

Beyond this, the committee have little to report of active Continental operations during the past year. Their want of funds, now so far supplied by the recent collection, must account for this. They have, however, maintained intercourse, as opportunity offered, with those churches and societies with whom they have had previous connection. In particular, they have sent to the Waldensian College at La Tour, a small present of books, chiefly illustrative of the history and constitution of this Church.—They have proposed to friends in this country to endow one of its professorships, as a permanent benefit to that interesting people; and one of our friends in Gibraltar has been the first to subscribe towards the object.

The committee have been made acquainted with the existence, among the Reformed congregations in Eastern Prussia, of a considerable number of the descendants of Scotch families, who had fled from this country. One of these congregations, which is poor and has been sorely tried, has solicited the aid of this Church; and the committee have voted the sum of £30 per annum for three years, towards enabling it to obtain a minister.

Beyond the range of those cases in which pecuniary aid is needed, or looked for from this Church, the committee have been led to open up communication with Christian brethren in various Foreign countries.

Aware of the growing desire throughout Germany, both to revive evangelistic activity and to promote ecclesiastical reformation, the committee appointed a deputation to attend the last annual meeting of the German *Kirchentag*.—a society composed of many of the most evangelical and enlightened ministers and laymen in Germany; and though no member of the deputation was able to be present, the intention of the committee has been acknowledged in terms of the warmest gratitude, and an earnest desire expressed for our fellowship. In order at once to testify our Church's affection for Christian brethren of every name, and to make more extensively known its testimony to the truth of Christ, the committee have sent several presents of a few Free Church books to influential parties connected with the *Kirchentag*.

With the Swedish Church, also, the committee has during the past year been brought into friendly intercourse. The revival of evangelical life, which seems at present to be taking place in many portions of it, invests its present condition with peculiar interest, and excites lively hopes for its future prosperity. An ardent desire for increasing acquaintance and fellowship with the Free Church of Scotland has been expressed by some of its most eminent ministers. One of them has translated into the language of his country the admirable Catechism, for which we are indebted to Mr. Gray of Perth, on the constitution and prin-

ciples of the Free Church, and a large edition has been printed at Upsala. The committee have also recently had the honour of receiving a most gratifying and brotherly letter from the Archbishop of Upsala, to whom they had presented a small selection of books illustrative of the history and constitution of this Church. This letter will be laid before the Assembly.

Our correspondence has not been confined to Churches within the limits of Europe. Some time ago we received a very friendly communication from the Evangelical Society of the Dutch Church in Batavia. Knowing the evangelical character and objects of that Society, we have had great pleasure in reciprocating their desires for our friendship.

We have been obliged to defer Rev. Mr. Bonar's speech till next number, from want of space.

REPORT OF THE SABBATH OBSERVANCE COMMITTEE.

In laying before the Synod a report upon this very important subject, the attention of the committee was directed to the fact

First, That very inadequate views prevail respecting the Lord's day.—This lies at the foundation of every error in practice. Some are enslaved to vice; others under the power of practical infidelity and worldliness. Both alike hate its sacredness and disregard its claims. Popery is one of its worst enemies. The Man of Sin is hostile to the day as well as to the word of the Lord.

But not a few who would be regarded as orthodox or evangelical, regard the Sabbath as a mere Jewish institution binding upon no other people. Or a mere human institution, and therefore binding upon no man as a part of his religious belief and observance. And but for the influence of a Sabbath-keeping people, the practices would more frequently correspond with the professed views.

Besides all these, many, whose professed belief is all that could be reasonably desired, being surrounded with persons of such views and practices as above stated, destitute of regular ordinances and proper religious instruction, and themselves too dead to spiritual and eternal things, fre-