

IRISH EVANGELICAL SOCIETY.—A tone of cheerful encouragement pervaded the Annual Meeting of this Society caused by those events in the field of its operations which encourage the hope of free churches doing the work of evangelization. The income of the year was £2,763, an increase of £129.

HOME MISSIONARY SOCIETY.—This anniversary was held in Finsbury Chapel, May 12. Mr. S. Morley in the chair, and was more numerous than usual. The income of the Society for the year was reported £7,027, expenditure, £6,431. The following resolution was adopted in reference to the jubilee of this Society: "That as the Home Missionary Society has now reached its fiftieth year, this meeting gratefully acknowledges the Divine goodness which is seen in the many blessings by which its labours have been attended; and in view of renewed claims to increased effort, arising out of new forms of error peculiar to the present time, as well as ever abounding evil, resolves earnestly to appeal for a *permanent income* of £10,000 a year as a jubilee offering, that no fewer than a hundred evangelists besides the ordinary agency of the Society may be constantly kept in the field."

CONGREGATIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION.—Annual meeting May 14. Income, £1,485, expenditure, 1,483. Dr. Unwin reported that at a special meeting of the constituents on the previous Thursday it had been resolved: "That it is expedient that the Constitution of the Congregational Board of Education be altered and that the rejection of aid from public money administered by Government for Educational purposes be no longer indispensable to membership or participation in the benefits of Education." With respect to Homerton College, the chairman, Mr. S. Morley said, "religious character would still continue to be the test of a student's fitness for entering, but the college would be free from restriction as to taking Government help. It would have the same independence, but its position would be improved." The logic of events has wrought a wondrous change in Mr. Morley and his coadjutors in the cause of voluntary Education.

W. F. C.

MURDER OF THE INNOCENTS.—An editorial in the *Watchman and Reflector* says:—"Foeticide, or the destruction of children before their birth, has for some time past elicited the earnest attention of the press, religious and secular. Physicians assure us that the practice is one of fearful prevalence, so much so as largely to explain the relative falling off of our native American population, and that other patent fact, the early decay of American women. It is said to be peculiar to Protestants, Popery guarding the incipient stage of human life with its most solemn teachings. It is a crime which often avenges itself on the perpetrator with special speed. A few months ago we were introduced to a young lady just about to become a bride. This lady is already among the dead—the sole cause, her efforts to arrest the natural process of maternity. It is time we lay aside a false delicacy in relation to a matter which is thrusting itself on our gaze in its terrible results."

THE BISHOP OF MELBOURNE ON CLERICAL ATTENDANCE AT BALLS.—A controversy has arisen in the columns of the *Argus* from the fact that two clergymen were present at the ball given in honour of the Duke of Edinburgh. Many correspondents have hailed the circumstance as a gratifying indication