

additional chaplains—two to each presidency, and he trusted that this moderate request would not be refused. He proposed that this Assembly should address a memorial to the Court of Directors of the East India Company on the subject, to be presented at their meeting on Wednesday next, when the committee would probably be able to report an answer to this Assembly. Dr. Bryce referred to the injustice done to this Church in the statistics of Church attendance in India, the members of this Church, at many places, where there was no Scotch chaplain, being led to attend the Church of England, and being put down in the statistics as adherents of that Church. To this subject the Committee had likewise drawn attention in their memorials.

Dr. Fowler, seconded by Mr. Cooper of Failford, moved the approval of the report, and that the thanks of the Assembly be given to the convener and the committee, and that the Assembly express satisfaction at being able to entertain strong hopes that the persevering efforts of the committee in this matter would prove successful.

After some remarks from Dr. Robertson and other members, the motion of Dr. Fowler was approved of.

PETITION AGAINST THE LORD ADVOCATE'S PARISH SCHOOLS BILL.

Dr. Hill read a draft of a petition to the House of Commons on this subject, which was agreed to, Dr. Lee dissenting.

CASE OF MR. STRAHAN.

The application of the Rev. W. Strahan, late Presbyterian minister at Gibraltar, for readmission to the Church, from which he had seceded in 1843, was taken up. The Presbytery of Edinburgh, of which Mr. Strahan was a licentiate, reported favourably of the application.

A committee was appointed to examine the documents in the case, on the understanding, that if they were found genuine, the recommendation of the Edinburgh Presbytery would be given effect to.

CASE OF THE REV. MR. DICKSON.

This was an application of a similar kind with the former case. In 1843 he seceded to the Free Church, and was appointed to the charge of a congregation in connection with that body. He now applied for readmission to the Church of Scotland. The Presbytery of Brechin reported favourably of the application, and a committee was appointed to report on it.

The Assembly adjourned at half-past five o'clock, till Monday.

MONDAY, MAY 26.

The Assembly met to-day at twelve o'clock—the Rev. Dr. Crombie, Moderator.

CHAPLAINS IN INDIA.

Dr. Bryce read the draft of a memorial to the Court of Directors of the East India Company, regarding the application for in-

crease of the number of chaplains belonging to the Church of Scotland in the Indian Presidencies; which was approved of, and ordered to be transmitted.

THE JEWISH MISSION.

Mr. Tait, Kirkliston, read the report of the committee for the Conversion of the Jews.

Dr. Bell moved the approval of the report, and Dr. Fowler seconded the motion.

The Moderator then returned the thanks of the Assembly to Mr. Tait and the committee. In addressing Mr. Tait, the Moderator said that he had come triumphantly out of the ordeal to which he had been subjected by the publication so improperly brought before the House. His (Mr. Tait's) character needed no vindication, but if it had, it had been amply vindicated that day. (Applause.)

The Assembly adjourned at half-past five o'clock.

TUESDAY, MAY 27.

The Assembly resumed this morning at eleven o'clock.

THE INDIA MISSION.

Dr. Macfarlane, Duddingston, then read the report of the India Mission committee.

Dr. Stevenson, Ladykirk, late of Bombay, moved the approval of the report, reserving the question of the acceptance of educational grants in India.

Sir W. Jardine seconded the motion, which was unanimously agreed to; and the Moderator conveyed the thanks of the House to Dr. Macfarlane and the committee for their zeal and diligence.

GRANTS IN AID OF EDUCATION IN INDIA.

The Assembly took up the overtures on this subject. These overtures were varied in their character, several of them objecting to the acceptance of these grants, because given to idolaters as well as Christians.

Dr. Bell introduced the subject. He maintained that there was no inconsistency in accepting these grants, either in reason, or from a regard to the practice of the Church. He went over the various objections preferred against accepting the grants.

He moved:—"That the General Assembly, having had before them overtures from many Synods and Presbyteries of the Church on the subject of education in India, in connexion with the despatch, relative thereto from the Court of Directors to the Governor-General in Council: having duly considered the same, resolve, that while the General Assembly cannot but regret that the authorities in India, in the view of the great and interesting object which they seek to secure, consider themselves precluded by the present state of the general population, from making religious instruction, according to 'the truth as it is in Jesus,' imperative in every seminary to which they give countenance and pecuniary assistance; the General Assembly at the same time, are now, on further mature consideration, fully satisfied that the

terms and considerations as set forth in the despatch on which grants in aid are offered are such as, in perfect consistency with our principle, and in accordance with the duty of the Church in this matter, may be taken advantage of, for the benefit of the schools established in connexion with the General Assembly's Mission in India. The General Assembly accordingly resolved to sanction and authorize the acceptance of said grants. Professor Swinton seconded the motion.

At the evening sederunt the subject was resumed, and on a division there voted—

For Dr. Bell's motion	140
For Dr. Hill's amendment	64

Majority 131

The result was received with applause and the Assembly adjourned shortly after eleven o'clock till this day at eleven.

WEDNESDAY, May 28.

The Assembly met again this morning at eleven o'clock—Dr. Crombie, Moderator.

ADDRESS ON THE RESTORATION OF PEACE.

Dr. Bell then read the draft of an address to Her Majesty, stating that the Assembly gladly availed themselves of the occasion presented by their present meeting to renew the expression of their loyalty and attachment to Her Majesty's person and Government, and to congratulate Her Majesty on the restoration to her dominions of the blessings of peace.

The address was adopted.

SERMONS BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER.

The Rev. R. W. Thomson, minister of Ormiston, was appointed to lecture on preach before the Lord High Commissioner on the forenoon of Sabbath first, and the Rev. A. K. H. Boyd, minister of Kirkpatrick-Irongray, was appointed to preach in the afternoon.

CENTRAL PROTESTANT SOCIETY OF FRANCE.

Dr. Hill introduced the Rev. M. Frossard, who briefly addressed the House, thanking the Assembly and the Church for their sympathy and aid, and soliciting a continuance of the same.

Rev. M. FROSSARD, father of the last speaker, addressed the House. He stated that he had been in the Crimea, but did not enter into any account of his labours there, reserving it for a special lecture. The Central Protestant Society of France held similar doctrines to those believed by the Church of Scotland; they were connected with the old Huguenot Churches, and attached to the Presbyterian form. Though their attachment to their own Church was warm, it was not bigoted; they loved the few members that had left them to found a Free Church. They rejoiced in the progress of those brethren, and to see that they received generous support from the Free Church of Scotland. The field was so large that there was room for tenfold labour.