

THE REV. MATTHEW JAMES CAMERON DINWOODIE
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WITH the death of Cameron Dinwoodie in April of this year the *Scottish Journal of Theology* has lost one of its oldest and most devoted friends. From the very beginning he threw himself into the enterprise that set it going and gave it his assiduous support. In particular he contributed to every number from its start in 1948 the compilation of its index.

Cameron Dinwoodie was ordained in 1928, in the United Free Church, to be minister of Taraside Maule Memorial Church, which was later united with Lochlee (Church of Scotland) to form Glenesk Parish Church, in Angus. Three years later he was translated to Tillicoultry West, and in 1939 to Rosneath, Dunbartonshire, where he began his active association with the *Scottish Journal of Theology* and with the *British Astronomical Association*. It was during his long ministry at Langholm, Dumfriesshire, from 1956 to his retirement in 1970, that he became well known throughout the Church of Scotland and in scientific circles. Few men have served the steady parish ministry so faithfully and acceptably, and with such careful attention to the teaching and training of young people in the basic convictions of the Christian Faith. At the same time he took an active part in scientific research, putting his great mathematical ability and his training as an astronomer at the disposal of the British Astronomical Association, being one of its most active members since 1941. In 1959 he was put in charge of its computing section, controlling a network of amateur astronomers throughout the United Kingdom, and for fifteen years prepared and edited the *Annual Handbook of the British Astronomical Association*, providing up to date material on advance in astronomical knowledge. Under his editorship this proved to be an extraordinarily valuable work for the use of professional Astronomers year by year. Professor Hermann Brück, until recently Astronomer Royal for Scotland, spoke of him as a distinguished amateur astronomer, while the Royal Astronomical Society bestowed upon him its coveted Fellowship.

Cameron Dinwoodie was one in the long line of Scottish ministers who contributed to the progress of scientific research and found in that a strong support for the inherent reasonableness of the Christian faith, not least of the doctrine of the creation. Far from keeping his natural science and his theology in separate compartments, he held them closely together, each being allowed to influence the other at the deepest level, and was always ready to bring his expert competence in mathematics and computer science to the aid of para-scholarly and para-theological research.

In giving a special place of honour to Cameron Dinwoodie in this number, the *Scottish Journal of Theology* places on record its deep appreciation of his service, always humbly and devotedly rendered. We thank the Lord for such a gift to his Church, and express our gratitude to his wife and family for sharing him with the world of theology and of science in this way.

T. F. T.