

The
PRESBYTERIAN COLLEGE JOURNAL.

VOL. VII.—FEBRUARY, 1888.—NO. 5.

Symposium,
ON THE QUESTION OF CHRISTIAN UNITY.

BY REV. GEORGE CORNISH, LL.D.

THAT so much is written and spoken on the topic of Christian Union shows that this has become a living question ; and whilst I do not entertain such sanguine anticipations of the practical outcome of all this discussion as some others appear to do, it is to me a hopeful sign of the times that Christian men of divers denominations, or of kindred sections of Christian communities, should manifest the desire of drawing closer together in the prosecution of their common work. In this country, we have already seen conspicuous instances of this in the organic unions effected by the various sections of the Presbyterian and Methodist churches, by which there is no doubt they have gained much in concentration of resources, and consequent power for good. Another conspicuous instance of this desire for union is seen in the prominent position which the Evangelical Alliance has won for itself both in the old world and in the new. The recent Conference held in Washington was one of the most noteworthy gatherings ever seen on this continent, and its proceedings were characterised by a tone and purpose which promise well for the future. One would fain believe that this movement has its origin, in no slight degree, in the recognition on the part of earnest, practical men of the immense waste of spiritual power, as well as of material resources,