

Scotland.

AYRSHIRE.

Dumfries House, near Cumnock, the residence of the Marquis of Bute in his childhood, has for some time past been undergoing extensive alterations.

There is now a pretty sure prospect of the long-contemplated wet dock for Ayr harbour being constructed, the harbour trustees have been offered the necessary funds (about £150,000) for the work.

On the 28th ult., James Clerk, foreman joiner at the Eglinton Iron Company Works, Lugar, overbalanced himself while on one of the pithead scaffolds belonging to the Eglinton Iron Company, at Wellwood, near Muirkirk, and fell to the ground, a distance of sixty feet, sustaining serious injuries.

John Scott, chief porter at the Kilmarnock Railway Station, was recently, on the occasion of his appointment to the office of station-master at Busbie, presented with a purse of sovereigns as an acknowledgement of the faithful and obliging manner in which he had discharged his duties.

We observe from the Edinburgh University Prize list that William Forrest, Galston, has been awarded one of the bronze medals for Medical Jurisprudence; James M. Down, Largs, has obtained a certificate in the second class of honours, junior division of Botany; and Charles W. Inrie, Ayr, has received favorable mention in the junior division of Botany.

ABERDEENSHIRE.

The riveters in most of the Aberdeen building yards have struck work for a rise of one shilling per week. The boys have also come out for a similar sum.

A very extensive fire broke out at Fraserburgh on the 3rd inst., in the stables of the Saltown Hotel. The buildings in the vicinity were destroyed.

The Aberdeen Harbor Commissioners are to invite the Prince of Wales to lay the foundation stone of the new breakwater.

William Hay, foreman at the Harbor Works, Terry, was struck on the first inst., by a large crane which fell upon him, and he died from his injuries.

The Royal Aberdeenshire Highland Militia, numbering over 400, assembled at the Militia Barracks, King Street, Road, Aberdeen, on the 5th inst., under Lieutenant-Colonel Innes, for the usual period of training, after which the regiment is to take part in the forthcoming autumn manoeuvres.

ARGYLLSHIRE.

Facilities have been offered for communication with Tighnabruich by the opening of a telegraph station there.

The ex-Emperor of the French and the Prince Imperial arrived at the Great Western Hotel, Oban, on the 3rd inst. and having stayed there for a short period they proceeded to Banavie.

The West of Scotland Convalescent Seaside Homes at Dunoon, promoted by Miss Beatrice Clugston, were visited by the Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne) and the Marquis of Lorne on the 5th inst.

The first Administrative Battalion of the Argyllshire Rifle Volunteers held their annual competition at the Carnan range, Lochgilphead, on the 30th and 31st ult. For the highest aggregate score at 200 and 500 yards, Corporal McNaughton, Campbelltown, won a silver medal and a prize of £2.

BUTESHIRE.

It is feared that much damage will result to the potato crop throughout the county, through the recent thunderstorm and heavy rains.

All the erections on the site of the old shipbuilding yard at Rothays have been removed, and the walls taken down. A new site for the building-yard at the Skeoch Wood has not yet been fixed upon.

BANFF AND MORAY.

The shoemakers in Banff, Macduff, and Turiff are presently out on strike.

On the 31st ult. a gamekeeper named Wm. Nicholson was drowned at Grantown while bathing.

The *Times*, of India, of 1st July, announces that Mr. John Gordon (son of Mr. Gordon, of Lettoch, Glenlivet), has been appointed to officiate as Deputy-Secretary and Treasurer of the Bank of Bengal.

BERWICKSHIRE.

On the 3rd inst., a sturgeon 8½ feet in length, 4 feet 4 inches in girth, and

weighing 15½ stones, was captured in the Tweed at Berwick.

It is understood that the Barony Church, Glasgow, left vacant by the death of the late Dr. Norman Macleod, has been offered to the Rev. John McLeod, minister of Dunse, but that gentleman has we learn refused to accept the offer thus made.

The Tweedmouth Pant, which has stood at the end of the bridge for generations, and was in its earlier days a great public convenience, but in its decay became to be considered by some persons a public nuisance, has been removed.

The largest day's fishing in the Tweed for the season, or indeed for many seasons past, took place two weeks ago, when no less than 2,000 fish (including 800 salmon) were received in Berwick from the fishings in the river and on the sea coast.

The congregation of Wallace Green Church, Berwick, have resolved to erect a building suitable for conducting evangelistic services in connection with their Home Missionary operations; also to build premises for a Ragged School and Sunday School.

CLACKMANNANSHIRE.

Mr. Richard Laing, writer, has been appointed interim Procurator-Fiscal for the County of Clackmannan.

The foundation stone of a new building in Bank street, Alloa, to be erected by the Commissioners of Police, will shortly be laid with Masonic honors.

The Rev. A. Pryson, M.A., minister of the united parishes of Alloa and Tullibody, preached at the old Tullibody church on Sabbath evening. It is so long since there was worship in the Old Church, the novelty of the occasion drew together so large an audience that Mr. Bryson had to address the congregation in the open air.

CAITHNESS-SHIRE.

At a recent meeting of the Caithness Free Presbytery, it was agreed to meet in conference at Dunn, midway in the County, to devise some means for the advancement of vital religion, and to that conference it is intended to invite all the office-bearers of the Church within the county.

The *John O'Grat Journal* understands that Mr. Sharpt of Clyth, has got decree against Mr. Mitchell, Justice of Peace Fiscal, for expenses—amounting to £42 13s. 6d.—in suspension of a conviction against him in the Justice of Peace Court at Wick, on a charge of starving his sheep at Clyth.

DUMFRIESHIRE.

A reply has been received from Provost Harkness, Dumfries, agreeing to the request made by the Town Council that he should withdraw his resignation as Provost of the burgh.

Owing to differences between the Rev. Mr. Mackie, of St. Mary's, Dumfries, and his trustees and session, that gentleman has notified his readiness to resign his charge.

The valuable block of buildings situated in Church Place, Lockerbie, belonging to the representatives of the late William Johnstone, bacon-curer, has been sold to Mr. Dobil, Tinwald Parks, at £795.

The annual sermon in behalf of the Sabbath School in connection with the parish church, Dumfries, was preached recently by the Rev. Mr. Mackay, of the Collego Church, Glasgow, when the collection at the close amounted to £8.

At a recent meeting of the Dumfries Free Presbytery, the Rev. Mr. Kinnear, Moffat, was presented with a despatch-case bearing the inscription:—"To the Rev. Robert Kinnear, a token of gratitude for his devoted labors while moderator of kirk session—Free Church, Kirkmichael, 26th July, 1872."

DUMBARTONSHIRE.

The gentlemen who retire this year from the Helensburgh Town Council are Provost Stevens, Bailie Bryson, and Messrs. Drysdale and Breigan. Messrs. Stevens and Breigan again intend to submit themselves for municipal honors.

The famous Renton "Cushion Case" has once more come before the Dumbarton Presbytery. In the proceedings at a recent meeting a very exciting "scene" took place, the Clerk (Rev. W. Alexander, Duntocher), accusing Mr. Cameron of want of straightforwardness with such vigor, that the latter threatened to take proceedings against him.

EDINBURGH.

The University of Edinburgh has conferred the degree of Doctor of Laws *in absentia* on Dr. Dollinger, Rector of the University of Munich.

Mr. William Chambers, formerly Lord Provost, has received the distinc-

tion of Doctor of Laws from the University of Edinburgh.

Bailie Lewis recently sentenced a Good Templar named Robert Milne, residing in Milne Square, to thirty days' imprisonment for having committed a forcible assault on his wife.

The threatened strike among the pointsmen and porters in the employment of the Caledonian Railway Company has been averted by several timely concessions, with which the men appear to be satisfied.

At a recent meeting of the Scotch stoneware and Rockingham ware manufacturers, it was unanimously resolved, in consequence of the large increase in the price of coal, material, &c., to make a corresponding increase to the prices now charged.

On the 31st ult., at a meeting of the Free Church Presbytery, Mr. J. H. Wilson gave notice, on the part of Sir Henry Moncrieff, that he would, at a future meeting, ask the Presbytery to approve of the General Assembly's overture regarding the eligibility of ministers in fixed charges in U. P. and Reformed Presbyterian Churches to be called by Free Church congregations.

At recent meeting of the Established Presbytery, Mr. Graham, Newhaven, gave notice of the following motion:—"That the Presbytery, considering that the tercentenary of the death of John Knox will take place in November next, and that the event affords a suitable opportunity of expressing gratitude to Almighty God for the inestimable blessings which that great man was made the instrument of conferring on this nation, appoint a committee of their number to consider and report on the best method of carrying this resolution into effect."

FIFESHIRE.

The carters of Kirkealdy have resolved to solicit a reduction of their hours of labour to ten per day, along with a rise of 1s. per week on their wages.

On the first inst., a woman named Ann Keith or Fraser, relict of John Fraser, blacksmith, Hulseath, committed suicide by hanging herself in a house in Bruce Street.

A festival in honour of the marriage of Wm. Malcolm Low, eldest son of Sir John Low, K.C.B., of Clatto, to the Lady Edith Fielding, was held on Clatto Hill, on the 31st ult.

The half of that property at the corner of South Bell Street, St. Andrews, occupied by Mr. McKenzie, confectioner, has been sold by public roup to Mr. Donaldson, bootmaker, at £985.

The Frew family of Sinclairtown, Kirkealdy, have gained ten first prizes and two seconds, amounting to £11 in prize money, at the Highland and Agricultural Society Show held at Kelso.

Unmistakable evidence of the potato disease have appeared in the fields and gardens in Fife. The haulms have become blackened, and the tubers have shown the presence of the old marcid malady.

Mr. James Hall, who has for some time past acted as missionary in connection with the Mission Hall, Dumbfries, has been appointed missionary by the Scottish Coast Mission to the seaports of Granton and Newhaven.

FORFARSHIRE.

William C. Brett, of Her Majesty's Customs, Dundee, died suddenly at his residence in Broughty Ferry, on the 4th inst.

The Rev. John Macpherson, of Hilltown Church, Dundee, has declined the call he received from Trinity Free Church, Glasgow, in deference to the strongly-expressed wish of his own congregation.

An umbrella maker, named Anderson, about forty years of age, who held a pedlar's certificate for Dysart, either jumped or fell out of a train between Arbroath and Dundee, on the 3rd inst., and was killed instantaneously.

The sermon which Mr. Knight preached in Mr. Martineau's Church, in London, and which has been the subject of so much discussion, has been published in a convenient form for preservation.

On the 5th inst., a melancholy boat accident occurred on the Berwickshire coast, resulting in the drowning of six out of a crew of seven salmon fishermen all natives of Forfar, Kincardineshire. The names of the unfortunate men are:—William Webster, David Martin, Charles Reid, and Benjamin Burrs, and were all married.

GLASGOW.

The U. P. Presbytery have moderated in a call to the Rev. J. Rae, probationer to the congregation of the Garscube Road Church.

The body of a boy named Robert Bell Burnett, twelve years of age, who resided with his parents in Meuse Lane,

Cowcaddons, has just been extricated from the ruins of the Tradestown Mills.

While Robert Black, plumber, residing in Shamrock street, was engaged on the roof of a four storey building on the 2d inst., he lost his footing and fell to the ground, breaking his right thigh and seriously injuring his right arm and spine.

The following official announcement has appeared in the *Post Office Circular*, under the heading of "vacancy":—"Postmastership of Glasgow—salary £1000 a-year: to constitute the sole remuneration for all duties, whether postal or telegraphic. The Postmaster will also be Surveyor for Glasgow and its district, in direct communication with the General Post Office, London."

HADDINGTONSHIRE.

The purse of £20 presented by Marquis of Tweeddale, with the bronze medal of the National Rifle Association; 7 shots at 500 yards was gained by Private Runciman, No. 3 Company, with 24 points.

The annual meeting of the schoolmasters of the Presbytery of Dunbar, held on the 27th ult., Mr. Henderson, of Cockburnspath, and Mr. Robertson, of Whittinghame, were appointed delegates to the general meeting of the body in Edinburgh.

INVERNESS-SHIRE.

Pleuro-pneumonia has broken out in Inverness-shire. Steps are being taken by the local authority to prevent the spread of the disease.

On the 7th inst., Mrs. Stewart of the King's Arms Hotel, Inverness, died suddenly of heart disease.

On the 6th inst., Charles Fraser, a groom at Dallas Lodge, was accidentally shot in the neck and face by Sidney Smithies, a lad about 14 years of age, son of the lessee of the lodge and shootings.

A young man named Duncan Macdonald, twenty-three years of age, was drowned on the 2nd inst., while bathing in the River Doe, near Canacro Lodge, Glenmoriston.

KINROSS-SHIRE.

The lands of Braefoot and Rantrieknove, near Crook of Devoh, as possessed by Mr. Andrew Brown, have been sold by public roup to Mr. Peter Robertson, coachbuilder, Glasgow for £1048.

This district has had as yet a singular immunity from the frequent thunderstorms experienced in neighbouring counties, but the hert has on some days during the past month has been intense, with a very high reading of the thermometer—occasionally 90 in the shade.

KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE.

The recent heavy thunderstorms have done considerable damage in the Stewarty. A number of accidents also occurred.

The first sales of growing oats this season at Stewarty of Kirkcudbright took place on the 3rd inst. in the immediate neighborhood of Castle Douglas. One field sold at from £6 to £7 8s. per acre; another, about half a mile distant, brought an average of £8 8s. per acre; and a third field from £5 to £7 8s.—all on different estates.

LINLITHGOWSHIRE.

The first election held by ballot in Scotland occurred at Bathgate on the 5th inst., in the election of six Commissioners for that burgh.

A blacksmith named William Wilson, residing at Bridge Castle Cottages, Torpichen, was suddenly killed recently, at Drumbowie Quarry, where he wrought.

LANARKSHIRE.

The Evangelical Union has opened a mission station at Matherwell.

A hawker named Letchman, 85 years of age, belonging to Hamilton, died on the 31st ult., from injuries received by being run over by a cart.

On the 1st inst., a deputation of subscribers waited upon the Rev. Robt. Milne (assistant to Rev. Dr. Keith, minister of the first charge of the parish), and presented him with a silver salver and purse containing one hundred sovereigns, as a mark of respect and esteem, on occasion of his leaving Hamilton to undertake the charge of the Barony Chapel, Glasgow.

ORKNEY AND SHETLAND.

THE STROMNESS FEMALE INSPECTOR CASE.—The Question raised in Orkney as to the competency of appointing a female to the office of Inspector of Poor is not likely to be decided in a court of

law. The re-election of the female inspector at Stromness has so irritated the Board of Supervision that intimation has been sent to the chairman of the local Board that summary proceedings will be taken. The local Board, rather than incur the risk of expenses, it is believed, will proceed to elect a male official.—*Inverness Courier*.

PERTHSHIRE.

The Prince of Wales is to visit the Duke of Athole at Blair Castle on or about the 1st of September next, and the visit will last over several days.

At a recent competition between ten members of the Dumbane Company and a like number of the Eighth Creek Company, the former were the victors by five points.

A ballot will be taken on a future day of the members in the East Church, Perth, who are favorable to the introduction of instrumental music in that church.

The Perth Town Council have resolved to ask Mr. Gladstone whether, in the case of his being in Scotland during the present year, he would accept of the freedom of the city.

John King, a farm servant in the employment of James Kirk, farmer, Glen Eagles, Auchterarder, was killed on the 5th inst., by being dragged a considerable distance at the heels of a frightened colt, in whose reins he had got entangled.

The claimant of the Breadalbane Peerage has published a letter addressed to the "Peers of Great Britain," wherein he reasserts his alleged claims to the titles and estates in opposition to the present holder thereof.

ROXBURGHSHIRE.

A boy six years of age, son of Robert Emonds, tailor, Corning, was drowned on the 27th ult., at Jedburgh.

For some weeks past workmen have been engaged in preparing the site for a new parish church for Jedburgh.

The sixty-sixth annual meeting of the parish schoolmasters in the Presbytery of Kelso was held on the 27th ult., in the Grammar School. Mr. G. D. Hunter, rector of the Grammar School, Kelso, was unanimously reappointed collector and clerk, and Messrs. M'Morran, of Yetholm, and James Cook, of Hume, were elected delegates to attend the general meeting of trustees to be held in Edinburgh in September next.

ROSS-SHIRE.

Twelve hundred men and lads have left Stornaway for the east coast fishing.

The engine shed at Strome, the western terminus of the Dingwall and Skye Railway, was recently destroyed by fire.

The Marquis of Stafford has been appointed by the Prince of Wales as an extra aide-de-camp to His Royal Highness.

Mr. Wm. Macrae, Strathpeffer, lately received a unanimous call from the Gaelic-speaking congregation of Waibu, New Zealand, to be their pastor, was sent out under the auspices of the Colonial Committee of the Free Church, and after passing the usual examinations was inducted to his charge. The congregation consists of Highlanders from Sutherland and Ross.

RENFREWSHIRE.

The heritors have agreed to repair the parish manse of Renfrew at an expense of £900.

It is stated that Banktop House and grounds, Greenock, have been purchased by the Roman Catholic vicariate of the western district of Scotland.

Mr. James Welsh, Ironfounder, has sold his foundry at Johnstone to James Goodwin & Co., Ironfounders, Ardrossan and Motherwell. The price, it is understood, is between £6,000 and £7,000.

Mr. William Hector, writer, Pollokshaws, has received his commission to the office of Sheriff-Clerk of the county, which was rendered vacant by the death of Mr. Hugh Dempster, Greenock.

The Greenock Dean of Guild Court have granted permission to Alexander Anderson & Son to erect a sugar house in place of those destroyed by the fire some time ago.

A disastrous fire took place within the Gateside Mill printing works, near Barrhead, belonging to Macfarlane & Craig, which ended in the total destruction of a valuable printing plant and a large stock of white cotton goods, on the 31st inst.

Justice Monaghan, who dissented from the decision of the other three judges in the election of Captain Trench, has been enthusiastically received in several places lately.