

General Religious Intelligence.

UNION NEGOTIATIONS IN SCOTLAND.—The Joint Committee of the two churches in union have held another meeting. The standards and authoritative documents of the two churches were given in. The following are the subjects which the Joint Committee propose to consider:—

I. The extent to which the two Churches agree as to the province of the Civil Magistrate in relation to Religion and the Christian Church.

II. Any other matter of doctrine about which explanations on either side may seem to be called for.

III. Theological Curriculum, and the training and licensing of Students, and arrangements regarding Probationers.

IV. Election of Office-bearers, Constitution of the Church Courts, and the relation of these Courts to one another, and Forms of Ecclesiastical Procedure.

V. Law and Practice of the two Churches as to Public Worship.

VI. Extent of difference of the two Churches as to Education, with special reference to Government Grants.

VII. Finance and Church Property, including such matters as the Free Church Sustentation Fund, Titles, Administration of Secular Affairs by Managers or by Deacons' Courts.

VIII. Principles on which admission to Sealing Ordinances is regulated in either Church.

IX. Relation of the two Churches, if united, to Ministers and Congregations beyond the limits of Scotland.

We observe that there is some unpleasantness of feeling among the Presbyterians in England, especially among those of the English Presbyterian Church, arising from the circumstance that they have not been admitted as parties in these negotiations.

REVIVAL MOVEMENTS IN SCOTLAND.—In various parts of Scotland, especially among the fishing villages in the north-east coast, revival meetings have been held, under the auspices of the "Association for Carrying on Evangelistic Operations in Scotland." It is stated that the fruits of the revival movement, which began about three years ago, are very marked. There have been no cases of "striking down" in connexion with the late meetings; but there are many cases of sinners being converted and backsliders reclaimed. Altogether the moral and religious improvement is most marked.

RELIGIOUS TOPICS IN ENGLAND.—Two topics have, of late, engaged attention among the ministers of the English Church. The first is the subject of some modification of the Burial Service, and the second is the subject of subscription to articles. Many godly ministers feel themselves in great difficulty in being forced to read the service at the burial of every man, whatever his character may have been. There does not appear to be much likelihood of any change being made at present, as most of the Bishops are understood to be opposed to any alteration. On the subject of subscription, a resolution was carried in Convocation in favour of the appointment of a committee to consider the subject of subscription, and to see whether it might be relaxed or modified without danger to the definitive faith of the church.

THE REV. H. G. GUINNESS IN ULSTER.—The Rev. Mr. Guinness has been lately preaching in Ulster. In the course of his addresses he spoke in very uncharitable terms as to the religion of Presbyterians. His remarks were answered by Rev. H. Hanna, of Belfast. Mr. Guinness afterwards published a letter, partly explaining and partly apologising, for his remarks. Mr. Guinness seems more than formerly identified with the Plymouth Brethren, while he adheres to the Baptists in their peculiar views. When Mr. Guinness