Review of a Speech of the Rev. Archdeacon Strachan, of York. 67

Under these circumstances, however reluctant we may be to prosecute a controversy of this nature, agitated between two bodies who ought to be united in sentiments of fraternal kindness and confidence, involving in some instances, or at least touching upon, political questions, and fraught on all hands with most perilous and combustible elements-we contend that the painful necessity is again imposed upon us, in justice to our cause, of bringing fully and thoroughly under review, the proceedings and statements of the Archdeacon, so far, at least, as we conceive them to be unfair and unwarrantable. Having done this, we shall feel it our duty to drop the controversy, nor do we anticipate being obliged to enter again on the same ground, whatever new subjects may unhappily arise to revive these religious hostilities-(pro pudor !) Though much has been written of late, and very ably written, to expose the errors and delinquencies of the Archdeacon of York, yet these writings are so scattered and desultory, that a compendious review of the whole subject of controversy seems to us absolutely necessary in order to give the world a clear and satisfactory knowledge of its merits-and this being done, we feel no hesitation on our part, to submit to the decision of all enlightened and impartial men, how far the conduct of the Archdeacon of York, in his twofold character of Statesman and Churchman, is the subject of praise or censure, and what opinion we are to form of the judgment or the principles of those who-have thought proper to identify themselves with him and his measures. In order that we may obtain a clear and consistent view of the Doctor's statements, it will be requisite, first of all, to enquire into the circumstances and grounds of his conversion to the Faith of the Church of England, and into the spirit and principles which he has gradually imbibed since he entered into that communion, and which seem to have inspired him with an ardent and growing, and certainly not inactive or inefficient zeal for the aggrandisement of his adopted Church. How far again that zeal may have been excited or animated by the degree in which his personal honours and interests, the improvement of his fortune and the advancement of his dignities have been coincident with the aggrandisement of the Church of England, it must be left to the penetration and the candour of our readers to determine. After this development, we shall be qualified to form a correct judgement of the statements and representations which he has recently made, and the momentous results to which they are designed to conduct.

The inquiry into the motives and reasons which influenced the Doctor to embrace the Communion of the Church of England, would have been, if not impertinent, yet altogether uninteresting, had not he and his friends loudly proclaimed that this conversion was brought about by a preference purely the result of deliberate enquiry and serious conviction. It has been represented, and we perceive that they still persist in representing to the world, and more particularly in im-