

how many eminent men have belonged to it, and still belong to it, I hope the people of Scotland will not be easily worked up into a passionate disregard for these things which are just and honourable, connected with it. It is believed that there is an underhand movement among several wealthy Episcopalian and Roman Catholic landholders to break up the Scotch Church, so that Episcopal deans and Romish priests may get hold of the parish churches, especially those in the Highlands. It would be a fine thing for numbers of such reverend gentlemen to go down to Scotland in the summer, and in the shooting season, to enjoy themselves, and conduct their Sunday ceremonies in the old parish churches for the visiting families and the southern sportsmen.

I am, yours truly,
RUTHERGLEN.

Another Communion Wine dispute has arisen, in the Established Presbytery of Edinburgh, by a petition from the majority of the Kirk-Session of St. Luke's Church, Edinburgh, where it appears it has been a practice, since 1873, while using the ordinary fermented wine on sacramental occasions to provide unfermented wine for those who desired it. The discontinuance of his practice at the sole instance of the minister, without the concurrence of his session, has given rise to a serious and somewhat unseemly dispute that might have been obviated by the exercise of a little more Pauline forbearance. In the same Presbytery an animated discussion took place at its last meeting on the evils of intemperance and the best practical methods of promoting sobriety in the community.

In the Free Church Presbytery of Edinburgh, Dr. Begg introduced his promised overture to the General Assembly on INNOVATIONS with a characteristic speech. He opposed and objected to *all* changes of posture and in the manner of worship, and in the direction of introducing instrumental music—while he specially characterized as a popish corruption the observance of Christmas Day: he took to be thoroughly Popish. Memorial windows in churches were another Popish innovation which he mourned. He ob-

jected distinctly to the introduction and use of Hymns in public worship. Dr. Walter C. Smith, taking the other side of the question, carried the Presbytery with him in moving that the overture be not transmitted, by a majority of 24 to 10. Sir Henry Moncrieff, Dr. Blaikie, Principal Rainey and Dr. Davidson were among those who voted for Dr. Smith's amendment.

Lord Polwarth presided over an influential meeting in Edinburgh to bid God-speed to the first detachment of missionaries which the Church of Scotland has resolved to send out to the interior of China. The Presbyterians of Ireland propose building a "manse" for the use of their foreign missionaries who may be home on furlough.

It is a fact of interest that the Moderator of the Presbytery of Egypt, of the United Presbyterian Church, is an Egyptian monk, now a Presbyterian minister. The minutes of this Presbytery are written in Arabic.

The Synod of *Atlantic* in the United States has on its roll 113 congregations of coloured people, forty-four negro ministers, and 9000 negro members. There is a talk of the Church of Rome getting hold of the Southern negro. She cannot do it!

The Evangelical Alliance has a delegation in Italy endeavouring to promote union among Protestants there. At present there are several different sections of different denominations at work in the same field. There is no good reason for such "divisive courses," which are doubly disastrous in the presence of a strong and frowning Papacy.

It is good news to the supporters of the New Hebrides Missions that a strenuous effort is being made by the people of Australia to secure the annexation of these lovely isles to the British Empire. Would not Dr. Geddie have most joyfully welcomed the day!—*P. Rec.*

DR. BEGG is trying his hand at ecclesiastical politics. He lately headed a deputation of Free Church ministers from the Highlands to the Lord Advocate, pleading for some change in the law by means of which Highland ministers of the Free Church could become connected with the Establishment. No account of