

The Church Abroad.

SCOTLAND. A MEETING of the West congregation, Inverness, was held recently to express dissatisfaction with the conduct of their pastor, Rev. Gavin Lang, who, since his return from Australia, has been ministering at various fishing stations instead of to his own flock. It was said that Mr. Lang's interest in his congregation has been on the wane since his disappointment in not having been elected to the High church, the first charge in the Inverness parish. At a meeting of Presbytery the congregation presented their case, but it was not pressed as amicable relations were, in the meantime, established between Mr. Lang and his people.

DEER Presbytery have appointed Rev. Alexander Lawson, B.D., junior minister of Elgin, to the parish of Old Deer.

THE annual report of the Laymen's League has been issued. Its tone is hopeful, but of practical results achieved during the year, few are noted.

THE Sustentation Fund of the Free Church for the two months ending 10th ult., shows a decrease of £156 in comparison with the same period of last year.

A DECREASE of £70 is reported in Edinburgh Presbytery's (F.C.) contributions to the General Foreign Mission fund during the first quarter of the financial year.

IN addition to the legacy of £500 to the poor of the North church, Perth, the late Prof. Sandeman left £500 to the Home and Foreign Missions of the U. P. Church.

THE yacht of Rev. Wm. McCulloch, assistant in St. Mark's church, Dundee, has been found submerged in the Tay, and it is believed that he and two sons of Mr. Thomson, goods manager of the Highland Railway at Inverness, who accompanied him for a cruise round the Fife coast, have been drowned.

STIRLING U. P. Presbytery has permitted Rev. Walter Scott to record his reason of dissent from their decision in the Callander case. He approves of the conduct of the Dumblane Free Presbytery, and charges the committee of his own Presbytery with having disobeyed instructions.

THE John Ker Memorial church, Merchiston, Edinburgh, is to be opened about the beginning of November by Rev. Dr. Andrew Thomson. The services on the first Sabbath of November are to be conducted by Dr. Monro Gibson and Dr. Alexander Mair, and on the following Sabbath Dr. George Matheson, Prof. Hislop, and Rev. Lewis Davidson are to officiate.

THE Glasgow Presbytery has approved of the plans of the proposed new church at Titwood. It was stated that the new church would have accommodation for over 1,000 persons, the hall attached being capable of holding 250. The estimated expenditure on the buildings was £8,500, of which £2,000 still remained to be subscribed. It was proposed to raise this money by loans from members of the congregation.

ENGLAND. REV. DR. JOHNSTONE, Moderator of the Presbyterian Church, contributed a paper on "Cremation and Earth-to-earth Burial" at the July meeting of the Church of England Burial and Funeral Reform Association, held at the Church house, Westminster. Funeral reform, he said, meant pains and labour, but it was worth both. Let the burying-place be in very deed what their Saxon forefathers called it, God's Acre, free as becometh God's acre to be, from all unnecessary defilement. Burial, without its attendant evils, would then be to us what it was to the early Christians, the mode of disposing of the body, which most fitly expresses its sacredness, as a thing redeemed by Christ, and which most firmly points the finger of hope to the day when the Redeemer shall come from heaven in the glory of His father and "shall fashion anew the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the image of His glory."

THE deaths have recently been announced of Mr. John Thorburn, the senior elder of

Trinity church, Newcastle (father of the Rev. J. B. Thorburn, of Widdington), and of Mr. W. J. Creighton, an esteemed elder of the congregation at Wandswoth.

NEW schoolrooms are being built in connection with the church at Brockley (Rev. Hugh McIntosh's). The outlay is estimated at £1,000.

THE Presbyterian congregation, Seacombe, Cheshire, has given a unanimous call to Mr. John Grassick, probationer of the United Presbyterian Church, Edinburgh.

NO "Pastoral Letter" is to be issued this year. The example of the Free Church is likely to be followed, where the issue of a "Pastoral" is suspended for a few years, and then resumed.

THE church at Ealing (Rev. Dr. Thain Davidson's) which is at present in the hands of the builders, undergoing enlargement, is expected to be re-opened on Sunday, October 1st. Meanwhile Dr. Davidson is taking his holiday at Oban, and the congregation is worshipping in the Victoria Hall.

THE Welsh Liberal members WALES. have addressed a letter to Mr. Gladstone, requesting him to introduce early next session not a suspensory, but a disestablishment, bill.

THE chapel at Denbigh is to be renovated and a new schoolroom and vestries added at a cost of £3,000.

REV. T. JONES DAVIES, minister of Horeb Chapel, Pentyre, has declined the call to the pastorate of Nazareth Church, Troedryhiw, near Merthyr.

THE Leigh Welsh Presbyterians have laid the memorial-stones of a new chapel, which is being erected in Railway-road, Leigh, in close proximity to the Technical School and Free Library, now in course of erection.

REV. DAVID WILLIAMS, who has held the pastorate of the Cross Hall street Calvinistic Methodist Chapel, Liverpool, for fifteen years, has intimated his intention of closing his ministry there in October.

REV. JOHN WILLIAMS, Bangor, has arrived home from America, where he preached at the Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Associations. He has accepted the pastorate of the C.M. church at Dinorwic, Llanberis.

THE Presbytery of Belfast are IRELAND. discussing whether ordinations of elders should take place on Sunday or week days. An increase in the Sustentation Fund for the last quarter of £112 was reported to the Presbytery.

THE death is announced of Rev. John Davidson, Drumquin. He was well-nigh fifty years in charge of the congregation and was noted for his sympathy with the poor and distressed. He was a pastor greatly esteemed.

REV. ALLAN M. CAMERON, B.A., a licentiate of Belfast Presbytery, has been ordained to the pastorate of the Second Presbyterian church, Cookstown, succeeding Rev. J. P. Wilson, whose ministry of forty years was markedly successful.

DR. HALL, of New York, will preach in Kilmore on the first Sabbath of September. It is expected that he will have a very large audience, as, besides his former charge, Rutland Square, Dublin, he has not consented to preach anywhere else during his present holidays.

REV. DAVID GORDON, of Downpatrick, died on August 4th. He was a son of the late Dr. Gordon, Saintfield, and brother of Professor Alexander Gordon, Queen's College, Belfast, and of Dr. Wm. Gordon, J.P., Saintfield. He succeeded the venerable Mr. Nelson, as minister of the First Presbyterian congregation, Downpatrick, about twenty years ago.

THE Presbyteries are extensively engaged in the work of congregational visitation. The following account of the visit to Newtownards shows the points brought out by the visitors and may be taken as a specimen:—Rev. Henry Halliday conducted the preliminary devotional exercises, and the Clerk read the minutes of the previous visitation, held about twelve years since. Rev. Mr. Wright announced that Dr. Paton had at-

tended on the previous Sunday and announced the visitation. Messrs. Wm. J. Moore and James Colville had been appointed to represent the session, and Mrs. Jas. Rankin and Alex. H. Moore the committee of the congregation. The Moderator then put the prescribed questions to the representatives and the minister from the Code, and the answers showed the state of religion generally in the congregation to be very satisfactory and encouraging. From the statistical report it may be stated that there are nine ruling elders in the congregation; a little over 500 families; an average attendance of 600 at morning service, and between 350 and 300 at evening service. There 324 communicants on the roll, the Lord's Supper is dispensed three times a year, and the average attendance at Communion 180. There were 17 communicants for the first time and 51 baptisms last year. There were 350 pupils on the rolls of the Sabbath-school, with an average attendance of 260. There were six day schools under the care of one minister. There were 480 stipend payers; £120 with increase was the amount promised the minister; £220 14s. 2d stipend and £100 supplemental stipend was paid him last year; £71 is the minimum for the Sustentation Fund, and £72 4s 6d was sent in last year, contributed by 197 contributors; £707 was the total income from all sources. The Presbytery having retired, on their return announced the finding, which stated that they were gratified with the evidence afforded of the faithful and acceptable labours of the minister, and zealous co-operation of the members of the session, and the continued prosperity of this large and influential congregation.

THE Synod of Wisconsin UNITED STATES. meets in the First church, La Crosse, Rev. William Torrance, D.D., pastor, on October 10.

Good interest prevails in the work of the churches and missions. Rev. Samuel H. Murphy, who has been appointed the financial agent of Gale College, has begun his work, and makes his headquarters in La Crosse. Rev. Dr. William D. Thomas, superintendent of Home Missions, reports increased interest in the western part of the synod.

REV. HOPE F. ROSS, Canada, has accepted the call of Three Rivers church, Mich.

REV. LEE T. FISHER, D.D., of Tennessee, accepts the call of White Pigeon church, Mich. Having two Fishers in succession, may they draw the net full, even to breaking.

CARLISLE PRESBYTERY has received the Rev. Hugh W. Gilchrist from Cincinnati Presbytery. Mr. Gilchrist has accepted a call from the Presbyterian church of Gettysburg, and will be installed on August 10th. Robert Kennedy Memorial church, of this Presbytery, has extended a call to Rev. Wm. J. Sproull.

REV. S. G. CRAWFORD, of AUSTRALIA. Brisbane, Queensland, has accepted a call to the congregation at Charters' Towers. All correspondence relating to Home Mission work in Queensland should be sent to the Rev. G. D. Buchanan, Brisbane.

The Mission Field.

MRS. R. N. GRANT, of Orillia, visited the Presbyterian Women's Foreign Mission Society of Midland on Thursday of last week. The ladies there say she is an excellent speaker and did them all good.

MR. WILLIAM GUNN, medical missionary of the Free Church of Scotland at Futuna, New Hebrides, lost two daughters, aged seven and six, in March by epidemic dysentery.

WHILE the Mildmay Mission to the Jews will receive about £21,000 under the arrangement made at the Russell trial, the Mildmay Deaconess Missions will not benefit at all in the distribution of the estate.

THE meteorological register kept for several years by the late Mr. Mackay in Uganda shows that the rainfall is distributed very generally over the whole year, the sharply defined dry and wet seasons of other tropical countries not obtaining. The