

General Religious Intelligence.

SYNOD OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF LOWER PROVINCES.

This Synod met at Charlottetown, P. E. I., on 28th June, and was opened by the retiring moderator, Rev. J. Turnbull, preaching a sermon from Heb. iv., 14. The Rev. R. Sedgewick was elected moderator. The Foreign Mission Report was a very interesting one. It referred to the efforts of the Board to obtain additional missionaries, and the appointment of Rev. H. Grant to Trinidad, and Rev. Mr. Blue to New Hebrides. Although four missionaries have been removed by death, the staff in the New Hebrides has increased from one missionary in 1852—Dr. Geddie—to 12 at the present time.

Matters connected with the Theological Hall engaged a good deal of the attention of the Synod. Dr. King having intimated his wish to retire from the active duties connected with the Divinity Hall, the Synod proceeded to elect a successor. Ultimately Rev. Marcus Dodds, of Glasgow, was appointed. If he accepts, our friends in the Lower Provinces will doubtless have an able Professor of Divinity.

With reference to the question of union, the Synod appointed a committee of six, as we believe all the other Synods have done, to consider the expediency and practicability of union.

The work of the Church, in its various departments, appears to be prosecuted with vigour.

IRISH GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of Ireland sat at Belfast during the first fortnight in June. The Moderator, Professor Smyth, of Londonderry, was unanimously re-elected. He takes the place vacated by the death of Dr. Dill, and Dr. Givan has been appointed to his chair in Magee College. The sum of £23,000 was reported for the Sustentation Fund, although a hundred congregations have made no return, and it was expected that the £30,000 would be reached within the year. Deputies were heard from Presbyterian Churches in Scotland, England, France and Spain. On the roll of the Irish Assembly are 629 ministers, of whom 6 are chaplains, 11 professors, 25 missionaries, and 36 assistants.

The revision of the Bible has begun in England. The Committee of Convocation has invited the co-operation of Principal Fairbairn, Professor A. J. Davidson, Dr. Lindsay Alexander, Dr. Angus and others. In the House of Commons it was proposed that American Biblical scholars should be invited to assist in the work, but it was decided that it was too soon to take cognizance of the undertaking.

The Congregational Union has protested against the appointment of a bishop for Madagascar.

The Annals of the Propagation of the Faith, which is the name of the great Roman Catholic Mission, furnish statistics of receipts and expenditure for the past year. By these it appears that France contributes about three-fourths of the whole receipts of the institution. Italy is the next contributor, but its contribution is not more than one-ninth of that given by France. The dioceses of the British Isles and those of North America contribute