

by the Religious Press, and the leading Secular Journals of our Dominion, and would hail this fact both as an element of great power in the conflict with evil, and as an evidence of an advanced and healthy public sentiment.

P. WRIGHT,
Convener.

The Presbyterian Alliance.

UP to the time of going to press we have only received very meagre telegraphic reports of the proceedings of the London Council. The following statement in the *Scottish American* is the fullest resumé of the proceedings we have met with:—

The proceedings at the meetings of the Pan-Presbyterian Council, held last week in London, England, were of an unusually interesting and important character. They commenced on the 3rd inst. with an eloquent sermon by the Rev. Dr. DYKES. Thereafter there was a reception at the Duke of ARGYLL's mansion, and which was attended by nearly all the delegates. This year both Canada and the United States are numerous represented at the Council, and their delegates are taking a very prominent part in the proceedings.

Dr. MATHEWS, Quebec, presented a statistical report, showing that there were four millions of communicants of the Presbyterian Church in the world, a number equivalent to at least twenty millions of adherents. The report stated that sixty thousand communicants had been gathered into the Presbyterian Church from heathenism, and that over five hundred ministers had been sent to preach the Gospel to the heathen. Mr. DRURY, New York, read a paper on "The Influence of Elders and Deacons in the working of the Presbyterian system," in which he described a movement in America in favour of subordinate clergy to win the classes which the regular ministry cannot reach, and advocated better instruction of elders and deacons in their duties, as well as their holding of frequent conferences. In the subsequent discussion some elders were in favour of elders being only appointed for a limited time, and Rev. Dr. WELSH, Auburn, said that in America the system of periodical changes worked as thoroughly in respect to ministers as elders.

Dr. CAYEN, Toronto, read a paper on "The Importance of Fostering the Spiritual Life of Congregations," in which he dwelt upon the need of Episcopal oversight by Presbyterians, and advocated greater use of laymen in church work. In reading the minutes, Rev. Dr. BLAIR, Edinburgh, took occasion sympathetically to refer to the great loss which Presbyterianism in America had sustained through the deaths of Judge TRUNKER and Dr. PRIMA. Mr. VAN NORDEN, New York, read a paper on

"The Need of Home Missionary Efforts," maintaining that "the Presbyterian Church in America was never more prosperous or aggressive, freer from unbelief and heresy, or more alive to missionary effort." Dr. PINN-SON, Philadelphia, delivered a stirring address on "Organized Christian Work," in course of which he said that "the Church's motto should be identification with the people, remembering that workmen were often the most efficient churchmen."

Dr. CHAMBERS, New York, introduced the subject of "The Duty of the Church toward the Tendencies of the Age relating to Faith and Life." Dr. ELLINWOOD, New York, spoke of "The Duty of the Church toward the Speculative Tendencies of the Age," and said that the whole history of Presbyterianism was associated with educational progress, and with the defence of the faith as delivered to the saints—that the forms of unbelief had been legion, but Christianity was not beleaguered—and that the day was coming when revelation and science would be harmonized, because they would be more fully understood. A discussion followed on "The Influences of Scepticism." Dr. MOORE read a paper on "Historical Research and Christian Faith," and Principal EDWARDS (Wales) and Professor WATTS (Belfast) took part in the discussion which followed. Justice TAYLOR, Manitoba, introduced the subject of "The Church's Duty with reference to Social and other Tendencies bearing on Faith and Life—named intensity in business and politics, relations between rich and poor, and secularism." Dr. MACVICAR, Montreal, spoke on the question of "How to end Conflicts between Classes," and reprobated coercion and strikes, or the use of dynamite. A very animated and interesting discussion followed the report of the Committee on Foreign Missions and co-operation with other Churches. Dr. MCKLAND, Baltimore, said that the great end of the Church was to save the world, and that it was for this that Christ died. Dr. CHAMBERS said that he differed from those who said they should be united at home before they went further afield—that there were thousands of difficulties at home, such as chartered rights, vested rights and traditions, which they did not meet on new soil—and that they ought not to wait until the home organization was perfect, but should push abroad, raising up a self-governing, self-supporting and propagating Church, and doing work for the glory of their Master. Dr. PERANER, New York, again argued that if divisions continued at home they could hardly expect missionaries abroad to act in a different spirit when they laboured among the heathen. Dr. CAMPBELL, M.P., Stracathro, presided at a dinner given to the delegates, at which Rev. Dr. PARKER delivered an address, in which he expressed the hope that Congregationalists and Presbyterians would never be in the relation of armed neutrality toward each other, but rather that they would always