

prove of it oppose it to the last, they will be content with entering their solemn protest. On the other hand the Union party are willing to make an important concession. They offer, for the sake of peace, to allow the Union Committee to be discharged, and the Union negotiations adjourned *sine die*.

The opposition to the Mutual Eligibility proposal is still very vehement.

Many of the Free Church Presbyterians have overtured the Assembly in favour of the disestablishment of the English and Scottish Churches.

Mr. Knight, of Dundee, is to be proceeded against for his unwise and erroneous writings on Prayer.

Dr. Rainy has delivered the Cunningham Lectures for this year. His subject was the Delivery and Development of Doctrine.

A gift has been presented of £5600 by the Misses Davidson, of Hazel Bank, Murrayfield, in memory of their brother, the late David Davidson, Esq., for bursaries in connection with the College. They will be called the Davidson Bursaries.

United Presbyterian Church.

Rev. Dr. Pringle, of Auchlerarder, died recently in the 53rd year of his ministry.

The Paisley and Greenock Presbytery has transmitted the following overture to the ensuing Synod:—"That, having regard to the growth of the Church and the altered circumstances of the times, the Synod to appoint a committee specially to consider and report whether any or what changes are advisable for more efficiently conducting the work of the Theological Hall."

Dr. Cairns, of Berwick preached a sermon on the death of Dr. Guthrie, from which the following is an extract:—

"No doubt, in the case of the highest and purest Christian natures, the sense of defect, of failure, of unworthiness is so intense, that they prefer to cling to the finished work of Christ, and lay only a shrinking and trembling hand for comfort upon their own imperfect and sin stained labours. Yet as the great apostle could say, and say with thankfulness, "I have fought a good fight," so could this well-tried soldier, when about to put off his harness, repeat in spirit the words, saying to the young friend already referred to, as he held him by the hand, "A few hours, and all will be over—the battle over, the victory won. I have had a long course, and I have tried to make the world a little better." Did not his labours even then

follow him before he rested from them? And as that brave and noble heart was breaking in death upon the shores of Sussex, within hearing of the sea which he had loved so well, must not a voice as of many waters have sent some of its far-off echoes to his ear, in which he could catch the strains of those rescued by himself from a blighted childhood, and a wasted age, lifted up from the horrible pit and the miry clay, and gathered for ever within the chorus of the ransomed, to be his crown of joy and rejoicing in the presence of his Saviour and his God? What a compensation for all the labours, sacrifices, burdens, imposed by his Master's hand, which made even this strong man bow and stagger, and for the pains of death which led him, though in patience and peace, to say, "It's hard work dying!" Yes, blessed are the dead who die in the Lord, and who have taught others thus to die! In the parting hour, when the grandeur of the soul reveals itself in the opening light of eternity, and the eye describes one and another and another planted in the immeasurable firmament, like suns and stars, till they grow into a galaxy of celestial brightness, circling not around Christ alone, but the glorified servant of Christ also, that takes his place in the midst of them, then shall the unutterable greatness of this word be confessed, "He that winneth souls is wise;" or of this, which is the same, "They that be wise shall shine as the brightness of the firmament: and they that turn many to righteousness as the stars for ever and ever."

India Schools.

The *Times* Calcutta correspondent reports a most remarkable announcement made by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal. It is to the effect that the Government has resolved to abandon its plan of attempting to educate, at least the women of India, by means of "godless" schools. The purely secular institutions, founded by Miss Carpenter, have been utter failures, and that for a surprising reason. "*Natives will not have their daughters taught without the moral safeguards given by religion, whether Hinduism or Christianity*;" and they will rather keep them in ignorance entirely than have them taught in an exclusively secular way. "Government, too, feels the very serious responsibility of turning out so many graduates, and at such an expense to the public, whose own faith has been destroyed, while no moral or spiritual substitute has been given for it." And founding upon these considerations, the Lieutenant-Governor has openly intimated public policy now will be to promote the education of India through the religious so-