

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.—This venerable body, the highest judicatory of the Scottish National Church, met at Edinburgh on the 17th May, and continued in Session until the 29th. The two nominees for the Moderatorship were the Rev. Dr. John Lee, clerk of the Assembly, and Dr. Matthew Gardner, Minister of Bothwell. The latter was chosen by a majority of 203; 59 voting for Dr. Lee, and 262 for Dr. Gardner. We have space remaining in the present number only for the proceedings of the Assembly in reference to Colonial Churches. This subject was taken up in Session 23d May. We quote from the report of the Scottish Guardian.

Principal MACFARLAN, the Convener, read the report of the Committee on Colonial Churches, and said, that among the other parts of the world, from which applications had been made to the Committee for spiritual aid, one was from Jamaica. A bill had passed the Assembly of that island, to the effect that it should be lawful for Justices of the Peace to raise, by tax on the inhabitants, any sum necessary for the support of a minister of the Established Church of Scotland, not exceeding £400 *per annum*. With regard to the state of the Church in the Canadas, there was a clergyman from Lower Canada at the bar of the Assembly, and if it pleased the Assembly, he would furnish ample information on that subject. He would merely say farther, that the magnitude and the importance of the duties that had devolved on the committee were incalculable, but he need not dwell on the blessings to be conferred on their expatriated countrymen. By rendering them encouragement, and by animating them to look to Scotland for the means of religious instruction, they more strongly rivetted their attachment to their native land. Their labours, he was glad to say, had been hitherto most propitious.

Dr. McLEOD said, that from all parts they were calling on them to come over and bless their lonely dwellings with tokens of mercy. From whom did that

voice come? i. came from men who had formerly been their countrymen, and sojourned among their blue mountains and lovely glens—men who had been born in their parishes and baptized in their churches, and the ashes of whose fathers reposed in this land. The voice came from the rocky shores of Nova Scotia, from the interminable forests of Canada, and from that new world their prayers floated in calmness over the face of the Western Ocean. The voice was from the sons of Caledonia, who carried in all their peregrinations those principles of loyalty and those religious principles they had imbibed in the land of their nativity; and they had the first claims on the sympathy and support of their fellow-countrymen.—The emigration was proceeding in a way that many members of this Assembly were not aware of. It was proceeding at the rate of from 35,000 to 40,000 in the course of a year. And when they (the Assembly) thought of them in their new abodes, when they were not connected with any ordinances or ministrations of the Church, oh! what a blessing was it that this Society—that this Committee was prospering in its undertakings. The interest which this Committee had assumed, in his mind, was a deeper and more solemnizing interest, and particularly from knowing this fact, that thousands of his poor countrymen were prepared to leave their native land by circumstances known to all, and as to which so many eloquent appeals had been made from the pulpit, and so nobly responded to by the people in more favoured parts. They were at this moment tuning their wild pibrochs, that reminded them of Lochaber, but told them that they would see it no more. (Loud and general cries of hear, hear.) There was a Colonial agent in the Highlands preparing for that emigration, and his Majesty's Government, he said it to their honour, had taken up the matter in the most gratifying way. His excellent friend, Mr. John Bowie, to whom the matter was entrusted, had many interviews with Lord Glenelg and Sir George Grey, and from both had experienced a kindness that could not be expressed,