

Ecclesiastical News.

SCOTLAND: The Annual Convention for Deepening of Spiritual Life was held this year in Glasgow. Among the leading speakers were Dr. J. Elder Cumming, Dr. Andrew A. Bonar, and Rev. Mr. Meyer, of London, besides many ministers of the Established Churches of Scotland and England. Urgent appeals came from Inverness, Aberdeen, Dundee and Edinburgh, that a second convention may be held in one or other of these centres annually. A most interesting series of meetings on the Second Coming of Christ, has just been concluded in Edinburgh. The Scottish speakers were Rev. Drs. J. Elder Cumming and Andrew A. Bonar, and Rev. Mr. Riddell, Glasgow. Dr. Pentecost, of London, also took a prominent part. The Prohibitionists of Scotland had a very large, influential and enthusiastic meeting in Glasgow lately. Sir G. O. Trevelyan, Bart., was in the chair, and delivered a very telling oration on the practicability, usefulness and justice of the measure. Mr. Wilfred Lawson, son of Sir Wilfred Lawson, also took part, and, in a remarkable speech, proved himself worthy of his name. Dr. Marshall Lang and Mr. Andrew Carnegie, of New York, added much to the information and interest of the meeting. Rev. Dr. Stoddart, of Madderty, is the oldest officiating minister in the world, having completed his one hundred and second year. Besides conducting his ministerial duties without an assistant, he presides at the School Board. Notice has been given in Aberdeen Presbytery, by the Rev. Dr. Jamieson, Old Machar, of an overture to the General Assembly for the appointment of a committee to prepare a scheme of Scripture Readings, together with a series of prayers available for use in the public worship of the Church.

Prof. Charteris, of Edinburgh, has been ordered a rest of six months. He writes to the Kirkcaldy Conference of the Young Men's Guild, expressing doubts as to whether he will ever be able to attend another conference. In Life and Work, and in all evangelical movements, he has ever taken a leading part. The Annual Conference of the Church of Scotland's Young Men's Guild, held this year at Kirkcaldy, has been a decided success. Its meetings on Spiritual Life, presided over by Dr. J. Elder Cumming, are said to have been very helpful. The addresses delivered at the opening of the hall in St. Andrew's by Principal Cunningham, and in Glasgow by Professor Story, dealt with the creed of the Church and the subscription by its office-bearers. Dr. Story's was almost wholly historical, showing that the first intention of the framers of the Confession was that it should be merely a protest against prevailing error, and a manifesto, rather than an infallible standard of Divine truth. The United Presbyterian Hall in Edinburgh was opened by Principal Cairns

with an address on the argument for Christianity founded on experience. Principal Caird conducted the anniversary service in the church of Rev. Dr. Fergus Ferguson, U.P., Glasgow. The life of the late Principal Tulloch, by Mrs. Oliphant, contains much interesting matter, but in dealing with the ecclesiastical questions of the Principal's day, it is feared the authoress displays a lack of full and satisfactory appreciation. St. Cuthbert's Church, Edinburgh, is to be re-seated and improved at a cost of \$50,000. Mr. Hutcheson, R.S.A., has completed a bust of the late Dr. Norman McLeod for the Queen. . . . Professor Blaikie's Cunningham Lecture on the "Preachers of Scotland, from the Sixth to the Ninth Century," is published, and is being very favourably criticized. The subject is a popular one in Scotland. Rev. John McNeill, of Edinburgh, is to preach in Mr. Spurgeon's Tabernacle on Dec. 9th. He has just received a call to Regent Square Church, London, which he will possibly accept. The Disestablishment Committee have resolved to make Disestablishment a test of fitness for all parliamentary candidates. Rev. W. S. Swanson, son of the distinguished missionary to China, has received a call to the Free Church congregation at Lochmaben. . . . The church founded by the Rev. David MacRae in Gourrock, after his dismissal from the U. P. Church, has expired. The late Crawford Ross, Cadbole, Ross-shire, has bequeathed \$10,000 to the agencies of the U. P. Church. Rev. A. S. Sloan, M.A., B. Sc., is under call to the U. P. congregation in St. Andrew's, Fife. In Paisley, the family of the late Thomas Coats is erecting a church for the Baptist denomination. The style, so far, seems to be the Gothic cathedral. The church, which consists of an auditorium above and a lecture room beneath, will be seated for 800 persons and will cost not less than \$500,000. The Baptist Society in Paisley is very small. The Dowager Duchess of Hamilton, a daughter of that Princess of Baden whom Napoleon Bonaparte adopted as his daughter, died recently in Germany. Her connexion with the Church of Rome, and her unauthorized gifts from the palace to the Romish church at Hamilton, created for her great unpopularity. In Glasgow, there are said to be 80,000 young men between the ages of 15 and 29 who have no Church connection. The Wallace sword has been removed from Dumbarton Castle to the Wallace Monument, near Stirling. We have to record the deaths of Rev. Alex. Cameron, LL.D., Free Church, Brodick, and Rev. James Grierson Scott, Renfrew Street U. P. Church, Glasgow, who has been travelling for some time on account of ill health. Also, the Rev. James Fleming, of Troon, who died in the 96th year of his age and the 70th of his ministry. He was the oldest minister in the Church of Scotland excepting, Dr. Stoddart of Madderty, who has completed his 102nd year, and is still officiating. Besides these, we have to name Rev. Andrew Brown