

portant Presbyteries of the Church to the call made on their sympathy.

It is a valuable thing to have a Scheme that brings noblemen like the Duke of Buccleuch, the Earl of Haddington, and others, noted as they are in their separate spheres for active and unwearied benevolence, to advocate the claims of the lost wanderers, as yet gathered into no sheepfold, and of the scantily supplied with church ordinances and pastoral oversight. It removes prejudices from ourselves, and that in a royal way; it forces liberality of sentiment from us with a power that none but the meanest natures can resist, when we see men of another communion putting themselves willingly in the van, while we seek as a Church to make inroads on the irreligion and immorality of a population that has outrun the outward means of grace.

We are glad also to see that Presbyteries of great importance in the Church have so decidedly, so warmly and unanimously given their aid. The Metropolitan Presbytery affords an eminently good example. And we are well aware that no one more heartily appreciates the value of what Dr. Veitch, and such as he are capable of saying with the best effect, in favour of his benevolent labours, than Dr. Robertson himself; his heart is too much in the work to grudge the liveliest gratitude and the the amplest credit to all, in every corner of the Church, who have a true interest in the scheme. May that have a nearer and happier consummation than even its warmest friends can expect!

Ordination at Belford, Northumberland.

On Wednesday last the Presbytery of the North of England, met at Belford, and ordained the Rev. John Ellis Rae, a licentiate of the Presbytery of Edinburgh, to the pastoral charge of the Scotch Church there. Mr. Rae has been unanimously called by the people to occupy that important position; a place which was formerly dignified by the long life and faithful services of the learned author of *The Incarnation of the Eternal Word*, and we heartily congratulate them on the very excellent choice which they have made at this time. A highly distinguished student at the University, Mr. Rae promises to become one of the most talented and popular of our young preachers; and we feel assured that, under the blessing of Heaven, he will amply justify the selection which has been made, and maintain across the border the honour and influence of the Church of Scotland. An admirable classical, he is also a most exact and profound Oriental scholar, and he has cultivated the latter department of theological study so successfully, as to hold out the hope that he will ere long be called to adorn, while he occupies one of our best academic chairs.

St. Peter's Congregational Soiree.

A soiree of the members and adherents of St. Peter's Church was held last evening in the City Hall, which was well filled in every part by a most respectable company. The Rev. Mr. Cochrane, A. M., minister of the congregation presided, and on the platform were the Rev. Drs. Hill, Jamieson and Napier; Rev. Messrs. Norman M'Leod, R. Stewart, A. M'Lean, W. D. Henderson, Ross, and J. Thomson; Messrs. William Atkin, John Donaldson, George Mathieson, William Young, James Pearson, David M'Lure, James Cover-

ley, Archd. Morrison, James Buchanan, John Meason, and other gentleman.

Tea having been served. Mr. HINSHAW, treasurer of the Church, on the part of the session, read an interesting and gratifying report. Every available seat in the church had been let, the number of the communicants on the roll was 700, and at last communion 598 had joined in the ordinance. The Sabbath schools connected with the congregation were in a flourishing condition. They were conducted in the large room beneath the church, one being composed entirely of boys, and the other of girls. The number of teachers was 28, and of scholars an average attendance of 220. These numbers were exclusive of a large advanced class taught by Mr. Cochrane. There were 70 in this class, the average attendance being 60. There were thus in all 320 scholars on the roll, with an average attendance of 280. There was likewise a Tract Distribution Society connected with the congregation. The Parish was divided into districts in each of which there were two distributors. The Sabbath School Society and Tract Distribution Society were supported by the voluntary collections of the congregation.

LADY YESTER'S CHURCH, EDINBURGH.—

The eighth annual soiree of Lady Yester's Sabbath Schools was held on Wednesday night in Queen Street Hall, when, notwithstanding the unfavourable weather, there was a large assemblage of scholars, and a very numerous attendance of members of the congregation and others. The Rev. W. H. Gray, A. M., presided. The report for 1856-57 was read by the secretary (Mr. J. Hunter,) which showed that not only were there more members of the congregation engaged in the work of Sabbath school teaching, but that the attendance of the children was also augmented. At the close of the last session there was a slight decrease in the latter, but during the first half of the present session the average attendance was—At the parochial school, 157; at the congregational, 182—together, 339; being a considerable increase. The number of teachers was 72. Eloquent and appropriate addresses were delivered during the evening by the Rev. Mr. Gray, the Rev. Mr. Stevenson of Dalry, and by the Rev. Dr. Gillan of St. John's, Glasgow.

Church of Scotland Sabbath School Association in Edinburgh.

The annual meeting of this Association was held on Monday night in the saloon of the Royal Hotel, Alexander Pringle, Esq., of Whytbank, presiding. Mr. Tawes read the Report of last year's proceedings, which stated that the total number of scholars on the roll at the end of the year was 6,463 the average attendance was 537 teachers, and 5,063 scholars. Within the city of Edinburgh the number of children on the roll was 5,274, while the actual attendance was 477 teachers and 4,264 scholars, being an increase of 54 teachers and 536 scholars as compared with the preceding year.

An Interesting Fact.

BAPTISM OF A CHINAMAN.—Achong, a native of Macao, who has been some time a resident in the parish of Kintail, Ross-shire, in the capacity of valet to the proprietor of that district, having evinced a strong desire to enter the

pale of the Christian Church, the pastor, clergyman, Mr. Morrison, after subjecting him to a course of Catechetical instruction, publicly administered to him the ordinance of baptism on Sabbath the 25th ultimo. Achong, or, as he is now called, William M. Whiston, is about thirty years of age, and has been married for some time. It having become known throughout the parish that the ceremony was to take place on the day mentioned, the church was more than usually crowded.

Presbytery of Glasgow.

An ordinary meeting of this rev. Court was held yesterday—Mr. Park, of Cumbernauld, Moderator.

COMMISSIONERS TO THE ASSEMBLY.

The following were then appointed as Commissioners to represent the Presbytery at the next meeting of the General Assembly—Ministers. Drs. Boyd, Leishman, Paton, Smith, and Gillan, and Mr. John Park, of Cadder. Elders: Major M'Donald, John Black, Esq. of Fernbank, and John Hall, writer, Glasgow.

ST. JAMES' PARISH.

Dr. SMITH, clerk, intimated that, in accordance with the instructions of the Presbytery at last meeting, he had intimated to the Lord Provost and Magistrates the vacancy which had taken place in St. James' Parish, by the death of Dr. Muir. He had likewise written a letter of condolence to Mrs. Muir, expressive of the Presbytery's sympathy with her under her bereavement, and had received a letter from Mrs. Muir, conveying her own and the family's best thanks to the Presbytery.

The Presbytery agreed to appoint Dr. Jamieson to this purpose, and likewise fixed support for St. James' pulpit during the vacancy.

A petition was laid on the table praying the Presbytery to take steps for the erection of St. Stephens into a Parish Church, disjoined from the Barony.

The Presbytery acceded to the request, and resolved to meet in St. Stephen's on Wednesday, the 8th proximo, at 12 noon, to determine as to the extent and suitability of the district.

THE NEW WEST-END CHURCH (MR. CAIRD'S)

The CLERK read the articles of constitution of the new church at the West End (Mr. Caird's.)

The Presbytery approved of the constitution as it stood, and Dr. Runciman expressed the joy he felt at the prospect of Mr. Caird—one of the brightest ornaments of the Church coming to Glasgow, which he regarded as one of the most signal blessings that ever happened to this great city.

EXAMINATION OF STUDENTS.

Mr. Monro, of Campsie, read the report of a Committee consisting of Dr. Craik, Dr. Jamieson, Dr. Runciman, Mr. Watson, Mr. M'Leod the Moderator, and himself, on this subject. After recommending various alterations in the list of books at present prescribed as the basis for the examination of students, the report proceeded thus:—"Your committee are unanimously of opinion that it would be highly expedient to have a uniform standard of examination for all theological students throughout the Church for the following reasons:—1st, Because from different standards of examination being adopted by different Presbyteries, a certain measure of injustice is done to students