a subject for earnest prayer that, as such a counsellor had been removed from amongst them, it might please the great Head of the Church to pour largely of his gifts and grace upon all the surviving office-bearers of their Church, in order that they might be able rightly to promote His glory. He could not express as he shed the deep respect he entertained for the memory of their late friend and father, but it was his anxious desire that they might profit by the recollection of his attainments and his services. In proceeding to find a successor to our venerable father in the office of clerk, he had before him a friend whose services had been tried and valued by them—who was intimately acquainted with the forms of procedure in that House, and who was well known to take an active interest in all that concerned the right management of the business. He believed that he spoke the sentiments not only of the members of this General Assembly, but of the Church itself, when he said that it was due to Dr. Simpson of Newton that he should be appointed to the office of principal clerk of Assembly. Dr. Hunter rose to second the motion which had just been made.

In the motion of Mr. Cook, W. S., Dr. Hunter, and Dr. Robertson were invited to draw up a minute expressive of respect in which the Assembly held the memory of Principal Lee, and of their sense of the great loss which the Church and the country had sustained by his death.

FRIDAY, May 20.

ADDITIONAL CHAPLAINS TO INDIA.—Dr. Hunter, on the part of the Committee on Indian Churches, gave in a report, which stated the claims which had been urged by the Synod of Scotland, in reference to the necessity of an increase in the chaplains in connection with this Church at the different Presbyteries, had at length been recognised by the Indian Government. An increase had

been granted to the extent of seven chaplains in addition to the six, which had been the number since 1822. Of these seven, three would be allotted to Bengal, two to Madras, and two to Bombay. Of the proposed additional staff three had already been nominated by Lord Stanley on the recommendation of this committee—namely, the Rev. Malcolm Munro Ross, minister of Woodside Chapel, Aberdeen; the Rev. John Maccalister Thomson, minister of the North Church, Stirling; and the Rev. John Williamson, preacher, Dumfries. It was in contemplation to urge on Government to fix some of the new chaplains at Allahabad, Agra, Kurrachee, Bengalore, &c. The report acknowledged in the warmest manner the valuable aid given to the committee in the prosecution of their claims by the Marquis of Dalhousie and Earl Canning, and the handsome manner in which they had been acknowledged by Lord Stanley.

CONVERSION OF THE JEWS.—Professor Mitchell gave in the report of the Committee for the Conversion of the Jews, which stated that many events had occurred in connection with the mission of an encouraging nature, while some things had happened of a contrary tendency. It further related the proceedings of the missionaries at Darmstadt, Karlsruhe, Salonica, Smyrna, Alexandria (at which station Mr. Jas. Christie had been appointed to assist the Rev. J. W. Yule), Constantinople, &c. The report stated that the committee had been under the painful necessity of terminating their engagement with the Rev. A. Bendriel, at Smyrna, and Dr. J. R. Wolfe, at Salonica—a step which they found indispensable to the peace of these stations, and therefore to the peace of the Church. The committee had again to report a decrease in the funds. The whole income last year was £2,263, being £621 less than that of last year. The balance in hand had been reduced to £788. In 239 parishes no collections had been made last year in behalf the mission.

SATURDAY, May 21.

EDUCATION SCHEME.—Dr. Cook, Haddington, read the report of the committee for increasing the means of education in Scotland, and particularly in the Highlands and Islands from which we extract the following details:—

Assembly Schools.—The number of schools at present on the scheme is now 183, being two more than at this date last year. These have been attended by 20,525 children, including 2,005 who attend the Sabbath schools, but are now enrolled as week-day pupils; the increase since last year being about 500. The annual expenditure by the Committee on the Salaries of Teachers amounts to £2,689 6s 8d to teachers on the first scheme; £515 10s to those on the second, and £136 to the female teachers—making in all £3,328 16s 8d.

Normal Schools.—The committee report the continued prosperity of the Normal Schools in Edinburgh and Glasgow.