

tween faith and reason, ought to furnish a platform to that branch of the Church which has always claimed to be the most thoroughly reformed of all modern Churches, and to have returned the most nearly to the model and spirit of the first christian Church.

It is having great real evils to grapple with that keeps the Church from morbid self-dissection ; for, so long as the ancient Church had heathenism to contend with in Europe and Asia, it was one ; but when this contention ended in triumph for christianity, then the church broke up into fragments. And the probability is, if Scotland had not become so thoroughly protestant at the reformation, and so more outward work had been left for the Church to do at home ; or if the Church of Scotland having got her machinery at work at home, had then turned its energies to propagating the gospel in foreign lands ; there would not have been so many divisions amongst Presbyterians, breaking out from within on the slightest grounds.

2. WE CAN ALL AGREE TO ACCEPT THE WESTMINSTER CONFESSION AND CATECHISM AS OUR SYMBOLS, whatever our other differences ; just as all classes in the Empire, whatever be their interpretation of the rights of citizens, are agreed to rejoice in the British Flag. All British Statesmen are sworn to support the Queen and Constitution, and yet how great is the diversity of ways in which they seek to fulfil this obligation ! In like manner although slightly different meanings may be attached to certain chapters and clauses of our Symbols, by different sections of Presbyterians, all are willing to accept of them with explanation. And although certain parts of those