

Skye. Its tone was outspoken and manly, and as a result, the Commission adopted a resolution praying the Government to deal with the Land Question as it exists there, and right the grievances of which the crofters complain. If Dr. Rainy is right, there are just and grievous causes of complaint. Meanwhile the Skye men are acting with great prudence and restraint, while their friends in Parliament, and in other high places, are zealous in their behalf. In quieter circles, we have Dr. Stuart Muir of Leith playing some curious antics, in an ecclesiastical way. Imagine the old friend of Dr. Begg, speaking of his dislike of Popery, as much "as the Pope himself, God bless him," and much of that sort of thing, reading like so much burlesque. It has been said that the Rev. gentleman was once in service in Newfoundland. He is making himself quite famous now. Otherwise, there is not much stirring of general interest in the ecclesiastical sphere, save in the way of conferences, lectures, bazaars, conferences on holiness, or the deepening of spiritual life, are being held from time to time in our principal cities, and sometimes in our villages, with excellent results. Lectures on all interesting subjects by eminent lecturers fill up the big gap in the long winter evenings, communicating valuable information, while Bazaars on quite an elaborate and extensive scale claim public notice, and procure ample returns. That for the sick children in Glasgow has assumed very interesting proportions—the returns the first day being not less than £10,000 or \$50,000. At the same time the Free Church Congress in that city is discussing the propriety of some of the methods of raising church funds!—D.

CANADA.—The chief event of last month was the visit of Mr. Moody, the American evangelist, to Toronto, which created a great deal of interest and which, it is to be hoped, has not been unattended with some good results. The meetings were held in the Methodist Metropolitan Church which was packed full at every session, many not being able to gain admission at all. Mr. Moody's methods of working have undergone scarcely any change since he commenced his remarkable career a good many years ago. His principal theme is still "the old, old story," which he has the happy faculty of proclaiming in an attractive and very effective manner. It can scarcely be said that he differs from the average evangelical preachers of the day, except in the degree of enthusiasm and earnestness which he throws into his work, and to some extent, his peculiar way of "putting things." There is nothing of the ecclesiastic about him, which, in his particular case, is also to his advantage. "How to promote Spiritual life in the Churches"; "How to promote Revivals"; "How to get people to attend Prayer Meetings, and how to conduct such meetings"; "The service of Praise"; "The use of the Bible"; "Personal Consecration"; "Temperance," &c. Such were some of the topics discussed by Mr. Moody and the ministers of the city, by whom he was heartily supported. An important meeting of the

General Board of Missions of the Methodist Church has recently been held, when the whole mission Policy of the United Church passed under review. Among other matters the Secretary's report recommended that \$750 should be recognized as the minimum stipend of the ministers of the Methodist Church. It was announced that \$200,000 would be required to cover the expenditure connected with their Domestic and Foreign Missions during the current year. That is not a large sum for the largest denomination in the Dominion.

IRELAND.—The Rev. Thomas K. Wilson of Lecumpher died a few weeks ago after a brief ministry of less than nine years. He has two brothers in the ministry, John of Killala in Connaught, and Silas of the city of Omagh. He was moreover the third generation in the ministry of that congregation. His grandfather died in 1821, we do not know how long he was the pastor of Lecumpher, likely a long time, long enough to be beloved by his flock, for they waited four years until his son got through his college course and had him settled among them. James Wilson was ordained in 1825, and there he lived and laboured for 53 years, dying in 1878. He was widely known as a man of wisdom and of moral weight, a good man and full of the Holy Ghost. When he had been fifty years in the ministry, his son, Thomas K., fresh out of college, was called and settled as his assistant and successor. The Rev. David Hunter of Mount Pottinger, a suburb of Belfast, on the Ballymacarrett side of the river, has been called away suddenly after a ministry of little less than seventeen years. The writer remembers him well as a class-fellow. He was a good student and of great force of character. He was one of those that worked his own way through college. In his student days he laboured as a missionary in the region where his congregation was afterwards situated, and a strong vigorous and healthy congregation grew up as the result of his labours. He was about two weeks ill of typhoid fever, to which he succumbed in spite of the best medical attendance. He was very much beloved by his people. The Rev. Samuel Smyth Alison was one of the fathers of the church, he was in his 71st year when called to his rest. It is 46 years since he was ordained in the parish of Donegore, over the congregation of which Dr. Henry Cooke had been pastor, and after him the historian, Dr. James Seaton Reid. After nearly fifteen years' service he moved to succeed his venerable father in Cumber, Co. Derry. Here he remained some fourteen years when he was called back to Donegore, and there another sixteen years were spent. Somewhat over a year ago, he retired from active service and a successor was ordained and inducted last May. He was a ripe scholar and most diligent pastor. The contest over the moderatorship of 1885 is assuming greater dimensions than we supposed at first it would do. Some large and influential Presbyteries decline to make any nomination. Judging from present appearance the issue is doubtful. It is a pity that such a contest has arisen.—H.