

Extract from Ayr Advertiser dated 18h September 1884

Opening of New Parish Church, Girvan.

This handsome new church was opened for Divine worship on Sabbath last. The Rev. Dr. Porter, Maybole, conducted the opening services, and preached a very able and interesting sermon from 2 Chronicles Chapter 6 verses 10 and 20. In the afternoon the Rev Mr Corson, minister of the parish, preached appropriately from Ezra Chapter 6 verse 14, and concluded as follows; "In the course of Divine providence an opportunity has been graciously afforded us of contribution towards building and beautifying the temple of the Lord wherein we are now met At this advanced stage of my ministry I hardly expected to see a new church here during my incumbency, and, I believe, neither did you; and most certainly I never expected to see one so spacious, so stately and so splendid as this I shall conclude by expressing my heart's desire, and my most earnest prayer, couched in the words of a revered and renowned master in Israel, my venerable teacher of fifty years ago, the great and gifted Chalmers, uttered by him in the close of an eloquent discourse on an occasion similar to the present - "Now that this goodly edifice has been opened, may the vital doctrines of a pure gospel be proclaimed within its hallowed precincts from Sabbath to Sabbath for ages and generations to come! May it be the scene of many sound and scriptural conversions; and never till its minarets have fallen, and its walls have moulded into decay - never in our own day, nor in the days of our children, nor our children's children, may it cease to be a place of busy, successful preparation for heaven's exercise and for heaven's joys!"....

Rev. Mr Griffen, St Mary's Edinburgh, preached in the evening with all his accustomed eloquence and power from Hebrews Chapter 10 verse 25....Mr Griffen concluded thus.. "Let it be to you indeed, the House of God and the Gate of Heaven, and be so penetrated by the spirit of its holy exercises that you shall never leave its sacred precincts without being able to say - ' Surely the Lord is in this place, and I knew it."

...The church was crowded at all the diets, and the collection on behalf of the building fund amounted to fully £100. ..The cost of the building, including the hall will be between £5000 and £6000, of which the congregation pay £1700.

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