

ASSEMBLY NOTES.

IN this time of heresy, is it unorthodox to use the word "minister"? The poor word is shunned as if it had the smallpox. It is rather amusing to read in the report of the Committee on Statistics: Knox College, pastor, Wm. Caven, D.D., Wm. Gregg, D.D., and so on. An ill-natured fellow remarked: "Considering their flock, cowboys would be a more suitable name for your professors." Of course this was a libel on the gentle, slow, sheep-like, even, old-ewe-like character of us Knoxonians. We confess, however, that we prefer the word minister to that of pastor to designate the full office of an ordained servant of the church of Christ. It includes the whole office. Students in charge of a field are pastors, and may claim the title, but they are not ministers.

THERE are now fourteen deaconesses in the active work of the church. These labor in different parishes among the poor. They have a fine training house, with which is connected a mission with many branches of work, among which is a children's church. They are to have a deaconess hospital, having secured enough funds to build one of twenty beds. This is to give the ladies in training practice and instruction in nursing and attending to the sick.

WE have chanced to receive a copy of the report of the Committee on Christian Life and Work presented to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, and it may be interesting to readers of *THE MONTHLY* to know a little of how the Scottish Church looks after her home mission work. The work of the committee is in eight departments, with a sub-committee for each. These are: The Organization of Woman's Work; Deputations; Mission Weeks; the Young Men's Guild; Publications; Text-Books and Competitions; Finance; and Devotional Meetings.

(1) Woman's work in two parts—Woman's Guild and the Deaconess House. We shall pass the guilds by in the meantime.

(2) Deputations. These might be called missions to the fishermen who, at different times, congregate at different places as they follow the fish around the coast. Ministers and laymen and ladies to work among the fisher-girls are sent, or generally volunteer to go, and labor among them by personal work as well as public services.

(3) Mission Weeks. This is also a new name to us over here, but it is a simple thing, and a good thing. The committee encourage having a mission week of services before some of the communion Sabbaths, and