

asked when the character, position, and claims of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland are compared with those of the Established Church of Scotland. The result cannot be doubtful. Whatever opinions different parties may entertain respecting the relations which ought to subsist between Church and State, it will be obviously impossible and unjust to sustain the establishments of England and Scotland after the Churches of Ireland are disestablished and disendowed. For our own part, we anticipate such a result without alarm. The Great King and head of the Church can overrule all for good. Under His control, it may be hoped that the disestablishment of the Churches of England and Scotland will serve to stir up their clergy and people to a higher sense of responsibility, to greater measures of christian liberality, and to more faithful efforts to promote purity of doctrine, discipline, and worship. The examples of the Free and United Churches of Scotland, of the non-conforming Churches in England, and of the Churches in the United States and in these Provinces, are full of encouragement to the Churches whose disestablishment is threatened. As regards our friends and brethren of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, to whom we owe so much, and in whom we can never fail to take the deepest and most affectionate interest, we are glad to learn that they are far from being disheartened by the prospect of disendowment. Fondly do we hope, and earnestly pray, that whatever the civil government may do, they may as in times past, so in future years, sustain their high position and character among the Churches, and proceed with unabated vigour in their work of evangelizing their benighted Roman Catholic countrymen, as well as of sending the Gospel to the Jews and Gentiles in other parts of the world.

KNOX COLLEGE.

THE following is the circular issued by the Convener of the College Board, with reference to the yearly collection in behalf of the College, and addressed to Presbyteries and Sessions :

“REV. AND DEAR SIR,—The Board of Management of Knox College, in addressing to you their annual circular, have much pleasure in referring to the very encouraging state of the classes, and especially to the large number of students in attendance during the present session. Attention has been directed, in a circular addressed to the Clerks of Presbyteries, to the condition of the Classical and Philosophical Department. In the classes of the Theological course twenty-four students are enrolled, of whom fourteen belong to the first year's class. The Professors and the members of the Board of Examiners unite in expressing their gratification in reference to the diligence and attainments of the Students and the spirit in which they have entered upon their work.

“The Board of Management would call special attention to the state of the funds. The debt on the Ordinary Fund in June, 1867, was \$1129 46; the amount received for last year *fell short of the expenditure* \$431 71—so that the debt now resting on this fund is \$1561. The estimated expenditure for the year ending in June, 1869, is \$6052. The congregations in the Presbyteries within the bounds assigned to Knox College are thus urgently called upon to make increased exertions in order to sustain the College efficiently; and yet a very small sum in addition to the amount contributed last year, if spread over the membership of the congregations, would not only meet the current expenditure, but would also liquidate the debt by which we are now burdened. Last year the average contribution for each