

those Clergymen who despise fasts proclaimed by authority, and refuse to assemble their people to offer up their united prayers to God were employed, we stay not to enquire; but we may state with all confidence, that neither their flocks nor themselves could have been better engaged than in the House of God, and that the former were denied the opportunity of feeding on those rich pastures, and of obtaining those scriptural views of sin and of God's government of the world, which a day set apart was so well calculated to produce, and which the Pastors were so able to bestow.

We believe the keeping of such a day is in accordance with the purest forms of Christianity, and that those who refuse to do so, cannot be held blameless. In these circumstances we are then, though somewhat reluctantly, constrained to conclude, that any individual or party who held such a proclamation as unworthy or not binding, are actuated by that spirit of disaffection so prevalent in the East, who, were it not for fear of natural exile, or forfeiture of their lives and property, would willingly hurl our Sovereign from her throne, and establish an iron despotism in its most stringent form among us. Still notwithstanding these occasional exceptions it was truly gratifying to see the churches so well attended, by all classes of the community. Let others do as they may, as for us and our house, we will fear God and honour the Queen.

LATE RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE.

THE CHURCH MISSIONARY SOCIETY AND THE INDIAN MUTINY.—The Committee of the Church Missionary Society have pronounced upon the religious aspect of the Indian question. The society commend the humiliation of Wednesday on the ground that the revolt is a Divine judgment, arising from this cause, that two generations of the teeming population of India have been allowed to pass away without being taught the truths of Christianity. The guilt of this, according to this document, is to be divided between the Government of British India and the Christian churches of Great Britain. The committee urge their friends throughout the country to make the day of national humiliation one of special remembrance of past and present sins. 1. Let it be urged upon the Government of India to honour God by avowing itself a Christian Government—not neutral or indifferent to the religion of its subjects, but wishing that all should have the opportunity of knowing and judging of the claims of revealed truth, and desirous of their becoming Christians, upon personal conviction of the truth of Christianity. Let this avowal be accompanied with the widest proclamation that no compulsion will be used, no bribe will be given. 2. Let the toleration of all forms of religions be guaranteed, so far as concerns a man's opinions and his forms of worship, but not so far as to tolerate anti social customs, or immoral practices under the garb of religion. 3. Let Government education comprise the teaching of the word of God, which is now excluded from the schools. 4. The churches must make new efforts to send missionaries to India. 5. The committee suggest that means be taken to give

the Indian population vernacular instruction and a vernacular moral and Christian literature. The loss to the society through the mutiny is estimated at from £20,000 to £30,000.

COLLECTION IN AID OF THE COLONIAL MISSION.—Attention is earnestly solicited to the announcement of the Annual Collection on behalf of the Church of Scotland's Colonial Scheme, which the General Assembly have appointed to be made throughout the country on the ensuing Sabbath. The vast importance of this Scheme, together with the wide extent and practical value of the Committee's operations, will be at once obvious from the fact that during the past year, down to May, no fewer than twenty-two appointments of Clergymen and Missionaries have been made to destitute districts in Canada, Nova Scotia, Australia, Prince Edward's Island, Demerara, Berbice, Mauritius, New Brunswick, and other colonies. Although only a third part of the current year has passed, nine additional Clergymen and Missionaries have been appointed to the most necessitous of the many districts still to be supplied. A considerable grant has also been made to aid congregations in erecting suitable places of worship.

The benefits thus conferred on our expatriated countrymen and their families, owing the same allegiance, and professing the same faith as ourselves, are indeed incalculable, and amply prove that the indefatigable Convener, the Rev. Dr. Fowler, and his respected colleagues, have exerted themselves most efficiently and successfully in discharging the sacred duty entrusted to them. That they will be liberally supported and encouraged in their valuable operations we have no doubt, for, in the impressive words of the Committee, we believe that no Christian man thus appealed to will refuse to contribute, according to his means, to an undertaking which as already stated, has within the last eighteen months, sent a body of thirty messengers of salvation with the Word and Bread of Life to our countrymen scattered over distant lands. We feel assured also that, on this particular occasion, the people at large will deem it an incumbent duty even to increase their customary donations in order to satisfy the Committee that, in enlarging their expenditure according to the urgency of the claims upon them, their confidence in the generous sympathies of the Christian community has not been misplaced, and to enable them to meet promptly and effectually every real case of spiritual destitution, as it emerges, amongst our fellow-countrymen in the British dependencies.

THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND AND THE INDIAN RELIEF FUND.—The first list of the collections in our National Churches in aid of the Indian Relief Fund amounts to the truly magnificent sum of £2788, 16s. 9d. This contribution from the Church of Scotland is independent of and in addition to the large donations of her individual members in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen, Perth, and other towns.

MISSIONARY EFFORT NOT THE CAUSE OF THE INDIAN MUTINIES.—The Times' correspondents are now discovering that the mutinies in India are to be traced to Mohammedanism; and a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel J. H. MacDonald in that journal yesterday comes strongly in this direction, the writer justly observing that the outcry which was at first raised against the missionaries as having contributed to the outbreak is perfectly groundless and

puerile. The missionaries, he further remarks, are generally regarded with much respect in the immediate sphere of their labours; and to show the influence often gained by them among the natives, he mentions that one of the missionaries at Benares had, by the last accounts from that place, been applied to by the authorities there to use that influence in obtaining supplies, on the commissariat failing to procure them. Colonel MacDonald states that the British rule has been damaged in India, not by the missionaries, but by the temporizing policy of the Government, by truckling to Hinduism one day and Mohammedanism another, and by that trembling and apostate spirit which shrinks from advancing a Bible into the Government schools and colleges.

ENDOWMENT SCHEME.—Lord Ward, while staying at Glengary, handed to the parish minister, the Rev. John Macintyre, the munificent donation of £250, for behoof of the above scheme of the Church of Scotland.

THE CONVERTED JEWS—I: was stated at a meeting, held at Norwich, of the Society for the Promotion of Christianity amongst the Jews, that there are at present 10,000 converted Jews, in Europe, all classes of society being comprised in the list. The society has 100 agents, of whom 56 are converts, and 25 ordained clergymen; and 60 clergymen of the Church of England are converts from Judaism,

PRESBYTERIAN CHAPLAINS FOR INDIA.—Four Ministers of the established church of Scotland, viz: the Rev. H. Drennan, the Rev. W. Ross, the Rev. W. Ferguson, and the Rev. C. Morrison, have been appointed Chaplains to Her Majesty's forces in India.

Interesting communications have been lately received from our correspondent at Woodstock, New-Brunswick, and from our attentive correspondent in Berbice, South America, which will meet with due attention.

We are sorry that our present number has been longer in making its appearance than we could have wished. Our next number will be issued early in the month of December; notices for that month ought to be sent forward as speedily as possible.

We know that contributions to the Home Mission Fund were made in many of our Churches, on the day appointed; but, to prevent confusion, we do not feel at liberty to publish any of these sums, except those which are sent to us by the Treasurer.

Synod Fund

Nov. 15. Balance on hand - - - £1 9 64

Home Mission Fund

Nov. 15. Amount on hand - - - £123 14 7

Young Men's Scheme.

Nov. 15. Balance on hand - - - £216 4 0

WM. GORDON, Treasurer.