

The Church Abroad.

Scotland. DR. MACLEOD, of Govan, has received £25,000 from some friends to endow new parishes in densely-populated parts of Glasgow.

At the Brechin ordination lately all the ministerial members of Presbytery were attired in gowns, and, in the case of those holding degrees, with hoods also.

PRINCIPAL RAINY, speaking at a jubilee celebration at Kirkliston, said that while God had given the Free Church at the Disruption a very large share of the spiritual life and Christian worth of Scotland there was no entail of His grace, and he would not hazard an opinion of how matters stood now.

REV. A. R. GIBSON of Carnoustie thinks that if prayer for the dead be efficacious at all, those members of the Scottish Church society who believe in it and pray for the blessed dead would act more wisely and benevolently if they prayed for the cursed dead. Wiser still, he considers, would be their praying for the cursed living. Dr. Macleod of Govan and his friends appear to Mr. Gibson to know more of heaven than of earth.

REV. WM. CAMPBELL, of Kildalton, Islay, died on 30th ult. A native of Lorn, he received license in 1880 and was soon afterwards ordained in Kilmenny, Islay. Thence after three years he was translated to Kilmacdonell, Kintyre, and in 1885 he was inducted to Kildalton. Against much opposition he introduced a choir and a harmonium into the church. He was a county councillor, and took a great interest in all public affairs.

REV. R. HOWIE, of Govan Free Church, in his correspondence with Rev. W. Simpson, of Bonhill, points to a statement in an address to the electors of Scotland issued in May, 1892, by the Church Interests committee as proof that he was correct in alleging that the multiplier $\frac{3}{4}$ (of the communicants) was claimed by the church as a proper figure when applied to the whole country for obtaining an approximate estimate of those in church connection.

EDINBURGH presbytery, in dealing with the report of the assembly's committee on public worship, have recommended that while systematic reading of the Scriptures is desirable, freedom of selection be reserved to ministers, that the Apostles' Creed and the Nicene Creed be not printed at the end of the hymnal; and (by 20 votes to 20) that, in determining the occasions on which the Lord's Supper should be dispensed, ministers with consent of sessions should be free to exercise the same discretion as is allowed to them in regard to sickness and distance of individual members in the administration of baptism.

MR. R. W. HUNTER, George IV. Bridge, Edinburgh, announces the publication of *Sons' Chapters in Scottish Church History*, by Rev. D. A. Mackinnon of Marykirk. As another souvenir of the jubilee of the Free Church, this should be an interesting volume. The history of ecclesiastical affairs in Scotland is traced from earliest days, down through Reformation times on to the ten years conflict; and the closing chapters appropriately deal with the church's work during the past fifty years, an account of the jubilee assembly, and "the future outlook."

PRINCIPAL RAINY, speaking lately of the progress of thought in the church, said that there must always be great identities of faith and speech throughout the church's history, but certainly he held that as the Gospel was addressed to this wonderful, deep, variously formed human nature of ours, it was the continual labour of the church to find out the great message of the Gospel to the precise condition in which men's hearts and minds were in each successive age.

REV. ARTHUR GORDON, of Edinburgh, admits that with the consent of St. Andrew's session he has, on several occasions, administered the communion privately, and says he knows many other ministers who have acted similarly. The church had not been acting the question straightly.

England.

THE Rev. J. T. Lloyd, now minister of Port Elizabeth Congregational Church (South Africa), and formerly minister of Ellison street Presbyterian Church, Gateshead, has received a call (which it is anticipated he will accept), to the co-pastorate of the Presbyterian congregation in Johannesburg.

At present the number of vacant charges in the English Presbyterian Church is sixteen, whilst the number of preachers on Roll A is twenty-five. It is not often the disproportion is so great. At the meeting of Synod in April last, the numbers were sixteen congregations and eighteen probationers.

The sudden death of the Rev. W. Swanson necessitated the holding of an inquest, and it is with deep regret we have learned that the evidence given was such that the jury returned a verdict of "suicide while of unsound mind."

The movement for the erection of a Presbyterian church at Bromley, Kent, is being pushed forward with considerable vigour. A building fund committee has been formed, and Mr. F. W. N. Lloyd, of Bromley House, has consented to act as its treasurer.

At a meeting of Presbytery in London, Eng., Rev. J. M. Fergusson moved the following resolution:—"That this Presbytery, while rejoicing at the temporary settlement which has been effected between the parties in the recent coal war, takes this opportunity of placing on record its conviction that the principle which has come to be known as 'the living wage' deserves the warm and hearty approval of the Christian Church." Mr. Fergusson said that the constitution of the Presbyterian Church was such as to fit it to be the Church of the people. But a democratic constitution might exist without the democratic spirit. It was the duty of the Church now to rise to the call of present circumstances, and show a deep, real, and practical interest in the great question of bettering the condition of the people. Difficulties of definition and other difficulties were raised; but the Christian Church, without entering into complicated questions, could claim the right to affirm the great principle that the remuneration of the labourer should be such as would enable him to maintain a healthy human home. Mr. Fergusson went on to quote statistics and declarations of opinion in regard to the late lock-out in the collieries. The resolution carried.

United States.

REV. E. B. MCGILVARY is the son of the Laos apostle, born on mission ground, an honour graduate of Princeton, who has already translated part of the Bible. He could not accept some of the deliverances of the Assembly, and resigned. The board accepted it. Inasmuch as the change of a dozen voices would have passed Herrick Johnson's paper instead of the one which was adopted it is evident that nearly half the church will sympathize with him.

Dr. Schurr's successor had a good letter from Cincinnati Presbytery. But Dr. Birch protested formally against his being received without being examined. That is the way division was forced a generation ago.

REV. DR. W. J. HANSEN, former editor of the Central West, recently received over fifty members to his church in upper New York. A Harlem paper says that sittings cannot be had, and that another church will have to be organized to accommodate the people.

PELOUBET'S SELECT NOTES.—A Commentary on the Sunday-School Lessons for 1894, by Rev. F. N. Peloubet, D.D., and M. A. Peloubet. 356 pp. Illustrated, \$1.25. W. A. Wilde & Co., 25 Bromfield St., Boston, Mass. It has been said "there was only one best," and among all the many helps for teachers of the International Lessons the "one best" is surely Peloubet's Notes. There are many helps that partially cover the lesson subject, but for a complete understanding of the text from every standpoint the teacher must have this book at hand for weekly reference in studying the lessons. It

will be a peculiar help during 1894, because the first six months' lessons, being from the earlier books of the Old Testament, introduce many perplexing questions that must be squarely answered, and Dr. Peloubet has been extremely wise and judicious in so presenting these controversial subjects that they become incidental rather than prominent, and thus do not obscure or tend to lead away from the main teachings of the lesson. In handling the lesson on the life of Christ for the last half of the year, the author has drawn from his incomparable store of past study and thought the brightest, most tronohant expressions and teachings of the world's students. The notes are simply complete in every respect, and even a captious critic would have to scan close to take exception to them. The text is illustrated with abundant original engravings which illuminate many otherwise dark passages, and as a whole, in its mechanical as well as literary make-up, the book will at once interest and instruct any teacher of the word. It is published in one volume, uniform with its nineteen annual predecessors, and is a rare reference book for one's library, even after the year's study is completed.


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