

THE CHURCH ABROAD.

The new church at Keiss was opened on the 16th ult. by Rev. Dr. Stalker. It is in the Gothic style, and seats 450.

The Women's Liberal Federation has adopted a resolution in favor of rendering it illegal to supply intoxicants to children under 16. The seconder was Miss Gladstone.

Dr. Forbes Winslow says opinions differ as to the real bearing which drink has directly on insanity, but he considers that it is generally the effect and not the cause of the disease.

The late Mr. Alex. Mathers, some time secretary of the Clydesdale Bank, Glasgow, has left £3,000 to the schemes of the church in addition to £1,500 to the three infirmaries of the city.

Rev. Robert Primrose, late of East church, Patrick, has been inducted at Burnbank, Glasgow, as successor to Rev. David Pirret, minister emeritus, who has been nearly forty years in the ministry.

A series of services has been held in celebration of the jubilee of St James's church, Glasgow, of which Rev. F. H. Georgeson is minister. A letter was read from Principal Brown of Aberdeen, who was the first minister.

The union of the two churches at Duns has now been consummated, and candidates for the pastorate are being heard. The joint membership is 528, and the South church and manse are to be retained, while the West church and manse will be sold.

Rev. Peter Macdonald, M.A., of St. Columba's, Edinburgh who is called to Stornoway, has informed his presbytery that he is quite happy in his present sphere, but in view of the phenomenal number of signatures to the call does not feel justified in stopping proceedings.

The note presented to Turkey by Britain, France, and Russia, with regard to Armenia, contains an elaborate scheme of reform, but as there appears to be no provision for the High Commissionership being confined to European Christians fears are entertained of the futility of the action of the powers.

In a special article in the *Scotsman* on the Liberal Unionists of the United Presbyterian church, reference is made to the conferences on re-union, and it is said that it is in the air that something like an equal division of the funds exclusively enjoyed by the Established Church should be made amongst all the churches.

Two friends of the late Rev. Alexander Gardner of Brechin have offered £7,000 towards the erection of a church to receive the endowment left by him, the donors, however, stipulating that the trustees are to have a free hand in the erection and constitution of the new church, and to appoint the first minister. The presbytery promises cordial co-operation.

It is believed in well-informed circles in South Africa that British Bechuanaland will soon be annexed to Cape Colony. Khama, the chief appears to have been uplifted by the attention paid to him during his recent visit to Capetown, and his brothers are appealing to the Government for intervention. He is accused of carrying his authority as chief into church affairs.

Edinburgh Presbytery has approved of a report of its Home Mission committee recommending the extension to paid agents of congregations of the rule as to probationers that no engagements be for longer than six months at first, and that in no case without the presbytery's sanction, shall they extend beyond three years. The poor result of the numerous mission agencies is deplored, the reasons given being failure of some agents to aim at conversion, and to believe in the possibility of it in the case of the worst classes, spiritual indifference as to the value of the Gospel and the church; and the strongly materialistic spirit of the age.

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