

view of the work of the Spirit ; and, at the close of a lengthened and bitter controversy, Mr. Kirk, and other three brethren, viz., Mr. Ferguson of Bellshill, Mr. McRoberts, of Cambuslang, and Mr. Mather of Ardrossan, were, with their Churches cut off from the Congregational Union of Scotland. Mr. Kirk is now, and has been for some years, Professor of pastoral theology, in the Evangelical Union Academy. The Rev. Fergus Ferguson, now of Aberdeen, has been for many years one of our most popular ministers, and was but recently President of Conference.—The Rev. Peter Mather, now laid aside from duty by severe affliction, was for a number of years editor of *the Christian News*, a religious journal which advocates our distinctive theological views.—But this heresy found its way into the Academy of the Congregational Union. Nine of the students endorsed the views of the Spirit's work held by Mr. Kirk and others, and were in due course expelled the Academy.—Some of those young men are an honour to the Evangelical Union. The Rev. Fergus Ferguson of Glasgow, and, the Rev. William Bathgate of Kilmarnock were not the least among the nine. But the Free Kirk of Scotland, tried her hand too in the matter of expulsion for heresy. The Rev. William Scott of Free St Mark's, Glasgow, was charged with holding certain errors in doctrine, the chief of which was that faith preceded spiritual life; and that without faith there could be no spiritual life. Mr. Scott's ministerial brethren held in opposition to this, "That spiritual life goes before faith, and, that there can be no faith without spiritual life." These divines held, that men are regenerated in order to faith; in direct opposition to the teachings of holy Scripture, that men are regenerated through faith. The doctrine of regeneration to faith was specially insisted on by the Rev. Dr. Willis, now Principal of Knox's College, Toronto. Mr. Scott's case came before the assembly of the Free Church, when that body suspended him from the office of the holy ministry. All those who were thus cast out of the regnant ecclesiastical bodies, sympathized to a greater or less extent with the views and aims of the Evangelical Union. It is now twenty years since the Union was formed, and since that time its course has been onward: many were the predictions that were uttered in regard to the small and despised body. Some said it would soon come to nought; that in the course of two years it would vanish like the smoke out of the chimney. Yet the Union stands, and fights its way into notice. The Evangelical Union of Scotland can no longer be ignored. It is acknowledged as a power