

Scotland.

ABERDEENSHIRE.

The Rev. Dr. Bisset, of Bourtie, an ex-moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, is dead.

Evangelistic services on an extensive scale are being held in Huntly. The services are a resumption of the meetings held previous to the death of the Duchess of Gordon.

A return of the expenses incurred by the three candidates for the representation in Parliament of the city of Aberdeen, shows that Mr. Loith, the successful candidate, paid £820 18s. 6d.; Mr. Barclay, £587 19s. 6d.; and Mr. Shaw, £1107 12s. 6d.

ARGYLLSHIRE.

Mr. Pender's charming residence, Minard Castle, was the scene, lately, of the celebration of the first anniversary of Minard Schools, built by Mr. Pender.

The Free Presbytery of Lorn and Mull, have ordained the Rev. Daniel McAllister, probationer, to the charge rendered vacant by the death of the late Rev. Mr. McLean, Glenorchy.

The Synod of Argyll have affirmed the deliverance of the Presbytery of Inverary, declining, after trials, to proceed with the induction of Mr. Tant, the prosector to the charge of Cumloiden.

The members of Lord Walter Campbell's (Furnace) corps competed recently for a silver cup presented by his lordship. The trophy was carried off by John Campbell.

Mr. John Campbell, Chamberlain to His Grace the Duke of Argyll, died at Ardonaig on the 31st August. For nearly 80 years he managed with rare tact and ability, and much discretion, the extensive possessions of His Grace in Mull, giving entire satisfaction alike to his noble constituent and the many tenants on the estate.

AYRSHIRE.

The prospects of hand-loom weavers in Maybole are gloomy, and for some weeks past the supply of webs has considerably fallen off, and the consequence is that a good many hands are idle.

Capt. Miller, of the 2nd Ayrshire Rifle Volunteers (Irvine), has passed the examination for officers of the Reserve Forces at Wellington Barracks, London, and is thus entitled to P. S. in the Army List.

Mansie Brown, a fireman on a locomotive, has died from the effects of injuries received at Glengarrow Iron Works. In jumping off the engine he fell, and the wheels ran over both his legs, causing hemorrhage.

Catharine Church and parish having lately become vacant by the removal of the Rev. Mr. Muir, to Polmont, it has been unanimously resolved by the trustees and managers to make the presentation to the Rev. Thos. Philip, M.A., at present assistant to Dr. Alexander, East Church, Stirling.

On the evening of the 29th ult., the Rev. David Graham, who for the last year and a half has laboured as missionary in connection with the Dalmeilington Ironworks, was entertained to supper by a number of friends, on the occasion of his leaving for Hamilton, where he has been appointed assistant in the Established Church, collegiate charge. In the course of the evening Mr. Graham was presented with a handsome gold watch and appendages.

BUTESHIRE.

The Rothsay Town Council have agreed to present a birthday address to the Marquis of Bute on the occasion of his arrival at Mount Stuart, his Lordship's birthday occurring in the week in which he is expected home.

G. R. Stephenson, Esq., of Glen Caladh, has presented Captain McGaw, of the steamer Jona, with a massive gold watch, chain, and other appendages, as a mark of his esteem, and in recognition of the kindness shown by Captain McGaw to many visitors to Glen Caladh.

BERWICKSHIRE.

On the 8th ultimo, Alderman Colville Smith expired in his house in church street Berwick, after a day's illness.

The Rev. George Wood, a Burgess of Berwick, has accepted a unanimous call to become pastor of the Independent Church, Alston.

Sunday evening religious services are announced to be conducted in the Corn Exchange by the Cockeray fishermen engaged in the herring fishing from Berwick.

CLACKMANNANSHIRE.

The shipbuilding plant of Mr. Adamson, Alloa, was sold at auction on Tuesday, and realized good prices.

Mr. John Barr, town missionary, Alloa, has resigned, and will remove to another field of missionary labor.

DUMBARTONSHIRE.

Mr. Steven has been re-elected Provost of Helensburgh, and Mr. Kennedy has been appointed Bailie.

The Rev. Wm. Johnstone, pastor of the U. P. Church, Alexandria, has intimated his intention of resigning his charge.

On the 7th ult., the remains of Drill-Instructor, Joseph Reynolds, whose death occurred suddenly on the Monday previous, were interred at Cardross with military honors.

The accoutres of the Dumbarton Burgh Hall are to be improved by means of drapery to be hung in the back part of the building. For defraying the necessary expenses the Mechanics' Institute have contributed £25.

DUMFRIESSHIRE.

The census of visitors to Moffat, for the present year has been taken by Mr. Edward

Sanders, and the result was the total of the visiting population at the unprecedented figure of 1636.

On the 7th ult., a mill worker, named Sarah McDonald or Maxwell, residing in Dumfries, left her home, and has not since been heard of. She is supposed to have drowned herself in the Nith.

The Rev. George Mills, A.M., preached in Kirkpatrick Fleming Parish church on the 1st ult., when a collection was made for the Religious tract and Book Society for the employment of colporteurs in Scotland.

EDINBURGH.

The Scottish Guardian gives it as its opinion that the Cathedral plans by Mr. Ross (of Inverness) and Sir Gilbert Scott can alone contend for the favorable decision of the trustees.

Compared with the other large towns of the United Kingdom, Edinburgh, according to the Registrar-General's statistics, continues very healthy, its rates of mortality during last month being only 20 per 1,000.

Considerable excitement prevailed in the corn trade on the 11th inst., and in the Edinburgh market an advance was recorded in all descriptions of grain, especially wheat the rise in which varied from 4s. 10s. per quarter.

It will gratify all our readers to hear that Dr. Candlish has much improved in health since he repaired to the Isle of Wight. It will no doubt be some time yet before he is so strong as we would all wish to see him. —Daily Review.

FIFESHIRE.

On the 8th ult., a laborer named Peter McCarty, was drowned in Kirkealdy harbour.

The dead body of a man washed ashore at Wemyss has been identified as that of John Brown, a native of East Wemyss.

Not a single claim or objection to the statutory lists, published by Mr. Patrick, the county assessor, has been objected to.

A new coal seam, of considerable thickness and of excellent quality, has been discovered on the estate of Falkland, near the north base of the East Lothian Hill.

Mr. Andrew Bennett, clothier, St. Andrews, died suddenly on the 9th ult. Mr. Bennett was 60 years of age, and was an elder of the Free Church since the Disruption.

The Rev. Charles Morrison, M.A., St. Andrews (late chaplain to the 79th Highland Regiment), has received a call from the members of the parish church, Laurencekirk, to become pastor of that church.

FORFARSHIRE.

Alexander Crammond, a laborer belonging to Dundee, has died from injuries received at the Camperdown Lincen Works, Lochee.

The Rev. Dr. Marshall, of the U. P. Church, Coupar Angus, has intimated that he should like to take steps to appoint, without delay, a helper and successor to him in the ministry. A testimonial fund, partaking almost of a national character, is at present being raised for the Rev. Doctor in appreciation of his abilities, efforts on behalf of his church, and many other good qualities.

Mr. Knight recently met with a committee of the Dundee Presbytery for the purpose of making explanations at the request of the Presbytery. No agreement has been come to, and the case will once more appear before the Presbytery. A feeling exists among some of the members of Presbytery that Mr. Knight should be proceeded against by libel; and that it should contain three counts, based on the following facts:—1st, His preaching for Mr. Martineau, and his statement before the Presbytery in defence of that act; 2nd, the sermon which he preached for Mr. Martineau; and 3rd, the paper which he wrote in the Contemporary Review on the "Ethics of Creed Subscription."

GLASGOW.

The Rev. Dr. Runciman, minister of St. Andrew's Parish Church, lies dangerously ill at Ellis, Fife.

On the 8th inst., a new Free Church at Sighthill, which contains 1,000 sittings, was opened for public worship.

James Muir, a wood turner, residing in William street Mile End, was killed by a tramway car on the 7th inst.

It has been resolved for the present to abandon the tramway line which was originally intended to lay in Buchanan street.

James Thomson, an ostler, residing at Little Dove Hill, has committed suicide by swallowing a large quantity of laudanum.

Samuel John Horton, self-accused of the murder in Stockwell street, in 1880, has been remitted from the Central Police Court, Glasgow, to the Sheriff, on that charge.

The North Dundas Street U. P. Church was reopened on the 5th ult., after having been closed for two months to admit of repainting and extensive alterations being made.

The two vacant Chairmen in the Andersonian University—that of Medical Jurisprudence and that of Natural Philosophy—are expected to be filled up in the course of this month. For the former, there are seven candidates; and for the latter, no fewer than eleven.

LANARKSHIRE.

Mr. James Reid, relieving agent in the Caledonian Railway Company, has been appointed station-master at Motherwell in room of the late Mr. Ker.

A railway brakeman named John Eagleson, 18 years of age, was accidentally killed on the 6th ult., on a railway siding near the Clyde Iron Works, Carmyle.

The foundation-stones of a new church in connection with the Church of Scotland in

course of erection in the village of Uddingston, was laid on the 5th ult., by the Hon Lady Douglas.

On Sunday, the 8th inst., a "martyr service" was conducted by the Rev. James Dick, M.A., of Wishaw, at the Martyrs' Monument at Darneid, parish of Cambusnethan. The object of the meeting was to defray the expenses of repairs that have just been made on the monument. The collection, it is understood, will fully meet the expenses.

LINLITHGOWSHIRE.

A large hall, to be used as a reading room, with billiard-room, &c., attached, is about to be erected in Broxburn, on the property of the Earl of Buchan.

MORAYSHIRE.

Queen Victoria received two addresses at Elgin, on the 7th ult., one from the inhabitants presented by Provost Cameron, and one from the Presbytery of Elgin, presented by the Rev. Dr. Brander.

William Gregor, Esquire, of Haugh, died at his residence at The Haugh, near Elgin, on the 8th ult. He was one of the firm of Gregor & Young, solicitors, Elgin, for upwards of 40 years. He was also long Procurator Fiscal for the county, which office he held jointly with his nephew, Mr. George Allan, till his death, and was assessor of taxes for the counties of Elgin, Banff, and Nairn, till he resigned in 1868.

PERTHSHIRE.

Mr. Parker, M.P., for the county, will address his respective constituencies in the course of next month.

Charles Robertson, one of the oldest residents of Auchterarder, died the other day at the advanced age of 93.

Hall & Co., manufacturers, Auchterarder, are about to erect new power-loom mills for the manufacture of woolen shirtings.

Her Grace the Duchess of Athole has recently sent to the Blair Athole Library a handsome donation of twenty-three volumes of an interesting and instructive character. A vent has taken place in the tower of the Perth Free West Church, four courses of stones in the north buttresses having been splintered. Lightning is supposed to be the cause of it.

Michael Develine, a drover from Damhead, while returning from Perth market, attempted to enter a carrier's cart when he fell, and was trod upon by the animals.—Death was instantaneous.

Mr. John Cameron, one of the sons of Mr. Cameron, of the Parish School of Killin, has just been appointed assistant to Prof. Laycock, of the Practice of Physio class, University of Edinburgh.

Mr. Kinnaird, M.P., has had an interview with Prince Bismarck, and presented him with an address on behalf of certain noble lords, members of Parliament, Bishops, &c., thanking him for expelling the Jesuits, and encouraging him to proceed still further with his anti-Ultramontaine policy.

ROXBURGHSHIRE.

The introduction of the Rev. Alex. M. Craig to the pastorate of Sprexton Free Church took place on the 1st ult.

It has been unanimously agreed to erect an obelisk of rough-hewn freestone on a prominent hill in the outskirts of Hawick, in memory of the late Henry Scott Biddell.

RENFREWSHIRE.

The Rev. James Douglas, pastor of Linwood Established Church, is about to receive a new manse at a cost of £1000.

Mrs. David Sinclair, Bank House, Greenock, has given £100 in aid of the funds of the Industrial Home for Friendless Girls.

The resignation of Mr. Donald Fraser, police treasurer and collector to the burgh of Govan, has been accepted, and Mr. John Rankie appointed in his place.

On the 4th ult., the Rev. Hugh Aird, minister of the parish, expired suddenly in his own manse at Neilston. For some years past, the rev. gentleman had been afflicted with heart disease.

On the 8rd ult., a young man named William Weddell, joiner, residing at Ferguslie, Paisley, was working at the new municipal buildings, at Rentrow, and while engaged on the roof, fell through the rafters from a height of about thirty feet, and was killed instantaneously.

On the 11th ult., the new screw "Polynesian" went to the Gareloch for the purpose of getting her compasses adjusted before sailing for Liverpool, where she will load for Montreal. The "Polynesian" is a vessel of 4277 tons, and is fitted up with engines of 650 horse-power. She was built by Robert Steel & Co., Greenock, for J. & A. Allan, Glasgow, and is intended for their ocean line of mail steamers between Liverpool and Montreal.

STIRLINGSHIRE.

On the 9th inst., Samuel Kerr, gatekeeper at the Craigs crossing, on the Caledonian Railway at Stirling, was knocked down and instantaneously killed by an express train.

Recently, a girl two years of age, daughter of Mr. John Mitchell, bootmaker, Port street, Stirling, while crossing the street, stumbled in front of a lorry, the wheel of which passed over her head, killing her instantaneously.

SELKIRKSHIRE.

The house in Market place, Selkirk, which belonged to the late Miss Atelison, has been bought by the Misses Thomson for £515.

WIGTONSHIRE.

The prevalence of foot-and-mouth disease in Whithorn has induced the Town Council to enforce the regulations of the Privy Council against the contagious diseases of Animals.

Mr. Archibald Fowler, Castle Kennedy, reports that in the county of Wigton apples are an average crop; pears below average; plums deficient; strawberries abundant; cherries, average crop; peaches and nectarines below average; figs, average crop; small fruits abundant.

The estate of Cullach in Newton Stewart, containing about 300 acres, has been purchased from the Rev. Dr. Macdonald Kerr, by James Baggart, for Sir William Dunlop, Bart., of Machan.

DEAN STANLEY AND THE BARTHOLOMEW MASSACRE.

In reply to a criticism of the London Times on his sermon on the Bartholomew massacre, Dean Stanley has sent the following reply:—

I would not have ventured to trouble you with any remarks on your courteous article in reference to my sermon at St. Andrew's had it not involved an interesting historical question, on which I should be glad to say a few words.

In stating that "the medals which were struck in honor of the massacre of St. Bartholomew, and the picture which still hangs on the walls of the Vatican denigrating its horrors as among the glories of the Papacy, are now disowned with shame and remorse by the Papacy itself," I was referring to the fact that the inscription which originally identified the subject of Vasari's painting has for many years past been carefully effaced or removed; that in a well-known dictionary compiled at Rome by the special favourite of the late Pope Gregory XVI. (Moroni), the existence of the medals has been denied; and that in the lectures published by so eminent an authority as the late Professor Mehlner, it is stated that the Catholics took no part in the massacre, and that the Pope made his thanksgiving only because the King's life was saved.

The fact that the title of the picture has been removed, not openly, but silently, and that the statement of Moroni and Mehlner are absolutely false, only proves more clearly the secret "shame and remorse" felt in regard to the crime which is thus intended to be covered. To use words ascribed to a member of the Roman Church, not less distinguished for his learning than for his anti-Papal attitude, from whom I have derived these two citations, and to whom I refer any of his fellow Churchmen who doubt the complicity of the See of Rome in the guilt of the massacre:—

"That which had been defiantly acknowledged and defended required to be ingeniously explained away. The same motive which had prompted the murder now prompted the lie. Men feared to say that the most monstrous of crimes had been solemnly approved at Rome, lest they should devote the Papacy to the execration of mankind." —North British Review, October, 1869, p. 70.

I admit, however, that, in order to make the statement completely exact, I should have added that, while indirectly and privately the massacre had been disowned by the Papacy and its adherents, it has never been disowned by the Papacy, speaking ex cathedra, and with the same official authority as that which sanctioned it at the time of the event. It might also be mentioned that almost at the moment of the thirtieth anniversary, the massacre was actually defended in the organ of the chief champion of the Holy See, M. Veuillot. Until that defence is condemned, and until the bull of Gregory XIII., approving the massacre, is solemnly withdrawn and denounced in a bull of equal authority by Pius IX. or his successor, the Roman Church will no doubt be justly open to criticisms like those of your correspondent of Friday.

I have thought it worth while to bring out this double aspect of the case, not only from a desire to state so curious and important a matter correctly, but also because it will illustrate the peculiar position of the Churches in our time.

The Papal sanction of the massacre of St. Bartholomew, as well as the massacre itself, belong to a state of things which has passed away. As I observed at St. Andrew's, the massacre, on a portentous scale, represented the same tendency which in England showed itself in the persecutions of Nonconformists, and at Geneva in the burning of Servetus; and the sanction of it was but a tremendous exemplification of the same principles as those which are embodied in Jewell's Apology, in the Canons of the Convocation of 1640, in the Solemn League and Covenant, and the damnable clauses of the Athanasian Creed. The Church of Rome on this, as on many other subjects, so far from having maintained an unchanged attitude, has been subject to the fortunate vacillations and happy inconsistencies which affect every ancient institution in the onward progress of religion and civilization. As on astronomy, on allegiance to sovereigns, on witchcraft, on usury, on the monastic system, on the discipline of the clergy, on the reading and interpretation of the Scriptures, on the toleration of classical arts and literature, and on the Index, so on the subject of persecution for religious opinions; its practice has varied, and its more enlightened members have attained to juster views, according to the influences of the time. But I venture to think that while we should thankfully acknowledge these approximations towards the true spirit of Christianity, we should also observe that the chief and immense superiority of the Protestant over the Roman Church (and it is in no boasting temper that we say it consists in this—that whereas in the Protestant Churches the aim of the leaders and guides has been, as a general rule, openly to condemn the false principles and criminal acts which their spiritual ancestors encouraged, and to endeavour, if possible, to remove every semblance of approval of such which might be derived from their laws, it has been the misery and weakness of the Roman Church to pretend to an immutability which, happily for mankind, it does not possess; and, by the absurd fiction of an infallible head or of infallible assemblies, to make itself responsible for follies and crimes for which, however disavowed by its best and wisest members, its most violent partisans may thus always claim the sanction of the highest authority.

And I would express the hope that in proportion as we recognise the grounds of this

superiority we shall be enabled to act more worthily of it ourselves, and to take a calm and dispassionate view of those who in a less favoured Church are struggling against difficulties from which we have been mercifully delivered.

Sir George Bowyer also writes to the Times on the same subject:—

In the Times of to-day you say: "We certainly should be surprised to find any Roman Catholic, except one liberal to laxity, ready to admit also, that the act (the Massacre of St. Bartholomew) was a crime, or even a mistake. No one can accuse me of being a Roman Catholic liberal to laxity, but I do most distinctly assert that the act in question was both a crime and a mistake, and I could name many, both clergy and laity, who hold the same opinion. Nothing can be pleaded in extenuation of the guilt of that crime except that past events should be judged by the principles and opinions of the times when they happened, and not by those of our own time. Allow me only to add, that assuming though this has been denied and controverted that the Pope of that day sanctioned the massacre, the doctrine of infallibility is not involved nor brought into question; for by the decree of the late Council, the Pope is infallible only when teaching dogmatically ex cathedra, and deciding questions of faith and morals.

The Times, commenting on these letters, says:—

The Dean of Westminster's letter explains very fairly what seemed ambiguous in the report of his sermon, but we doubt if a sincere Roman Catholic would alter himself under such an apology for his Church. We will frankly admit that we have no reason for regarding Sir George Bowyer as "liberal to laxity," but inconsistent as it may be with his unshaken belief in his own orthodoxy, we should still be surprised to find him accepting the Massacre of St. Bartholomew as a righteous and judicious measure. So far as he is concerned, we beg leave to adopt the very common remark, that it is impossible for a true English gentleman to be at the same time a true Roman Catholic. Moreover, as the word "gentleman" savours of social caste, we beg leave to add an opinion that no true Englishman could be at the same time a true Roman Catholic. Accordingly, when we speak of thorough Roman Catholics, we understand by the term persons who have cast off much of their nationality. French Catholics of the national—that is, of the "Gallican"—school are more plainly distinguishable from their more thorough-going countrymen, if only because the distinction has been recognised for at least two centuries. That it does exist at this day to a serious extent, and is pregnant with momentous issues, is admitted and proclaimed on all sides. Before the late Vatican Council a leading Prelate of the Roman Catholic Church in this island thought it incumbent on himself to denounce the "Gallican party," calling it even more vicious, schismatical, and dangerous than the Protestant Church of England. We may therefore be allowed to speak and write on the very intelligible supposition that there are Roman Catholics and Roman Catholics; and it is on the true sort that we charge a readiness to defend, and even accept, the Massacre of St. Bartholomew. We congratulate Sir George Bowyer on being able to number among his acquaintances a good many clergy and laity who agree with him in the opinion that the massacre was a crime and a mistake. When, however, he intimates, without express disavowal, that it may perhaps be pleaded, in extenuation of its guilt, that past events should be judged by the principles and opinions of the times when they happened, and not by those of our own time, we cannot help being reminded of the fiction of "extenuation circumstances" which sometimes makes a French verdict so marvellous in English eyes. We most emphatically deny that the massacre ever was regarded, even for a day, as a piece of current morality by the public opinion of the civilised world.

THE JOURNEY OF LIFE.

Ten thousand beings set forth together on their journey. After ten years, one-third, at least, have disappeared. At the middle point of the common measure of life, but half are still on the road. Faster and faster, as the ranks grow thinner, they that remain till now become weary, and lie down, and rise no more. At threescore and ten a band of some four hundred yet struggle on. At ninety these have been reduced to a handful of thirty trembling patriarchs. Year after year they fall in diminishing numbers. One lingers, perhaps a lonely marvel, till the century is over. We look again, and the work of death is finished.

DAILY PRAYER.

An aged minister once gave some advice to a young Christian. It was this: "Never neglect, never forget secret daily prayer. It is here that the Christian always loses ground. Neglect this, and you cannot fail to grow cold and indifferent. Never let a day pass over your head without earnest prayer."

The good old man is dead, but the words he uttered may serve as a warning to more than one, especially to the young. Never neglect secret prayer. Are you busy? Do you excuse yourself because you are so hurried every day? Remember who gives you time. Are you well and strong? Thank God for health. Are you sick? Surely your heart must frame petitions to him who holds life and death in his hand. Are you exposed to temptations? There is no safeguard like prayer. Have you neglected this duty? Take up again the broken threads. Have you ever begun? "Life is short, and time is fleeting." Do not neglect secret prayer.—Methodist Magazine.

All over the Punjab plain, the natives have only one thought regarding the present season, "God is sending us a plentiful rain." Places are being sown this year that have not been sown for three years.

The blossom cannot tell what becomes its odor, and no man can tell what becomes of his influence and example, that run from him and go beyond his own control.