

THE NATIONAL COVENANT OF SCOTLAND



TERCENTENARY COMMEMORATION

AT A

CONVENTION

OF THE THREE COVENANTING CHURCHES
OF SCOTLAND, IRELAND AND AMERICA

TO BE HELD AT

GLASGOW AND EDINBURGH

JUNE 26—JULY 1, 1938



Outline Programme of Proceedings

“ Jehoiada made a covenant between the Lord and the king and the people, that they should be the the Lord’s people ; between the king also and the people.” 2 KINGS xi. 17.

“ I will for their sakes remember the covenant of their ancestors.” LEVITICUS xxvi. 45

Tercentenary of the National Covenant of Scotland, 1638

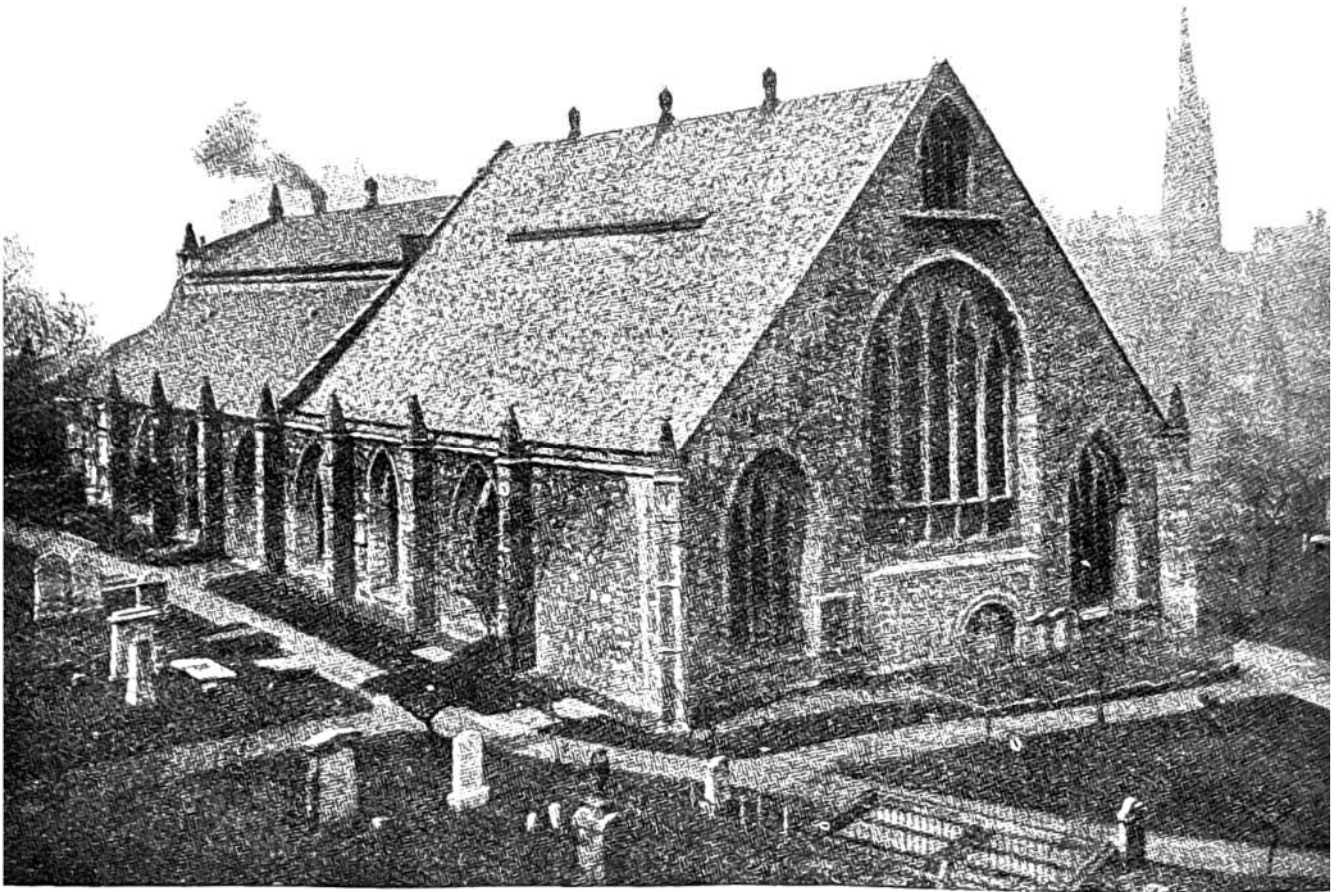


COMMEMORATION CONVENTION OF THREE COVENANTER CHURCHES

AFTER 300 years the “Men of the Covenant” and the “Women of the Covenant,” so far from being forgotten in Scotland, are held in admiration and honour by all Scottish people of the Evangelical faith. Despite all the attempts to bespatter the fame of the Covenanters and their Covenant the great bulk of the Scottish nation loves their memory and guards their good name. Already the interest of Protestant and Presbyterian Scotland is being roused over the approach of the Tercentenary of the National Covenant of 1638.

Memorial Convention in Scotland

This fact is deeply and thankfully appreciated by Scottish Reformed Presbyterians, but at the same time they feel that a sacred obligation rests on them to make a special and distinctive contribution of their own to the celebration of the Covenant Tercentenary. The Reformed Presbyterian Synod of Scotland has accordingly decided, if God will, to celebrate in a solemn and public manner the Tercentenary of the Covenant in 1938, and has secured the co-operation of the other two Reformed Presbyterian Churches—in Ireland and in America. Committees appointed by the three Churches are taking counsel together with a view to the worthy com-



**Greyfriars Church and Churchyard, Edinburgh
(Present Appearance)**

memoration of the magnificent Christian heroism exhibited by their spiritual forefathers, the Scottish Covenanters, in their stand for civil and religious liberty. A Convention of the three sister Churches will be held in Scotland, at which, in a series of meetings of their Delegates, public attention will be called to the story of the National Covenant of 1638, its principles, its effects, and its applications. It is on the Scottish Committee and their brethren in Scotland that the main responsibility rests for the actual preparation and carrying through of this Tercentenary Memorial.

An Inspiring Remembrance

This programme will interest Covenanters everywhere. The occasion will be unique. Every true son and daughter

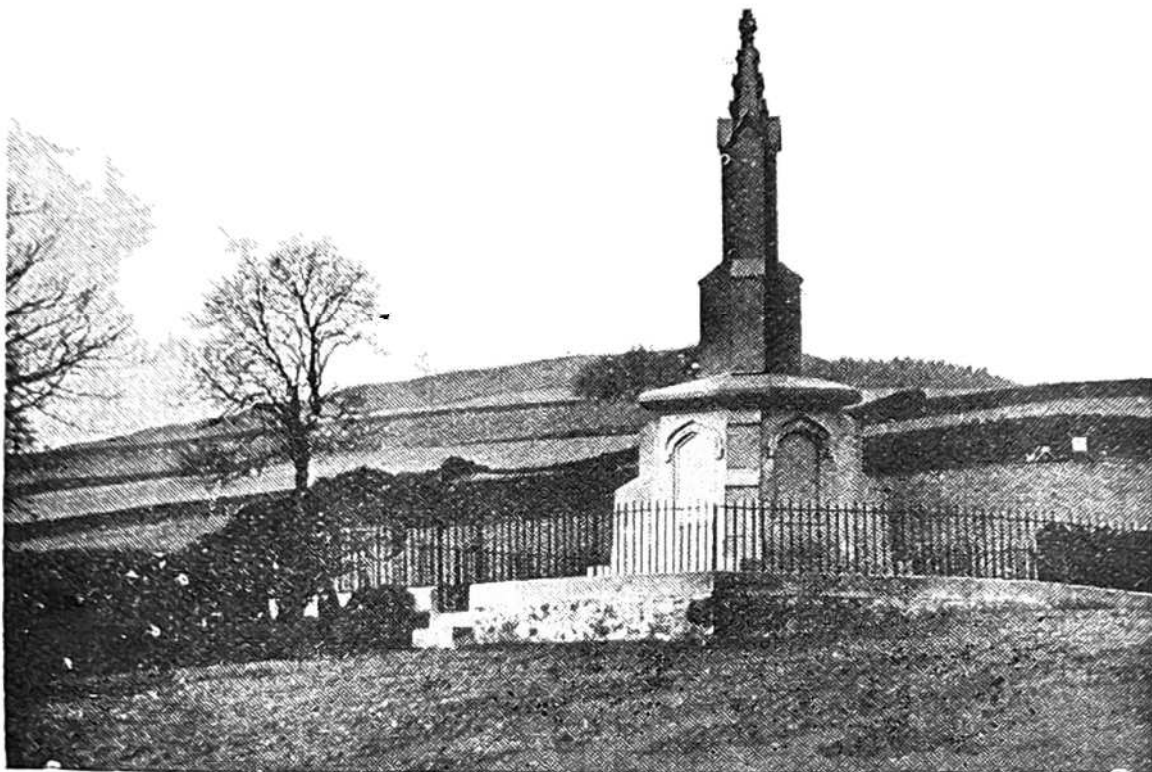
of the Church of the Covenant must desire to see their ecclesiastical ancestors honoured and their historic "Band" analysed afresh by sympathetic minds, its electric influence recounted again, and its sublime Scriptural ideal of national devotion to God brought into view and expounded in its bearings on the vast and vital politico-religious issues of our own time.

The Blessing of Convention Fellowship

This convention of Covenanters from our three Churches, which have held such long and close intimacy in the maintenance of a common testimony for the right of the Lord Jesus Christ to be owned as the Governor of the nations, will link these Churches closer still, and a Joint Manifesto emanating from this Covenant Memorial gathering will imbue all three Churches with a new love for the Covenanters of old and a new zeal in upholding both by word and deed the principles of their forefathers.



Bothwell Bridge To-day



The Renwick Monument, Moniaive

Promise of a Goodly Gathering

An appeal is hereby made to the ministers and peoples of our three sister Churches to help forward this Covenant Tercentenary celebration. All our Irish and American brethren cannot come to Scotland for it, but all can commend the project, pray for its success, and contribute something to the financial cost of carrying it through.

There are many, however, in our Irish Church, and many, too, in our American Church, who will be able to visit Scotland and take part personally in the Tercentenary proceedings. All Covenanters who can come will be regarded as Delegates and will be made welcome to the land of the Covenant. Everything will be done which the funds supplied will permit to make the visit of the Delegates to Scotland a happy and memorable experience.

Promises have already been flowing in, from Ireland especially, and also from the United States, from ministers and members of the R.P. Churches, that they will come to the Convention if the Lord will. The signs point to a large, happy, and an edifying council of representatives of the three organizations, divided indeed by seas, but united in heart by Covenant bonds.

It will be necessary that the number and names of intending Delegates should be known to the Scottish Committee in good time, and they are urged to intimate their intention as soon as possible.

The Date

After careful consideration of possible dates for the Memorial Convention, the object, of course, being to fix upon the time



Grave of Margaret Wilson, Wigtown



The Cameron Monument, Sanquhar

which will suit most people who would wish to attend, the week commencing Sabbath, June 26, has been chosen.

Glasgow Church for Meetings

The Convention sessions in Glasgow will require a large auditorium, and the minister of the Hope Street Free Church, the Rev. John Macleod, O.B.E., who has been approached on the matter, has been kind enough to give the assurance that his church will gladly be lent to the Convention. This church, which was the meeting-place of the Covenanters' Convention of 1896, is a splendid and roomy building in the very centre of the City, with hall and room accommodation, and is every way suitable for the 1938 Convention.

Outline of Proceedings

One or two slight changes have been made in the Programme outline published in December last, and the present arrangements are as follows :

Sabbath.—On Sabbath, June 26, **TERCENTENARY MEMORIAL SERVICES** will be conducted by American, Irish, and Scottish ministers in Reformed Presbyterian churches and at as many Scottish centres as possible which are famed in Covenant story.

Monday.—The following day, Monday, June 27, will be left free for Irish and English Delegates who may not be able to travel to Glasgow earlier.

Tuesday.—On Tuesday, June 28, there will be a **DAY EXCURSION FROM GLASGOW** by first-class Motor Buses to **AIRSMOSS** and/or **DRUMCLOG** *via* **BOTHWELL BRIDGE**. A brief service will be held at one or other of the spots named. Luncheon will be arranged for.

The Excursion being over and an interval for rest allowed, the evening of the Tuesday will be given to a **RECEPTION AND SOCIAL MEETING**, at which the visitors will be welcomed and a time of fellowship enjoyed.

The Excursion and the Reception should together prove a delightful opportunity for mutual introductions, the renewal of old friendships and the initiation of new.

Wednesday.—On Wednesday, June 29, the **CONVENTION** proper will commence business. There will be three sessions—morning, afternoon, and evening—at which addresses will be given, interspersed by fraternal comment open to all Delegates.

Thursday.—On the following day, Thursday, June 30, ADDRESSES AND DISCUSSION will be continued as on the Wednesday, with this important exception that the afternoon of the Thursday will be given to an EXCURSION by 'bus to "The Bonnie, Bonnie Banks o' Loch Lomond."

Friday.—The Friday, July 1, the last day of the Covenant Tercentenary Convention, will perhaps be the most enjoyable of all. The Delegates are to travel that morning FROM GLASGOW TO EDINBURGH by train (44 miles each way) and be taken in buses to see EDINBURGH CASTLE, HOLYROOD PALACE, and such hallowed places as GREY-FRIARS CHURCH, where the National Covenant was signed, and the GRASSMARKET, where many martyrs of the Covenant suffered death.

In Greyfriars Churchyard, the cradle of the National Covenant, and the burial place of Scottish martyrs, a short service will be held in memory of the Men and Women of the Covenant. Arrangements will be made for luncheon in Edinburgh. Then, later in the day, the closing meeting of the Convention will be held in an Edinburgh Church or Hall, at which several addresses will be given. The Delegates will then sing their parting Psalm. They will return to Glasgow by train.

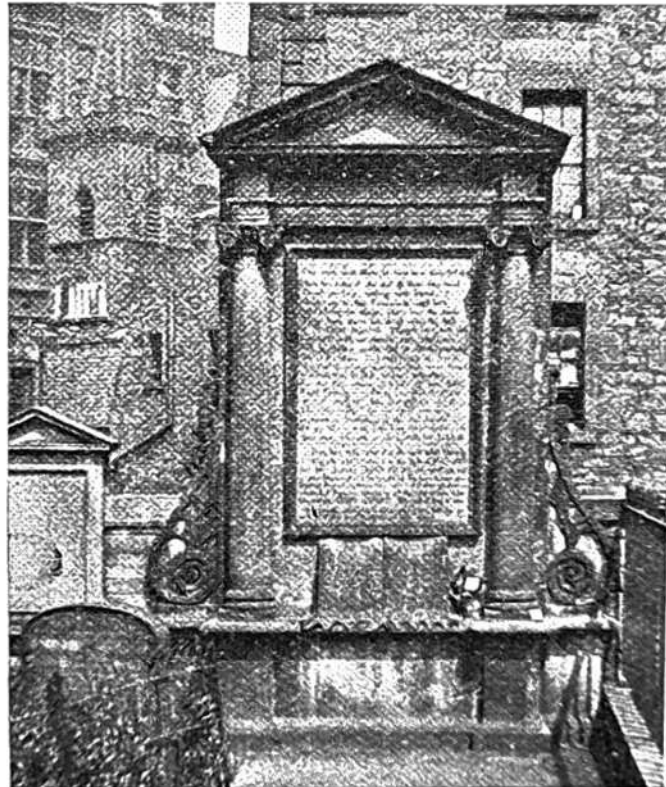
Appeal for Donations

This Covenant Tercentenary Convention cannot be carried through without heavy expenses, and the Scottish Committee confidently and affectionately appeal to Covenanters throughout the three Reformed Presbyterian Churches to send a money gift to help meet the cost of the undertaking. And will the kind donors please remit as soon as possible, using the leaf here provided, and giving name and address in order that a receipt may be sent?

Covenant Memorial Addresses

Here follows the list of addresses promised or expected to be given at the Convention. Drawn up more than a year beforehand, the list is of course subject to alteration, but it is hoped that in the good providence of God all the speakers here named will be forthcoming when the time arrives, and will deal with the supremely important topics assigned to them.

It will be understood that, time being limited, and Delegates being naturally desirous to hear as great a variety of voices from all three Churches as possible, no address must exceed 20 minutes in delivery. This is a condition which must be strictly adhered to. No speaker must trench on the time allotted to the speaker or speakers following him, and opportunity must be afforded to other Delegates to comment on the topics under discussion. In particular, the time-table must allow for Praise and Prayer, which will be interspersed in the Convention Programme throughout.



Martyrs Monument, Greyfriars Churchyard, Edinburgh

Speakers and Topics

(The following may not be the order in which the addresses will be given.)

<i>Names</i>	<i>Subjects</i>
Rev. W. J. Moffett .	“The Historical Background of the (1638) Covenant.”
Rev. J. Boyd Tweed .	“The Bible and Covenanting.”
Rev. W. J. McKnight, D.D.	“The Scriptures the Supreme Authority for Covenanters.”
Rev. Prof. W. Russell .	“The Covenanters’ Conception of Liberty.”
Rev. R. W. Redpath .	“The Influence of the Scottish Covenanters in the History of the U.S.A.”
Rev. D. H. Elliot, D.D.	“The Covenanters’ Contribution to the Ideal of Christian Government.”
Rev. Walter McCarroll, D.D.	“The Covenanters and Church Government.”
Rev. T. M. Slater, D.D.	“The Covenant and Democracy.”
Rev. S. Kennedy .	“No National Religion without Personal and Family Religion.”
Rev. Prof. T. B. McFarlane	“The Psalms in Covenant Days.”

- Rev. C. T. Carson** . . . "The Covenanters and the Church of Rome."
- Rev. R. A. Blair, D.D.** "The Covenanters as Evangelicals"
- Rev. S. E. Greer, D.D.** "Were the Covenanters Rebels ?"
- Rev. Prof. R. J. G. McKnight, Ph.D., D.D.** "American Covenanters and the U.S.A. Constitution."
- Rev. Prof. J. Ramsey** . "Personal Religion Viewed as a Covenant."
- Rev. D. Bruce Martin** "Covenanters and Social Evils."
- Rev. R. B. Lyons** . . . "The Covenanters' Work Unfinished."
- Rev. John McIlmoyle** "Rome Still the Enemy."
- Mr. W. W. Weir and Miss Huston** . . . "Covenanters as Missionaries."
- Rev. J. A. Lyons** . . . "Political Dictatorships *versus* Covenanting Principles."
- Rev. Alex. Gilmour** . "The Main Principles for which the Three R.P. Churches Stand."
- Rev. J. D. Edgar** . . . "The Challenge of the Covenanting Ideal to the Young."
- Rev. W. J. Gilmour** . "The Headship of Christ the Security for World Peace."
- Rev. F. M. Wilson, D.D.** "The Headship of Christ and Foreign Missions."

TRAVEL INFORMATION

From Glasgow to—	Miles	Return Fare 3rd Class
ABBOTSFORD (Melrose Station)	65	12/-
AIRDRIE	12	1/3
AIRSMOSS (Muirkirk Station)	35	4/-
BELFAST (Daylight s.s.)	—	14/9
BOTHWELL	11	11d.
CUMNOCK, OLD	37	4/6
DRUMCLOG (Strathaven Station) ..	25	2/3
EDINBURGH	44	5/9
GREENOCK	22	2/6
LIVERPOOL	220	32/9
LOANHEAD (6 miles from Edinburgh)	—
LOCH LOMOND (Balloch Station) ..	19	1/4
LONDON	425	67/-
PAISLEY	7	6d.
SANQUHAR	56	6/6
SOUTHAMPTON (<i>via</i> London) ..	56/2 single ;	75/- return
STIRLING	26	3/-
STRANRAER	95	16/-
TROSSACHS (Aberfoyle Station) ..	32	4/-

Glasgow Hotels

BED AND BREAKFAST	7/6, 10/6, 12/6
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*All correspondence to be addressed to Rev.
A. C. GREGG, 25 Esplanade, Greenock, Scotland*

SCOTTISH NATIONAL COVENANT

REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN TERCENTENARY CONVENTION FUND

DONATION FORM

To Rev. R. B. LYONS,
Convener, Irish R.P. Tercentenary Committee,
LIMAVADY,
CO. DERRY, N. IRELAND.

I enclose.....
as Donation to above Fund.

Name.....

Address

Date.....



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