

men in the cause of missions, that the student's Missionary Association in Edinburgh, have raised funds for the support of a missionary.— Surely all this holds forth the prospect of good. What rendered the proceedings in respect to India missions at this time peculiarly interesting, was the testimony borne to the Assembly's excellent institution in Calcutta by a gentleman from India, G. Smyttan, Esq., M. D., who had associated much with the missionaries and witnessed their labours. The next subject which engaged the attention of the venerable court was the case of Mr. Wright, of Borthwick. It is well known that Mr. W. has published diviners works, insinuating Arminian and Socinian errors, under the mask of a devotional spirit, into the minds of the public. The Presbytery of Dalkeith served him with a libel, and having pronounced a judgement as to the relevancy of the same as inferring deposition; Mr. W. appealed to the Assembly. We are truly happy to find he had received no countenance from the Assembly—the case has been remitted again to the Presbytery to proceed therein according to the rules of the church. The next case brought before the court was that of Strathbogie, brought before them by a petition from the communicants in the parish of Cairney, praying the Assembly to abide by the judgment of the commission (suspending the seven ministers because in the face of the veto by the communicants, they were about to ordain Mr. Edwards as their Minister.) The debate on this case appears to have occupied a large share of the attention of the house, and at length two motions were submitted to vote; *first*, that of Dr. Cook to reverse and rescind the judgment of the commission and to find the same null and void—and *second* that of the procurator, to find that the seven ministers have been duly suspended in terms of the sentence of the commission. The state of the vote stood thus:—

For Dr. Cook's motion .....	145
For the Procurator's .....	227

Majority for the motion of the Procurator, 34

The Assembly did not adjourn until eleven o'clock in the evening.

A kin to the Strathbogie case was the general question of the spiritual independence of the church. The Assembly's clerk having read the report of the non-intrusion committee, a lengthened and highly important discussion followed which was continued till midnight and resumed on the following day. Dr. Chalmers,

at the conclusion of a most convincing address proposed four resolutions as embodying the judgment of the Assembly on the subject of non-intrusion. As we have not space for these we shall only say, that they contain a clear and unequivocal declaration, that the Assembly in the face of all troubles, shall abide by the principle of non-intrusion to which by the testimony of more than a century she stands pledged—that the bill introduced by Lord Aberdeen into the House of Lords, inasmuch as it doth not recognise this principle, cannot be acquiesced in by the church, unless altered; and that a committee be appointed to watch the progress of the bill, and should they deem it fit to bring in another. When the vote was taken Dr. Chalmers' motion was carried by a majority of 27. The attention of the court was occupied for a considerable time as to the way, in which the seven ministers in the Presbytery of Strathbogie should be dealt with. It seemed the desire of all parties consistently with a sense of duty to deal with leniency, and a motion made by Mr. Dunlop was carried by a majority of 22, to the effect that the said ministers were censurable and liable to be proceeded against according to the laws of the church, but before pronouncing sentence, a committee was appointed to deal with them and report. The next important object which came before the Court was the report of the education committee. Some discussion here arose as to a certain condition which the Government required in giving new grants in the cause of education—the party usually known as the moderates insisting that this was to compromise the special prerogative of the Church. A large majority however, refused to enter into this view of the matter, and agreed to accept the grant on the condition specified, namely, the right of inspecting the schools in common with the Presbytery.

A report on Sabbath observance was read, entering fully into the subject and recommending to Kirk Sessions and Presbyteries to take cognizance of Sabbath breakers within their bounds and report to the Assembly. The report on church extension was read by Dr. Chalmers. In the conclusion of this document the author complains of the press of business laid upon him which he found to be too much for his strength. His concluding words are worthy of his best days.—“His hand,” he says “was now becoming feeble and less fit for the labour of other days; but sooner would that hand forget its cunning, than he would cease to feel an interest in the prosperity and welfare of the