

# NEW SUPER-CINEMA FOR EDINBURGH.

## THE "TABERNACLE" TO BE REBUILT.

### TO ACCOMMODATE 3000.

The old Tabernacle in Greenside Place, Leith Walk, which was originally the meeting place of Congregationalists and Baptists, and subsequently was converted to a furniture warehouse about 50 years ago is likely to be demolished and turned into a super-cinema theatre with a seating capacity of over 3000.

The present proprietor, Mr F. A. Lumley, is discussing plans for the new structure at present, and the work of demolition is likely to start next month.

### A FAMOUS OLD CHURCH.

The Tabernacle was opened in May, 1801, and over the church and congregation Mr James A. Haldane acted as voluntary pastor. The building was constructed by Mr Charles Black, father of Lord Provost Black, the eminent publisher, and it had sittings for 3000 persons.

Mr J. A. Haldane and his brother Mr Robert Haldane, who had formerly conducted an Independent Church, became Baptists in 1803 and the Tabernacle became the second Baptist church in Edinburgh. It remained a great centre of religious life until the death of Mr J. A. Haldane in 1851. Many eminent divines preached within its walls. After the death of Mr Haldane an attempt was made to dissolve the church but without success. The congregation was obliged to leave the building and several of the members went off to other churches, but the majority clung together meeting in the Merchants' Hall in Hunter Square.

After the lapse of some time they were allowed to again occupy the Tabernacle, and they met there under the pastorate of the late Rev. William Tulloch till 1864, when they removed to a chapel in Duncan Street, Newington. That church possesses the Communion Cup which was used by Mr Haldane, and the old plate in which the offerings at the door are still received has round its beautifully-wrought rim the words engraved—"The Tabernacle," 16th May, 1801.