

were uneducated. What was now aimed at was the endowment of an additional 100 chapels; so, inasmuch as the members of the Established church enjoyed peculiar advantages for themselves they were specially bound to provide for their poorer brethren. The endowment, in already adding 250 new parishes to the 924 previously existing, had done well; but work of this kind would always remain to be done by the National Church, with the increase of population, and the changes of its chief centres.

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THE LATE DR. SMITH.—The Church has again to mourn the loss of one of her most distinguished and hard-working ministers. Few men have, in fact, been so identified with the recent history and prosperity of the Church as Dr. Smith of North Leith. His name and labours have been prominent in almost all departments of Church work, and especially in connection with the remarkable success of the great Endowment Scheme, of which he has been Convener since the death of Dr. Robertson in 1860.

Dr. Smith was the son of a farmer in the parish of Pettinain, in the Upper Ward of Lanarkshire. After having received his elementary education at the parish school, he attended the University of Edinburgh, and afterwards under the Rev. Mr. Chalmers, and afterwards under Principal Lee. One of his classmates during his college career was the Very Rev. Principal Tulloch, with whom there sprung up a warm friendship, which ever afterward continued. Dr. Smith distributed a great deal of charity in a quiet way, the donor often being unknown to the recipients of the relief, and his death will be felt by many a poor family in North Leith. He was assiduous in the discharge of all the duties connected with his large par-

ish, and he visited wherever he thought he would be received, and whenever he was sent for, whether by members of his own church or not. He was assisted in these duties by a very large staff of office-bearers—elders, deacons, visitors, and collectors, the whole membership being visited at least once a month by some one, and monthly collections being made for several of the schemes of the Church. The crowded state of his church and his large congregation testify to his popularity as a preacher. He was never known to use notes in the pulpit, and he delivered his vigorous addresses almost extemporaneously. At the present time there are nearly 2300 persons on the roll of the church. In 1862 the number who were present at the Sacrament was about 1300; in October 1876—the number was 1551.

His business capacity as exhibited in the Supreme Court of the Church, secured due recognition, and hence he was appointed joint-convener of the Endowment Committee of the Church of Scotland some years before Dr. Robertson's death. On that event taking place he became sole convener, and acted for several years along with Mr. Macduff, of Bonhard, as vice convener in the work of the committee. Some idea of the amount of work performed by Dr. Smith, and the success with which it has been accomplished, will be obtained when we mention that there have been 253 parishes added to the Church of Scotland through the operations of the committee (192 since Dr. Smith was appointed convener), at a cost of no less than £885,500. To that sum has to be added £41,000, the value of endowments provided in many cases beyond the minimum stipend of £120 fixed by statute, making in all £926,500. The total value of the churches (with manses) during the last twenty-five years is given, at a low estimate, at no less than £1,675,500.