

suddenly into rampant life and naturally allies itself with that part of the population that can least brook the restraints of salutary law ; how mischievous is it to perpetuate the hostility of sects, how sinful to prey upon their prejudices and ignorance, and how desirable "beyond compare" "to see the dispersed of Israel gathered into one".—If prompted by circumstances and considerations of this nature to an earnest inquiry, it should come to pass, as it has, that the Church of Scotland while she professes to rest her whole structure and doctrine upon the Word of God, should appear to me manifestly to have no authority from that Word for the commission of her teachers, that the Episcopal form of Church Government is unquestionably authorized by the Word of God, and that the strictest adherence to the ancient order of the Church of Christ is in visible harmony with the best interests of the people of this Province—the richest blessing, in my opinion, which their posterity can derive from Heaven ; I see no cause why the adoption of such opinions should be regarded by the Presbytery as criminal. With me, they are merely the assertion of the truth, and I will take the liberty of adding, a very disinterested assertion of it.

Mr. Leach stated further that he had no objection to make to the relevancy of the libel.

Mr. Leach being removed, the Presbytery did, and hereby do, find the major proposition of the libel relevant ; they also find the articles of the minor proposition relevant.

Mr. Leach being called, this sentence was intimated to him.

Mr. Ritchie being called, the libel found against him by the Presbytery was read over to him. He then stated that he had no written defence to give in, but that, in so far as Mr. Leach's case and his own coincided, he concurred in the defence given in by Mr. Leach,—and, further, disclaimed all levity in coming to the conclusions at which he had arrived. He also stated that he had no objections to make to the relevancy of the libel.

Mr. Ritchie being removed, the Presbytery did, and hereby do, find the major proposition of the libel relevant ; they also find the articles of the minor proposition relevant.

Mr. Ritchie being called, this sentence was intimated to him.

The Presbytery then agreed to hold a private conference with Mr. Leach and Mr. Ritchie, and retired to the Session Room for that purpose.

The Presbytery, having met with Mr. Leach and Mr. Ritchie in private, found them unwilling to retract any of their former statements, and that they were resolved to abide by the position they had taken.

The Presbytery had a recess for a short time.