

of the University could hope to reconcile an enlightened and Christian people to the exclusion of religion from the minds of youth, at the very moment and under the very circumstances in which they most require it? This statement has at last appeared from the Council, and we are now in a condition fully to comprehend and to appreciate the nature and objects of their plan. We wish it were in our power to add that it contained any thing calculated to remove, or even to qualify, our objection. But the contrary is the case. The exclusion of religion is still strictly and tenaciously adhered to, while the danger to be apprehended from it is increased by the decided extension of their views. Already thousands of pupils are reckoned as within their grasp; and not only the youth of the metropolis, permanently or occasionally residing in it, are expected to become members, but those of the provinces and the country are invited to domiciliate around their precincts. There is no longer, therefore, any occasion for reserve; and it remains for the friends of the Establishment—and more particularly for those whose habits and studies impress upon them more forcibly the indispensable value of Christian discipline and instruction—to state plainly and firmly their objections to a system which so openly denies it; to examine the soundness of the reasons which have been assigned for this omission, and to point out its true character and effects; and, finally, to declare openly, whether any learning they promise can compensate for that which they withhold, or any precaution they devise can avail against the baneful effects of their omission. It is not, let it be remembered, a mere question affecting the Establishment, which is at stake, though that would be grave enough, but it is the cause of Christianity itself, and of all those bright and benignant influences which affect the morals, the manners, and the temper of mankind.

This task has been executed, in the pamphlet before us, and in such a manner as to leave us little to desire. It is written with great strength and clearness, and with all that earnestness and seriousness which become the gravity of the subject. It has the merit, too, of comprising, in a small compass, all the important points in which this question can be viewed. Further, it is fair and liberal both in its reasoning and its views: the defect complained of is stated in the words of the Council; and none of their reasons or suggestions connected with it are withheld: and, thus, the reader is left to determine between them. We recommend the work strongly to those who have not yet made up their minds upon the subject, as well as to those who have acceded hastily to the plan. As for the staunch friends and supporters of the measure, we need not press it upon them; they must read it, and answer it: they cannot neglect it with impunity.

Passing lightly over the inquiry—whether increased means of