

burg, the burning question was the use of instrumental music in churches. Hot was the debate, strong the feeling. The decision reached, virtually gives liberty to Sessions to do as they please in the matter, so that the prohibition of organs is no longer in force. One important question before the English Presbyterian Synod was the revision of the Standards. There was no evidence of want of loyalty to the Confession of Faith on the part of the Synod as a whole, but to satisfy the minority the very safe step was taken of appointing a Committee to consider and report.

The Assembly of the Established Church of Scotland, and the Synod of the U. P. Church, had neither of them any one question of great preeminence, and were therefore better able to do their duty in attending to the whole work of the House of the Lord. In the Free Church Assembly the great struggle was the organ question. Dr. Begg presented a petition against it with 78,000 signatures. After a long debate Dr. Rainy's motion granting liberty to sessions in the matter was adopted by a majority of 131 in a vote of over 640.

The Presbyterian Church of Ireland was exercised in like manner. For about a dozen years the contest has been hot on the organ question, and this year after a long and strong debate, the motion granting liberty to sessions to use instrumental music in churches of that body was adopted by a majority of eleven in a vote of over six hundred. A large majority of the ministers voted for the change and a large majority of the elders granted it. Thus in three large churches, the Free Church of Scotland, the Presbyterian Church in Ireland and the U. P. Church in the United States has the long struggle of opinion been virtually settled and the Church left free to concentrate all her energies toward the advancement of the cause of Christ.

The motions that have carried in all these bodies are probably the best ones. It is right that there should be liberty,

but at the same time there is no doubt that the Spirit which seeks its gratification in public worship in instrumental music is not an implantation of the Spirit of God.

More and more prominence is being given in all the churches to the great work of Missions, Home and Foreign and the work for which the Church exists, preaching the Gospel to every creature is being more earnestly and faithfully done.

III MEMORIAL OF REV. JOHN GEDDIE.

SUGGESTED BY READING "MISSIONARY LIFE AMONG THE SAVAGES," BY REV. DR. PATTERSON.

These are deeds that never to oblivion
shall give room
When in flame earth's records perish at
the thunder peal of doom;
And of these, through endless ages, mar-
ried to immortal fame,
Some are linked forever, Sainted Geddie,
with thy name!

O! thy faith has taught a lesson to the
souls that dwell at ease,
And we cease to look and marvel at thy
saved Aneiteumese,
For the weapons of thy warfare, which
such victories achieved,
Were all fashioned by the Master in
whose might thy soul believed.

Ah? ye pastors that are sleeping, Doug-
las, Patterson, and Kier,
To your ripe and hallow'd wisdom was
that youthful impulse clear,
For he felt the same voice called him to
that wild and savage shore,
That arrested Saul of Tarsus, and to Sam-
uel spake of yore!

Not from man, or mortal purpose, rose
his father's early prayer
That his life to dying heathen should a
Saviour's love declare,
But at God's decree the fiat had already
issued forth
That the light on Southern islands should
be kindled from the North;

That before that wasted infant, when to
Christian manhood sprung,
Should Pacific's hoary idols to the moles
and bats be flung,