

opinions on any subject with as few words as possible. (Applause.)

#### THE ENDOWMENT SCHEME.

Mr. Wm. Smith, the convenor of the committee on this scheme, read the report, a great deal of which referred to the lamented death of Dr. Robertson and his labors in this scheme. From the other parts we extract the following:—

“Under his management the Endowment Scheme, as originally cast in a general form, has been the means of directly securing the addition of 41 new parishes to the Church, while it has likewise been in a great measure instrumental in leading to the erection of 8 additional parishes (2 of them *quoad sacra*, which were respectively endowed by the principal proprietors, 6 *quoad omnia* with endowments out of the funds, in all 49 new parishes, the total provision made for which, if we take into account all relative expenses connected with feu duties, buildings, &c., may be estimated at upwards of £200,000.

“The Glasgow Auxiliary Committee appointed by the General Assembly’s Committee on the Endowment Scheme for managing Group I., being Lanarkshire, is most anxious to take immediate action in collecting and appropriating the subscriptions committed to its charge; but it finds the requirement-condition, that the whole £40,000 shall be subscribed before any part shall be collected or appropriated, an obstacle which, by death and otherwise, is seriously frustrating its endeavors. The Glasgow Committee would, therefore, humbly yet seriously recommend that the General Assembly empower its Endowment Committee to alter and modify the grounds and requirements of the original subscriptions and its appropriation as the committee with the Glasgow Auxiliary Committee may consider best to conduce to the immediate and effective operation of the scheme, having always in view the fulfilment of the original scheme in its integrity and extent.

“This minute was reported to last General Assembly, which referred it back *simpliciter* to the committee. Since then repeated communications between the Glasgow Auxiliary Committee and your committee have taken place, the result of which has been, that with the sanction of your committee, and after obtaining the consent of your subscribers at a public meeting duly convened, the Glasgow Committee have resolved to anticipate the full subscription of £40,000, to call in instalments of subscriptions already made, and endow such a proportion of chapels in the group as they are able to overtake, and at the same time to adopt the most vigorous measures for securing additional subscriptions, with the view of completing the work in their province in all its original integrity and extent. The committee have to express an

earnest hope that this consummation may be speedily realized.”

Principal Tulloch, in moving the adoption of the report, said it was impossible to mention the endowment scheme without reading the name of its lamented convenor. The loss of Dr. Robertson was a subject that must fill the heart of every member of the Assembly this day. At any time, and under any circumstances, his loss would have been a deplorable one. His talents, his energy, single hearted and heroic devotedness, made him an honor to the Church—an honor which he was sure all acknowledged, however much they differed from him in opinion. He inherited all the vigor of his race, both in body and in mind. Naturally energetic, acute, sagacious, and gifted with a sturdy and indomitable logic, he united with these qualities a noble and comprehensive mind the utmost freedom from prejudice, a tenderness of feeling, and great tolerance of judgment. These qualities early fitted him for taking an active and prominent part in the proceedings of the Assembly, and especially for that scheme with which he had identified his name. He fell a victim, he (the Principal) had no doubt, to his exhausting labors in behalf of the Church of Scotland, for he rushed upon exertions which unhappily proved too heavy for him.

#### FOREIGN MISSIONS.

Dr. Clark read the report on Foreign Missions, from which it appeared that at Calcutta the number of pupils at the institution was 720, who were divided into 21 classes, and who received religious instruction in English or in the vernacular, and that the missionary, Mr. Ogilvie, received Government assistance from the agent of the Scotch Church there. The same satisfactory reports came from Grah, Bombay, Sealcote, and Madras. He also added that the collections this year were £3,126, being £30 less than last year. This sum did not include the £900 for the memorial at Sealcote, in India. They had as yet received nothing from the Lay Association, but he hoped that they would, as they had done in former years, remember the foreign missions.

The Rev. Dr. Nisbet moved the adoption of the report; which motion was seconded by Sir Wm. Baillie.

After a few remarks from the Rev. G. Cook, late of Bombay, in which he characterised the state of their missionary establishments as a disgrace to the Church, the motion was unanimously adopted.

#### SABBATH SCHOOLS.

Mr. McKie read the eleventh annual report on Sabbath Schools, in which it was stated that on no former occasion had the Sabbath schools of the Church been more prosperous. This year there was not a Presbytery which had not given in a report. The number of scholars was 135,441, and the increase over the number of last year was 10,245. There