

# THE PRESBYTERIAN.

JUNE, 1862.

We deeply regret that we are unable to insert the very eloquent address delivered by the Rev. James Thom at the ordination and induction of the Rev. Rob. Campbell in Galt. Our space is so much occupied and the necessary demands upon us so great that we find it impossible to make room for it.

Faithful to our promise, we continue to insert articles from correspondents for and against Presbyterian Union. An article in this number, signed "Clericus," should have appeared last month, but, before it came to hand, we had in print two communications on the same subject; and we feared that, if we inserted too many articles in one number upon Union, some of our fathers in the Church would be grievously exercised thereby.

"Clericus" is very severe upon our March editorial, and is far from complimentary to us. He says that we draw extraordinary conclusions from sound data—that our reasoning is peculiar, and that, if we are correct in what we say of Dr. Cook, then, in the opinion of "Clericus," the learned Doctor's powers of reasoning have become woefully dimmed. "Clericus" is loud in his praises of "A Layman's" communication, which appeared in our March number, and curiously enough he expresses great surprise that we should arrive at exactly the same sound conclusions as "A Layman." Now we think that "Clericus" should be pleased if we by any process of reasoning, however peculiar, come to such wise determinations. We are bound to say that there is much in common between "A Layman" and ourselves, but candour compels us also to state that, judging from the tone and spirit of the communication by "Clericus", we have no sympathy with him whatever. Nevertheless, as Editors of this Journal, we wish to do every justice to "Clericus," therefore we have printed his article in large type, we have given it a prominent place in our journal, and we now call the attention of our readers to it.

It is a matter of regret to us that we allowed ourselves to bring in the name of Dr. Cook without his permission, and for this we beg to apologise. In the meantime however it may relieve the mind of "Clericus" to be assured that, whenever it shall be his fortune to meet the learned Doctor either in correspondence or in debate, he will not be slow to discover that his powers of reasoning have not suffered in the slightest degree.

One word more. While we hold that the discussion of this question in a temperate and Christian spirit will do good, we are far from wishing to revive the bitterness of past years. We would "let bygones be bygones." We would fain strive to bury in oblivion the angry feelings of the past, while we would endeavour to look forward with hope to the future.

## WORK WHILE IT IS CALLED TO-DAY.

Among the modes of dissemination of truth at the present day the Press is perhaps the most powerful. Ever active in its operations for good or evil, every member of the true Church must welcome its assistance in propagating those truths which are the basis of his faith. We cannot overrate the importance, in this country and at this time, of those religious organs which are the propagators and upholders of sound evangelical doctrine.

*The Presbyterian* is a denominational paper, but we are by no means content to limit our views of its usefulness to our own body. As a record of the matters affecting ourselves it is peculiarly interesting to our own adherents, but as the handmaid of religious truth we claim for it a wider field and a less restricted scope. The Divine command is "Preach the gospel to every creature," and we claim for this paper that in some measure it fulfils that injunction.

We may then fairly appeal to our own body and to the public to extend our circulation and our sphere of usefulness. There are some localities where, by the personal