

Scotland.

ARGYLLSHIRE.

There are rumors as to the early visit by the Queen to the Duke and Duchess of Argyll, nothing definite, however, has yet been made known.

The late rains, which were something altogether unusual as to duration and severity, have done considerable damage to the grain crops in the Oban district, nearly all of which lie in stook on the fields, or about.

AYRSHIRE.

A monument has just been erected in the park of Culzean Castle to the memory of the late Marquis of Ailsa.

A beacon has been erected at the "Plumb" Saltcoats. It has been erected at the expense of Lord Eglinton.

Mr. David Brown of the Royal Bank, Maybole, has purchased the estate of Culzean for J. P. Willison, Esq., Maxwellton, Dailly, at the price of £14,000.

On the 21st ult., Mr. Johnston, who has for some time past been missionary in connection with Irvine Free Church, was presented with a purse of sovereigns and two volumes of theology.

On the morning of the 21st ult., an engineer, named Wm. McCullum, belonging to Glasgow, was found on Cumlock road near Ayr, in a very exhausted condition, and covered with blood. On partaking of a little water, which he solicited he immediately expired. A great deal of mystery is connected with the case. There is no doubt, however, that a murder has been committed, as the body of the unfortunate bore wounds such as might have been inflicted with a knife. Notwithstanding the most diligent investigations of the police, no trace of the murderer has been found, but the knife with which the deed is supposed to have been committed was found not far from the place where the body of McCullum was discovered.

ABERDEENSHIRE.

The Rev. Mr. Laidlaw, of Perth, has been inducted to the Free West Church, Aberdeen.

Recently, while Mark O'Connor, valet to Mr. Henry Gordon, of Monar, Inverurie, was taking tea with the other servants in the hall, he suddenly fell forward on the table and expired.

A boy named Francis Hay, sixteen years of age, while accompanying his father in a boat from Peterhead to Whimneyfold, in the parish of Curdon, on the 21st ult., was drowned by the boat capsizing.

A report on the herring fishing at Fraserburgh, shows that this year's take far exceeds that of any previous season, and that the money value of the fish caught has been about a quarter of a million sterling.

BERWICKSHIRE.

The price of bread in Berwick has been raised from 8d. to 9d. for best 4 lb loaf, and from 7½d. to 8½d. for wheatmeal loaf.

Mr. Andrew Todd, presently assisting in the High School, Hawick, has been elected master of the Lauree Free Church School.

Died, at North Castle street, Dunse, on the 18th ult., Thomas White, joiner, aged 53 years. At Twizel Mill, on the 7th inst., Geo. Turnbull aged 73 years.

CLACKMANNANSHIRE.

Mr. John Stalker, teacher, Tillicoultry, has been appointed collector of poor and other assessments for the place.

The Rev. John Robb, Glendevon, and belonging to Kinross, has been chosen pastor of the Established Church at Sauchie.

It has been decided to lay the foundation stone of the new Alloa Municipal Buildings, with Masonic honors, on Oct. 17th. Sir James E. Alexander, of Westerton, Provincial Grand Master for Stirlingshire, will lay the foundation stone of the new edifice.

After an absence of 32 years, the Rev. Dr. Moffat, the African missionary, revisited Alloa, and delivered a lecture on his travels in Africa. The Rev. Mr. McDowall, chairman, in introducing the lecturer, stated that "they were about to hear the man who had introduced civilization and Christianity; founded schools, and given those a printed language among whom, when he first went he found nothing but ignorance and savagery."

DUMFRIESSHIRE.

A pair of subscription bowls played for on the Annan green, have been won by Mr. John Rae, Watchhill.

Mr. John Maeturk, schoolmaster of Tillicoultry has been elected cashier of the Langholm Schoolmasters' Widows' Fund, as successor to Dr. Knox resigned.

The price of the 4 lb loaf has been raised in Annan to 9d. in shops in which they are sold; but in Annan bread is generally made in loaves to sell at 6d., the weight varying according to the price of flour.

A project set on foot about a dozen years ago for having a branch line between Beattock Station and Moffat, has lately been revived with considerable likelihood of success. The Duke of Buccleuch, and Mr. J. J. Hope of Johnstone, two chief proprietors on the route, are, it is stated, favorable to its formation, and the Directors of the Caledonian Railway have the matter under consideration, and have special returns of the traffic of goods and passengers prepared as a basis of calculation.

EDINBURGH.

We hear that the Scotch Education Board will be composed of the following members:—Chairman, Sir John Don Wauchop; paid members—Sir Alex. Grant, Principal of Edinburgh University, and Rev. Dr. Tulloch, Principal of St. Andrew's University; unpaid members—Sir W. Stirling-Maxwell, and Mr. Ramsay, of Kildalton; secretary, the Rev. Dr. James Taylor, Glasgow.

Several accounts of the Mullachorn have been made this season; one by a German gentleman who got up as far as the "Shoulder," but had to return on account of sickness, another by Mr. Sanderson, an Englishman, who gained the summit; and another by Mr. A. Abernethy and Mr. E. Millidge, both from Spoutan, who reached the summit together on the 12th September, in brilliant weather and a cloudless sky.—Swiss Times.

The annual meeting in connection with the United Presbyterian Theological Hall Missionary Society was held on the 20th ult. There was a good attendance, and the chair was occupied by Professor M'Michael, who gave a brief preliminary address. The secretary's report spoke in congratulatory terms of the progress of the society during the past year, which, he said, had never been excelled in the Society's previous history, except in one year. The meetings in connection with the society had not been yet concluded, but £1160 had already been gathered and partially allocated. The anticipations of the Society in regard to the mission work in Rome had been more than realized. In conclusion an appeal was made on behalf of the South Sea Missions, especially that of New Guinea. Thereafter the report was approved of, and a number of addresses were delivered by Mr. Orr, vice-president of the Society; the Rev. Dr. Duff, the Rev. Dr. Cairns Douglas, of the China Mission; and the Rev. W. G. Law, of the South Sea Mission.

FORFARSHIRE.

The journeymen shoemakers in Montrose have resolved to demand from their employers an advance of wages on the different varieties of pieces work.

On the 19th ult., a fire broke out at Kinaber Spinning Mill, near Montrose, which at one time threatened to consume the whole premises. The damage is estimated at from £110 to £130, and is covered by insurance.

On the 19th ult., a laboring man named Andrew Mill, aged 58, while engaged at work at the railway siding in connection with Opar Muir Brick Works, was knocked down by a goods train, three of the waggons of which passed over his legs, inflicting frightful injuries.

The dead body of a gamekeeper named Spalding, residing near Monifieth, has been found in a ditch with the head fearfully smashed. Spalding had left Monifieth to convey a man whom he had caught stealing, to the police station. On the way, a confederate of the prisoner had joined them, and between them, it is supposed, the murder was committed.

FIFESHIRE.

The roll of voters for the burgh of St. Andrews, has just been published, and shows a decrease of three—being 492, against 495 last year.

Another large floorcloth work is to be erected in Kirkealdy, and to be conducted on the limited liability principle. The necessary capital (£30,000) has been all subscribed.

On Sabbath the 22nd ult., the Rev. Henry de Bussen, M.A., Donnington Rectory, Shropshire, family chaplain to the Duke of Sutherland, preached for the Rev. A. K. H. Boyd, in the Town Church, St. Andrews.

The demand for the produce of the Fife collieries is now brisker than ever; and it is generally reported that the prices, which present range from 16s. to 21s. per ton, are on the eve of being further advanced.

GLASGOW.

Mr. Angus Turner, as secretary of the Clyde Trust, has accepted a retiring allowance of £400 per annum.

The body of a young man, named John M'Mullan, an engineer, who resided at 66 M'Leau street, has been found in the harbor.

The Established Presbytery met in the Bluevale Chapel of Ease, on the 19th ult., and ordained Mr. John Farley to the pastorate of that charge.

Amongst the items exported per the steamer Walrus, which has sailed from the Clyde for St. John's Newfoundland, there were silver coin to the value of £4200, and copper coin to the value of £200.

Mr. John Kerr, M. A. Her Majesty's Inspector of schools, Aberdeen, has been appointed by the University Court to the office of Assistant Examiner in Classics for Degrees in Arts in the University of Glasgow.

On the 19th ult., a fire broke out in the premises of Messrs M. & A. Clark, biscuit manufacturers in Elliott street, Anderson. The damage is estimated at from £18,000 to £28,000, and it is understood to be covered by insurance.

At the quarterly meeting of the Trustees of Anderson's University, Mr. George Forbes, B. A., F. R. S. E., of St. Catherine's College, Cambridge, was elected professor of natural philosophy, and Dr. Lindsay was appointed to the chair of medical jurisprudence. It was intimated that a donation of £1000 had been received from Mr. J. Tennant, St. Rollox.

The services in St. Andrew's Parish Church, were conducted on Sunday the 23d ult., in the forenoon, by the Rev. John Stewart, of St. Andrew's Church, Edinburgh, and in the afternoon by the Rev. Dr. Graham, Kilbarhan. Fitting references were made at both diets to the life and services of the Rev. Dr. Runciman, the late lamented minister of the Church. In John Street United Presbyterian Church, the services were conducted in the forenoon by the Rev. Drs. Eadie and Logan Aikman, and in the afternoon by the Rev. Mr. M'Ewan. Very touching allusions were made to the loss which the congregation had sustained in the removal by death of their highly esteemed senior minister, the Rev. Dr. William Anderson.

INVERNESS-SHIRE.

The fine residential property of Lentrain, in the vicinity of Inverness, has been

bought by Mr. Smithson, of Inverurie, for £28,000.

The Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone, Mrs. Gladstone, and Misses Gladstone, have gone to Invergarry House, on a visit to Mr. Edinco, M.P.

Miss Alicia Sutherland, daughter of the Rev. Mr. Sutherland, East Charels, Inverurie, has been presented with a silver, along with a solid tea and coffee service, value £80, on the occasion of her marriage to a son of the late Hugh Miller.

KIRKCUDBRIGHTSHIRE.

The Rev. James Maitland, D.D., ex-Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, expired at his residence, Kells Manse, New Galloway on the 21st ult.

The Kirkcudbright Gaslight Company have resolved to raise the price of gas from 7s. 6d. to 8s. 9d. per 1000 feet. The directors of the Stranraer Gas Company have advanced the price of gas from 5s. 5d. to 7s. 1d. per 1000.

LINLITHGOWSHIRE.

The freedom of the burgh of Greenferry has been conferred on the Lord of Rosberry.

The Rev. A. M. Fairbairn, Evangelical Union Church, Bathgate, has been translated to Aberdeen, and prior to his leaving for that city, the congregation gave him a farewell source.

LANKSHIRE.

The new Free Church at Blantyre was announced to be opened on Oct. 6th.

The subscription raised for a memorial to the late Provost Dykes, Hamilton, amounted to £875 17s. 6d.

On the 23rd inst., the miners employed at Pather Colliery, Wishaw, came out on strike for a further advance on their wages of 1s. per day.

On the 20th ult., an old man name Cornelius Smith was accidentally killed in the Broomfield Coalpit Airdrie, belonging to Bailie Adam.

The Rev. Mr. Hutchinson late of Cambuslang, has been elected to the pastorate of the Congregational Church Handsworth, Woodlands, Yorkshire.

The weaving trade at Strathaven has considerably improved, though a few hands are still unemployed. The prospects of revival, however, are most encouraging.

At Netherton, Walter Rae, toll-keeper, there, died suddenly shortly after taking his breakfast, on Saturday last he had been slightly ailing for a few days previously.

Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Shield, Strathaven, reached the 50th anniversary of their marriage on the 13th inst. A numerous party of relatives met to celebrate the event.

Died, at Newarthill on the 20th ult., John Addo, wright and a portioner, aged 70 years. At Hamilton, on the 14th inst., Sibias Craw, aged 78 years. At Low Blantyre, on the 11th inst, Miss Annie Crawford, aged 10 years.

ORKNEY AND SHETLAND.

At Lerwick the herring fishing has been more successful than it has been in the last two years; but it has been very unequal, and at some stations nothing has been done.

A marriage ceremony in the Episcopal form took place on Thursday last, in the Cathedral of Kirkwall, which is the parish church of the united districts of Kirkwall and St. Ola.

The weather in Shetland continues wet, and the drops are in a losing state. What has been cut is sprouting, and some of what is uncut is rotting on the ground. Potatoes in some cases are not worth digging.

Though it seems that a majority of Free Church ministers in the islands are in favor of union with the U. P. Church, there is very little sympathy with the movement in the congregations, and there is likely to be much disunion in consequence.

PERTHSHIRE.

Extensive repairs are being made on the exterior of the parish church, Cormie.

The Invercauld flag has been floating from the roof of Mar Castle since the recent galling of the Broomfield Highland Society, and is to be hoisted daily on the old fortalice.

Achallater Bridge, which was nearly swept away by the floods of last year, is to be repaired, so as to stand during the incoming winter and is to be thoroughly renovated or rebuilt in the spring.

The Presbytery of Dumblane have inducted the Rev. E. J. Johnston, late of Lochfyan, to the church and parish of Monteith, lately become vacant by the death of the lamented Dr. Turner.

D. Carnegie, Esq., of Stronvar, has offered to the congregation at Callendar a large and handsomely built house adjoining the church as a parsonage, if the congregation succeed in raising a sum of about £600 to buy up the life interest of the present occupant.

ROSS-SHIRE.

On the 17th ult., Alexander Morrison, a young lad belonging to Garrabost, on the peninsula of Eye, about eight miles from Stornoway, was drowned near the church of Garrabost.

A boy, eleven years of age, named Alexander Graham, son of John Graham, residing at Bayble, in the island of Lewis, was killed on the 22nd ult., by falling over a precipice near Bayble Fishing Station.

The weather in Skye just now is unfavorable. The rain splashing down in torrents upon the barley and corn in the stook and the potato disease (which is making progress) tend to dishearten the most contented agriculturists.

The weather at Glasgow has been very unpropitious of late. The hills round about are more or less covered with it. The corps are likely to go wrong, unless dry weather sets in soon, in fact, on a good few farms they are already completely spoilt.

The Rev. Mr. Kennedy, of Dingwall, who was lately called to the charge of the Free Gaelic Church, Greenock, by that congregation, has written that he intends to decline the projected call, and writes with the object of anticipating any needless expense.

ROXBURGHSHIRE.

A fire broke out in Kelso on the 20th ult., and a great quantity of household furniture was destroyed.

On Monday a shearers' port was held at Stowe, when some fresh papers were held at 25s and 28s. per week.

The price of 4lb loaf in Kelso has been raised from 8d. to 9d., and the potatoes have been raised from 6d. to 8d. a cap.

The fancy bazaar in aid of the funds for the erection of a new church for the West U.P. congregation, Hawick, has realized upwards of £600.

Angling on the Tweed and the Teviot owing to the heavy rains, is expected about the autumn to be about the best that has been for some years.

The U.P. Church at Melrose has been lengthened to the extent of 15 feet. The church steeple is likewise nearly finished, and will look prominent upon the most elevated parts of the Highcross ridge.

Diem—At Dingleton, Melrose, on the 14th ult., Miss Elizabeth Plum, in her 81 year. A. Greenlee, Kelso, on the 17th ult., Christina Burns, widow of the late James Bortwick, farmer. At Kelso, on the 18th ult., John Kinghorn, Blacksmith, aged 53 years. At Mellerstain, on the 19th ult., Mary Rintoul, widow of the late John Stonhouse, miller, aged 72 years.

RENFREWSHIRE.

The estate of Iylesland, near Paisley has been purchased by ex-Bailie Hamilton, for £3,800.

Recently Mr. Mills died suddenly at his residence at Maxwellton. He was fifty-eight years of age.

The foundation stone of a new Established Church Copeland Road, Gowan, was laid on the 21st ult., by Mr John Napier of Shaughfield.

A limited liability company and a private company, have made application to Sir R. J. M. Napier, Bart., Johnston for power to excavate the shale mineral on his estate at the north end west side of Johnstone. It is believed a lease will be granted.

WIGTONSHIRE.

Mrs. Biggam or Stewart, a widow residing in St. John street, Stranraer, died suddenly in on the 22nd inst. within her own house there.

The valuation of Wigtonshire, exclusive of the burghs of Stranraer, Wigton and Withorn, is £201,097 6s 4½d., being an increase over last year of £4380, 16s. 2d.

On the 31st inst. Mr. Hannah Clughton, was almost killed by a cow which he was driving out of the court yard. The animal turned upon him knocked him down trampled upon him, and then tossed him a considerable distance.

The death is recorded of Wm. Scott, aged 88 years, who for a long series of years was fisherman at Lees, under the late Sir John Marjoribanks of Lees, Bart., and also under the present Baronet.

It is intended to re-open the coal pit on the Lamberton estate, about three miles north of Berwick, which pit, although it contains coal of good quality, has been laid for a good many years. It is also intended to work the limestones and clay on the estate.

FACTS CONNECTED WITH THE BRITISH POST OFFICE.

There are nearly 12,000 post offices in the United Kingdom, and nearly 8000 road and pillar boxes, making nearly 20,000 receptacles in all. Before the establishment of penny postage in 1840 there was not a fourth of this number. In the year 1871 the number of ordinary changeable letters passing through the Post Office for delivery in the United Kingdom (not including sample and pattern packets) amounted to 29 for every person upon an average—83 to each person in England, 25 in Scotland, 15 in Ireland. The correspondance carried for public offices weighed nearly 14 million ounces, and the value of the postal service thus performed was £135,546. In addition to the 917 millions of changeable letters delivered in the United Kingdom, there were 74 millions of post-cards carried for the public, 99 millions of newspapers, and 103 millions of book packets. The Postmaster of Belfast reports two instances of remarkable carelessness in 1871. A packet containing a watch and two sovereigns was posted (without being registered) unsealed and even uncut, and a gold watch and locket, loosely packed up and addressed to America, were posted without anything either inside or outside to show from whom these articles were intended or by whom they were sent. The annual returns show that there are upwards of 4900 money-order offices in the United Kingdom. About twelve million money-orders were issued in 1871, a number to two to every five persons; one to every two persons in England, one to every four in Scotland, one to every six in Ireland. The amount due, upon an average, to each depositor in Post Office Savings Banks is about £18 in England, £8 in Scotland, £17 in Ireland; in Ireland there are less facilities for investing small sums of money in commercial enterprises than in Great Britain. The depositors in savings banks (including the old trustee, as well as the Post Office banks) are one in about 9 to the population in England, one in about 18 in Scotland, one in about 30 in Ireland. The Postmaster established more than 1800 new

telegraph offices in the year 1871—about four a day. The telegraph is everywhere. A special staff waits on events, and hastens to every place where there is "anything moving" with which the ordinary telegraph cannot keep pace, or which demands an officer to "go special." The Postmaster is now a tax collector. In the year 1871 he issued 552,229 dog licenses at 6s each, 70,845 licenses for horse servants at 15s each, 104,998 carriage licenses, 81,897 at 4s and 73,111 at 15s. 201,528 horse and mule licenses at 10s 6d, 16,248 licenses for armorial bearings, 6945 at 12s for arms to be borne on carriages, and 10,303 at 21s; and 62,101 gun licenses at 10s.

JESUS GOES BEFORE.

"Behold the Lamb of God!" His way was much rougher and darker than yours—pluck up courage, he will bear you through. He is familiar with all your trials, his pitying eye beholds your sorrows, and oh, if you are getting weary in the path of life and tired of serving God, "Behold the Lamb of God" wrestling unto blood, and your courage will remain. Rejoice in the summer's heat, see him as he grasps the sickle with that pierced hand! What staid he makes, how untiring he labors till his bloody sweat falls on the ground. Up and at they reaping too, working at his side. Tender in the heart of God, if in secret not the temple rising as thou couldst desire, lay not down thy trowel or thy mallet, but see the Master builder standing there with indefatigable perseverance following out his glorious design. Let not a selfish denial or self-sacrifice be hard when the Lamb of God is before thee. Let not perseverance be difficult, or shame, or scorn be hard to endure, or defeat or death itself, be impossible to triumph in, when the Lamb of God is before thee. He conquered upon the cross, perhaps thou wilt only conquer there. Only keep thine eye upon the Lamb of God and this will make thee strong to do and to endure.—Spurgeon.

FAMILY INTERCOURSE AT THE TABLE.

To meet at the breakfast table, father, mother, children, all well, ought to be a happiness to any heart. It should be a source of humble gratitude, and should wake up the warmest feelings of our nature. Shame upon the contemptible and low-bred cur whether parent or child, that can ever come to the breakfast table, where all the family have met in health, only to frown and whine, and growl, and fret! It is *prima facie* evidence of a mean and grovelling, and selfish and degraded nature, whosoever the child may have sprung. Nor is it less reprehensible; for, before the morning comes, one of the little circle may be stricken with a deadly disease, to gather around that table not again for ever! Children in good health, if left to themselves at the table, become after a few mouthfuls garrulous and noisy; but if within at all reasonable or bearable bounds, it is better to leave them alone: they eat less, because they do not eat so rapidly as if compelled to keep silent, while the very exhilaration of spirits quickens the circulation of the vital fluids and energizes digestion and assimilation. The extremes of society curiously meet in this regard.

Tables of the rich and nobles of England are models of mirth, wit, and bonhomie; it takes hours to get through a repast, and they live long. If anybody will look in upon the negroes of a well-to-do family in Kentucky, while at their meals, they cannot but be impressed with the perfect abandon of jabber; cackination and mirth; it seems as if they could talk all day, and they live long. It follows then, that at the family table all should meet, and do it habitually, to make a common interchange of high-bred courtesies; of warm affections, of cheering mirthfulness, and that generosity of nature which lifts us above the brutes which perish primitive as these things are of good digestion, high health, and a long life.—Hall's Journal of Health.

COLLECTION INCIDENT.

In a Pennsylvania town there was an excellent but eccentric clergyman named Ross. He was about taking a collection for some special object, and had pleaded warmly in its behalf. "My brethren," he said, "I want you to give liberally to-night—none of your penny or five cent pieces, but let everyone give a quarter, and to set you a good example, I will give the first myself," dropping a twenty-five cent piece in the basket. After the collection was taken he lifted up the baskets, looked them over carefully, and then remarked: "I see that my quarter is the only one here, so I shall take it back again," which he did, and put it in his pocket, with evident disgust at their meanness.

It is the part of wisdom to do great things with a few. When Solomon, the wisest man, built his wonderful temple, he found of saw or hammer was heard thence.