

## Ecclesiastical News.

**SCOTLAND.**—The celebration of the Jubilee of our beloved Queen is most deservedly taking precedence of all other topics just now. The "Victorian Age" will ever be the most marked period, so far, in the annals of our country and kingdom. As no other period has done, these fifty years have served in a truly marvellous manner to develop the resources, the prosperity and the power of our great empire. The advancement of the arts and sciences, the diffusion of education and intelligence, the great extension of political power among the people, the cheapening of the necessities of life, the expansion of our commerce, of our methods of communication and of travel, and with them the diffusion of wealth, with the unfettering of religious liberty, and the growth of the Christian cause at home and in the foreign field, are among the events which will give a lustre to the age; while the personal character and conduct of our Queen, whether as Empress, as wife, or as mother will render her always the noblest ideal we possess of true womanhood. Long live the Queen. Edinburgh and Glasgow have held large meetings in favour of the Imperial Institute, proposed by the Prince of Wales, with the sanction of the Queen, as a fit mode of commemoration. In it again, she looks forward to the more perfect consolidation of the Empire. It will be a focus towards which all information from the outlying portions of the Empire may converge, and from which much information may be given. There will be (1) museum, illustrating the natural products and manufactures of the United Kingdom, the Colonies and India; (2) a library with books of reference and maps bearing upon the political institutions, the natural history, mineral resources and climates of all parts of the Empire; (3) a reading room and hall for conference and lectures on intercolonial questions; and (4) a bureau of enquiry and information for intending emigrants, and for merchants trading to these parts. Thus our readers will see the intensely practical aspect which this movement has, and the truly patriotic desires of our noble Queen. Turning now to the churches, there can be no doubt, from the published correspondence of the committees of the Free and Established Assemblies, that the further discussion of the great question of Union is for the present blocked. The questions put forward in these documents as of initial importance are—"shall the church be officially recognized by the state, as the Church of the Nation," and "shall she retain the national emoluments?" The term church here means, of course, the United Church, should the negotiations ever culminate in that. These questions bar the way. In Canada, the discussion of the first point was, of very necessity, purely *Academic*.

the second was more easily soluble, for the story was of more recent date. D.

**IRELAND.**—We have more deaths to record this month, the older men fast dropping out of sight. It is just 49 years now since the Rev. John Meneely, D.D., was ordained over a new charge in Ballymacarrett, a suburb across the river from Belfast. When a young man, he had gone to business in a small town in the south of Ulster. While there, Dr. Cooke preached in the town, and the young man resolved to study for the ministry. He became one of Dr. Cooke's most confidential friends. While there was no particular brilliancy in him, he was devoted to his work, and very great success attended him. He not only built up a strong congregation, well equipped in every way, but he lived to see three or four other strong charges formed in that growing suburb on the Co. Down side. Belmont, Mountpottinger, Dundela, and Westbourne are all on that side of the river, and all have been formed since 1860. Dr. Meneely was known as a sound theologian and so was considered to be a suitable man to be at the head of the Theological Committee for many years. Some ten years ago, he was moderator of the General Assembly. The Rev. Robert S. Erwin of Cargyreevy in the Presbytery of Dromore, was not so old a man, but he was venerable in years, having been ordained in 1845. His first charge was Moira, from which he removed after two years to Cargyreevy, a new charge where he ministered for nearly forty years. He was a faithful pastor, much respected, and his memory will long be revered in that part of the country. Mr. Jackson has been installed in Duncairn as successor of Dr. T. Y. Killen. One of Mr. Jackson's predecessors in Larne was the Rev. John McMurray who was minister of Brockville for a number of years. The same people do not love long vacancies, already they have called and their call is accepted. The object of their choice is the Rev. James McGranahan of Magherafelt. He is a young man having been ordained less than a year and a half ago. C. E. Lewis Esq., was elected for North Antrim, by a large majority. He had two opponents, a Mr. Travill a local magnate, and a Mr. McElroy, whom we remember to be the editor of a weekly paper in Ballymoney. The last named is a Presbyterian and a follower of Mr. Gladstone. Mr. Lewis is an elder of the English Presbyterian Church. Quite a number of names have been put forward for the moderatorship of next assembly. The choice, probably, will be between the Rev. John H. Orr, of Antrim, the Assembly Clerk, and Rev. Dr. Crawford of Berry Street, Belfast, with the odds possibly in favour of the former. H.

**THE UNITED KINGDOM.**—A biography of the late Rev. Dr. W. Fleming Stevenson is in course of preparation. The work has been undertaken by the very competent hands of