

ity. The ladies of the various churches vied with each other in their kindly ministrations, providing "meals and refreshments at all hours." Governor Beaver, a staunch Presbyterian by the way, gave a very cordial and happy address of welcome, which was responded to with equal cordiality by your own Dr. Burns of Halifax, N.S., a host in himself—irrepressible, witty, and wise. The master-spirit of the convention was undoubtedly good brother B. F. Jacobs, of Chicago, Chairman of the Executive Committee, a rare combination of geniality, devotion and liberality of both heart and hand. An unsuccessful attempt was made to increase the number comprising the committee on the International Lessons, the object being that some of the denominations not now represented on the committee might be thus recognized. The proposal to insert four specific Temperance Lessons provoked a lively discussion and was negatived likewise, even the persuasive eloquence of Mrs. Willard failed to move the committee from the plan they had already adopted for 1892, in which as was explained, the subject of Temperance is sufficiently emphasized. The S.S. statistics, compiled by Mr. E. Payson Porter, present the following summary for the United States and Canada: Schools, 115,255; Teachers and Officers, 1,192,058; Scholars, 9,138,695; Total Scholars and Teachers, 10,330,753..... It may be nothing to you that Idaho and Wyoming have been admitted into the Union of States, but it is full of meaning to us as proclaiming the westward march of Empire. Instead of the original thirteen stars on our banner, there are now forty-five! Z.

IRELAND:—The great event of the past month was the celebration of the jubilee of the union that was formed in July, 1840. We cannot here speak at length of what was done. On the 10th July, 1840, the Synod of Ulster and the Synod of the Secession united in Rosemary St. Church, Belfast, and the first moderator was the Rev. Dr. S. Hanna, the pastor of the Church where the meeting was. Dr. Hanna was father of Dr. Wm. Hanna the son-in-law and biographer of Chalmers. On the 10th July of this year the celebration was held in the same church, and the moderator now is the pastor too, Rev. Wm. Park, the fourth in succession from Dr. Hanna. Of the able, appropriate and interesting addresses that were given that of the venerable President Killen was the most striking. He was not only present as a member of the Assembly 50 years ago; he was present at the battle of the giants 61 years ago, when Arianism was defeated and compelled to withdraw from the Church. In telling the story of the union he went back to that scene when Cooke and Montgomery fought the great duel and so prepared the way for the union which was accomplished eleven years later. The old man, as he recalled the scenes through which he passed in his youth, electrified the vast audience. The other papers

and addresses were of a very high standard. Dr. H. B. Wilson in graceful terms told the story of before the union; Dr. Magill, himself a pre-unionist, spoke of the Power of the Holy Ghost; Mr. Lylo described the statistics of the fifty years; Dr. Lynd in eloquent terms dwelt on the Mission and Genius of Presbyterianism. The moderator, on whom has fallen the mantle of Dr. Fleming Stevenson in the oversight of the Foreign Mission work, told of missions during the last fifty years, and Dr. Hall of New York, spoke of Irish Presbyterians in Canada and the United States. At a later date Messrs. Frizzell and Patterson of Toronto presented the congratulations of our own Assembly. In the evening there was an immense gathering in the Botanic Gardens, where addresses were made by delegates from many sister churches, including Drs. Blaikie and Marshall Lang, who represented the Pan-Presbyterian Council. All passed off with rare success. The present position of the Church in Ireland is most encouraging. The 432 congregations of 1840 have risen to 552 now, and that in the face of a constantly decreasing population. Missions have flourished during the half century; at that Union Assembly the first foreign missionaries were designated, and three followed in quick succession—the Jewish Mission, the Colonial Mission, and the Continental Mission. Education has been promoted. There were professors at the union, a few of them, but no college buildings; now in Belfast and Derry are imposing and commodious structures. The whole tone and life of the Church are far in advance of what they were in 1840. There were shadows present in the midst of the joy; when are they not? The week before the Assembly met, the venerable and beloved Dr. Glasgow, who in 1840 was designated as one of the first two foreign missionaries, was called to his rest. He had looked forward with the keenest interest to the jubilee proceedings, but he was called to a higher celebration. A few days earlier Dr. Whigham was taken away in the fulness of strength. He leaves a blank that it seems for the moment impossible to fill. But God's work goes on. Nevertheless, it is a great loss. H.

### Our Own Church.

BY appointment of the General Assembly the Theological Colleges of our Church claim the attention of the congregations this month. They are six in number, stationed respectively at Halifax, Quebec, Montreal, Kingston, Toronto, and Winnipeg. The summary of the reports submitted to the General Assembly, which we gave in July, shows that they are all in a flourishing condition, fairly well equipped, and doing a