

Mr. MACDUFF of Bonhard seconded the motion.

MONDAY, MAY 24.

The Assembly met at twelve o'clock—Dr. Leishman, Moderator.

A draft answer to the Queen's letter was read and approved of, and his Grace the Commissioner undertook, at the Assembly's request, to present it.

#### DUNDEE CHURCHES.

Mr. SHAND, W.S., read a Report from the Committee on Dundee Churches. The Report stated that the Committee were originally appointed in 1851, and the Committee had now the satisfaction to state that the long-pending litigation between the Presbytery of Dundee and the Town Council of that burgh, which commenced in 1851, appears to have made substantial progress, and, indeed, to be drawing to a conclusion.

Mr. Shand concluded by saying, that he expected soon that a provision would be made of £300 a-year for the ministers.

TUESDAY, MAY 25

The Assembly met this day at eleven—Dr. Leishman, Moderator.

#### LOYAL ADDRESS.

Principal LEE read the draft of a loyal address to her Majesty on the Marriage of the Princess Royal, which was approved of; and his Grace the Commissioner undertook to transmit the address.

#### HOME MISSION.

Dr. SIMPSON, the Convener, read the report of the Committee in charge of the mission.

For some years past your Committee have, in their Annual Report, enumerated a few cases in evidence of the increase which has taken place, during the previous year, in the numbers, both of the communicants and of the congregations, connected with the chapels on the Committee's list. Following this plan, a few similar instances may be here cited:—

At Broughty Ferry the communicants have increased from 370 to 619,—the congregation now numbering 730. At Carnoustie the congregation has increased from 300 to 400, and the communicants from 133 to 150. At Carlsburn, Greenock, the communicants have increased from 203 to 225, the average number of the congregation being now 400. At Grangemouth, where the missionary was lately ordained, the communicants have increased from 77 to 105 and the congregation now numbers 300. At Greenhead, Glasgow, there are 90 additional communicants,—these now numbering 450 and the congregation 700. At Haggis, Denny, the communicants have increased from 120 to 230, and the congregation from 150 to 273. In Holborn Street Church, Aberdeen, there are 80 additional communicants, the number now being 344, and the congregation about 500. In John Knox's Church, Aberdeen, the communicants have increased

from 403 to 420, and the congregation from 609 to 630. In the North Church, Paisley, there are 29 additional communicants—these having increased from 83 to 112, and the congregation from 220 to 300. At Pathhead, Dysart, the communicants have increased from 376 to 403—there being now a congregation of about 600. At Patna, Straiton, there are 37 additional communicants, these having increased from 180 to 217, and there is a congregation of 320. In Portbrac Church, Kirkcaldy, the communicants have increased from 50 to 130, and the congregation from 200 to 300. At Seafield, Cullen; Skelmorlie, Largs; South Church, Kirriemuir; St. Andrew's, Dundee; St. Mark's, Glasgow; Gaelic Church, Paisley; and Wallace-town, Ayr, there are considerable additions to the numbers both of congregations and communicants. At Sauchie, Clackmannan, the chapel was long vacant, and the congregation has been in a great measure formed of new. It now numbers 400; and at the last dispensation of the sacrament there were 118 communicants, the number on the roll being 181. In the West Church, Crieff, the communicants have increased from 61 to 115, and the congregation from 250 to 400. In St. Leonard's Church, Perth, there has been a large and rapid accession,—the congregation having increased from 50 to between 500 and 600, and the communicants from 45 to 215. And in the West Church, Maybole, there has been an equally striking improvement,—the congregation having increased from about 100 to 589, and the communicants, at the last dispensation of the sacrament, being the first that has been dispensed in the chapel since 1843, reached the large number of 327.

In connexion with these chapels, the establishment of Sabbath schools—which are greatly on the increase, both as regards the number of schools, and the attendance at these—continues to give great satisfaction, and has been followed with the most beneficial results.

The report was then adopted and thanks conveyed to Dr. Simpson for his labours since the origin of the scheme, as the Church Extension Scheme, and as sole Convener of this scheme since 1843.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 26.

The Assembly met at eleven o'clock—Dr. Leishman, Moderator.

#### UNIVERSITIES BILL.

Various overtures and bills were submitted, with a view to being sent to the usual Committees, and considered at an after diet. Among the overtures was one subscribed by several members of the House, praying that a Committee should be appointed to watch the progress of the Universities Bill, and to enable the Assembly to take such steps as may be necessary to secure the rights and privileges of this Church in regard to the education of her students.

#### COLONIAL SCHEME.

Dr. FOWLER, Ratho, gave in the Report from the Colonial Committee.

Dr. MUIR moved the adoption of the Report. In doing so, he congratulated the Assembly on the fact of this Committee having sent out no fewer than twenty-three labourers during the year.

Sir W. JARDINE seconded the motion.

#### INDIA MISSION.

Dr. CRAIK of Glasgow read the Report of the Committee on Foreign, especially Indian, Missions.

Dr. ROBERTSON submitted the motion of which he gave notice in the forenoon, to the effect of appointing a Committee to draw up regulations for maintaining the jurisdiction of this Church over all its Churches at home and abroad.

The motion was agreed to.

#### CHRISTIANITY IN INDIA.

The Assembly took up several overtures, generally directing attention to the importance of introducing Christianity into the Government Schools, of securing the recognition of Christianity in the Government of India, of removing obstructions to the propagation of the gospel, and the withholding of Government encouragement to idolatry.

Dr. COOK, Haddington moved to the effect, that the Assembly should adhere to the resolutions of former Assemblies, as to the manner in which Christianity is to be carried out in India, and that we refer to the Committee now to be re-appointed the consideration in what way the efforts of our missionaries may be influenced by the altered situation of matters in India and at home; and that they petition the Government that every encouragement be afforded to the propagation of the Christian religion in India

[To be concluded.]

#### CHURCH IN THE COLONIES.

Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland.

#### EXTRACTS FROM THE MINUTES.

At St. Andrew's Church, Montreal, 27th May, 1858.

Which day the Synod of the Presbyterian Church of Canada, in connection with the Church of Scotland, met, according to appointment, after sermon by the Rev. George Macdonnell, Minister at Fergus, their Moderator, on this text John, ch. x., vs. 4, 5,—“And when he putteth forth his own sheep, he goeth before them, and the sheep follow him: for they know his voice, And a stranger will they not follow, but will flee from him: for they know not the voice of strangers,”—and was constituted with prayer by the said Rev. George Macdonnell.