

Dr. Robert Buchanan moved a resolution favourable to the prosecution of the negotiations. Dr. Julius Wood proposed a resolution which would in effect put an end to the present negotiations. When the vote was taken Dr. Buchanan's resolution was carried by an overwhelming majority, the numbers being, for Dr. Buchanan's motion, 427; for Dr. Wood's motion, 105. Dr. Begg and Dr. Gibson were the chief supporters of Dr. Wood's motion.

COLONIAL.—Professor Lumsden gave in the report of the Colonial and Continental Committee. He contrasted the state of the colonial field 25 years ago with what it is now. The number of colonial ministers with which the Free Church is connected is equal to one-half of the Free Church ministers at home. He went into details of the colonial work with which the committee have co-operated during the year that is past. The committee suggested that a pastoral and brotherly letter should be sent to ministers in the colonial stations, to whom such a letter could not fail to be cheering and refreshing.

The venerable Dr. Burns, of Toronto, then addressed the Assembly. He described, from his own knowledge, the progress which has been made in what is now called "the Dominion" of Canada. They had every cause of gratitude for the encouragement that has been granted. He gave statistics illustrative of the dimensions of the Canadian Presbyterian Church. He described the good progress which has taken place in Nova Scotia. The most encouraging features in all the British American Churches is the high-toned missionary spirit which they exhibit. He referred to the union of Churches in British America, which he declared had been satisfactory, though they had among them questions needing forbearance. Presbyterianism is peculiarly adapted for the wants of the Canadian Dominion. He gave some pleasing reminiscences of the progress of the gospel in North America, since the Church of Scotland began to turn her efforts in that direction in the year 1824.

Mr. DYKES, who has lately returned from Australia, made a brilliant address, chiefly showing the benefits of union in the Australian Churches.

Mr. King, from Canada, next addressed the Assembly. Much of what Mr. Dykes had said of Australia applied to Canada. The number of ministers in the United Church of Canada was 267. He illustrated its progress during the last five years, which has been most cheering. The union has wrought admirably with State support for an open question in its base. He craved the sympathy of the Church, which, he thought, could not be adequately expressed except by an occasional deputation.

Mr. Macdonald, Secretary to the French Canadian Missionary Society, described the enlargement of their field of labour, which has recently taken place through the weakening, of priestly power in Lower Canada.

Dr. Buchanan gave in the report on arrangement in connection with the Colonial and Continental Committee. The arrangement suggested was, that Dr. Adam, of Glasgow, should be convener of the Colonial Committee; Dr. Stewart, of Leghorn, to be convener of the Continental Committee, and secretary to both. As Dr. Stewart cannot immediately enter upon his office, Sheriff Jamieson will be vice convener of the Continental Committee. After some conversation, the report was unanimously agreed to. The cordial thanks of the Assembly were returned to Principal Lumsden and Mr. Irving, of Falkirk, who have taken charge of the continental department since the death of Dr. Bonar.

Dr. Wood gave in the report of the Committee to Prepare an Act on Collections. The committee had not seen their way to limit the number of collections to six, but recommended seven, viz., for the Colonies, for the Continent, for Church and Manse Building, for the Ante-Disruption Ministers, for the Jews, for the College, and for the Home Mission.

William Kidston, Esq., gave the report on Temperance. One great point dwelt upon was the augmentation in the number and magnitude of public-houses, regarding which very emphatic statements were made in the report, and reiterated in the House. Dr. Begg was specially impressive upon the evils of intemperance. All ministers were recommended to preach on this subject before next Assembly, and Presbyteries were enjoined to see that this is attended to.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.—In the absence of Dr. DUFF, the Foreign Mission Report was giving in by Dr. Thomas Smith of Edinburgh. The total home revenue of the Foreign Missions Committee during the year has been £15,243 18s. 5d., and the expenditure has been £15,521 3s. 6d. Besides this, the income of the Ladies' Society for Female Education has been £2723 6s. 9d. The contributions raised in India and Africa have amounted to £14,796 14s. 10d., making a grand total of about £33,000; but an increase of about £5000 in the income of the mission appears to be absolutely necessary if the Church is to be equal to her opportunity. In the course of the year, one new missionary has been sent out to India, and one to Africa. The report showed that the number of central and branch stations in India was 34; in South Africa (the chief mission fields of the Church), 30. The total number of Christian agents was, in India, 174, in South Africa, 48. The number of com-