

ual interests of those who were necessarily drafted up from Scotland for legislative duties, and who were necessarily resident in London for a certain period every year; but the course to be pursued, to have the interests of those attended to, would be to have a Chapel Royal in London connected with Scotland, where the spiritual interests of the class alluded to would be attended to by a resident minister of our own Church. But in regard to the great mass of the Presbyterian body in England, he was of opinion that it would be better for their interest to be the founders of their own foundation, than to endeavour by artificial means to maintain and support themselves. Their interest was not to hang on the Church at home. The Church could not make them an Established Church. In England they must be by law Dissenters. The Church could, however, do for them all that could be desired from the circumstances in which they were placed—they could send deputies to the Synod of the Presbyterian Church in England, and receive deputies in the General Assembly from the Presbyterian Church in England; and this would show to the people of the Presbyterian Church in England a visible symbol of connexion between the two. They could give them nothing more than the visible sign of relationship, and that the Assembly ought to give them. He would submit the following motion, which differed, he was sorry to say, from his Rev. friend:—"That the General Assembly having heard the deputation from the General Synod of the Presbyterian Churches in England, and having considered the overtures anent their relations to this Church, desire to renew their expression of their heartfelt satisfaction at the formation of said Synod, as the supreme judicatory of the Presbyterians of England, adhering to the Westminster Standards and Confession of Faith; and earnestly desire to strengthen their hands, in so far as it is in their power, by establishing an intimate relation between these Presbyteries and this Church. And the General Assembly resolve that, with the concurrence of said Synod, the two Churches shall mutually interchange frequent communications, by means of deputations to and from their respective judicatories; and the General Assembly recommend their communications and transactions with said Presbyteries and Synod in England, such as translating ministers from these Presbyteries to ours in Scotland and the like, to follow the same rules and procedure which they adopt in similar communications and transactions with their several Presbyteries in Scotland. And the General Assembly enjoin their ministers and licentiates in removing to England, whether temporarily or permanently, to enter into communion and intimate correspondence with the ministers and congregations of said Synod in the places where they reside, and to evince by their conduct their sense of the truth and importance of the principles on which both Churches are founded. And the General Assembly farther direct their Presbyteries, in the event of any irregularities or misconduct on the part of their ministers or licentiates, while residing in England, being reported to them by the Presbyteries of said Synod, immediately to inquire into the same, and thereupon proceed in the case according to the rules of the Church. And, lastly, the General Assembly nominate and appoint ——— a deputation to attend the meeting of said Synod at ———, to communicate to the Synod this act, and to assure them of the warm and brotherly affection wherewith they regard the allied Church of which they are the Supreme Court, and their earnest desire to co-operate with them to the utmost of their power in promoting the interest of the Presbyterian Church, to which they are attached alike by present ties and a grateful recollection of former days."

Mr. CLARK (of Inverness) remarked that the number of Scottish Presbyterian churches in England was growing progressively smaller, and that in London alone at one period there were more than there are now in the whole of England. He could therefore see no inconvenience likely to flow from a connexion of the kind suggested. As to giving offence to the Church of England, what he would say on that head was this, that he did not see that there could be any true reason on the part of that Church why she should look with the least jealousy on the Church of Scotland, when we were only looking after our own members who had left their country to reside in the immediate neighborhood of the English Establishment. At the present time our Church is engaged in schemes for the propagation of the Gospel abroad; and if it should so happen that she should be blessed to bring great numbers to embrace the doctrines of the Church of Scotland, would there be anything inconsistent in saying that they should be received as integral parts of this Church? and if this connexion was practicable in the one case, where was the difficulty of rendering it equally so in the other? He cordially concurred in the motion proposed by the Rev. Gentleman.

Dr. Muir said that were he to neglect the present opportunity of bearing his testimony, however feeble that might be, in behalf of those friends in the south, of whom they had this day before them so respectable a deputation, he knew quite well he should be distressed with the recollection that he had allowed himself to remain silent. He did not know, having had very ample experience from the frequent, he should say the unceasing, communications he had had with those excellent individuals to whom he referred—he could say he knew none on earth to whom his heart beat so tenderly, and so strongly, and affectionately as to their friends the Presbyterians on the other side of the Tweed. He knew their faithful, laborious, and most successful struggles. He knew the difficulties they had to encounter, and the heartbreakings they experienced, from causes originating in the peculiar circumstances in which they are placed. He knew the care and fidelity with which they stretched forth their hands in order to gather around them those persons who went from this country, and their success in bringing them into the fold of Christ. He knew also, from his communication with those excellent men, their attention to those going into England; and it was impossible, without a heart overflowing with gratitude at the recollection, to think of the kindness with which they treated one going amongst them, and every one who was placed under their pastoral care. And then, while we had these strong motives for recognising them as friends and brethren, there was the additional inducement to draw closer the *liaison* between them and us, that they might be prevented from being contaminated with the vile and abominable contagion of Socinianism, to which many of them had become exposed; and on which account it did seem most important that we should do something for the purpose of letting them know they are members of the Church of Scotland, and that to them we feel heartily attached. On the other hand he could not forget the important obligations we are under to them. He could assure their friends in the south, and the deputation, and he requested them to convey the assurance to their constituents, that there was not a single member of the Church of Scotland who would not go to the uttermost limit of his power for the purpose of showing them the interest we take in the Presbyterians in England, and giving them the sanction of a connexion with the Church of Scotland. And he must say, with all respect and deference for the honorable and learned gentleman