

of Mr. Marshall's publications on the subject of Ecclesiastical Establishments, the fact is incontrovertible that these publications produced a powerful impression on a large portion of the community connected both with the National Church, and with the various bodies of Dissenters. If religious establishments in this country are in a much more tottering condition than they formerly were, to Mr. Marshall must be awarded the honour or the blame (according to the particular view which individuals may be inclined to take of the subject) of having struck the first effectual blow.

To be Continued.

FRIENDLY HINTS BY AN ELDER.

It is a common practice in this country, for the merchant, the mechanic, and the professional man to render their accounts to their customers about the beginning of the year. Our ecclesiastical year may be considered as beginning at the meeting of Synod. How, then, do matters stand between us and God? Have we not contracted a debt we can never pay? Can we answer to Him for one of a thousand? The solution of the question is made easy if we have chosen Jesus Christ, whom the Father hath appointed as the surety of sinners. For on Him were our transgressions laid; He bore the mighty load.

The usual computation is, that of nine hundred millions of human beings in the world, thirty millions are called into existence, and almost the same number die annually. Among this vast number, some of us have been bereft of father or mother, husband or wife, children, brothers or sisters, or acquaintance, yet we are naturally inconsiderate of these great realities. If a messenger from the heavenly world were to announce to us this news, "Set thine house in order, for this year thou shalt die and not live," would it not be justly written over our best thoughts, words, and deeds, "Tekel, thou art weighed in the balances and art found wanting." Is it so with us, as individuals, as families, as churches, or as a Province? Ah, the answer is here, "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God. There is none righteous, no, not one." Yet we rejoice God of His mercy has provided an antidote for the state into which sin hath brought man. God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth on Him might have eternal life.

As regards our religious and social duties, as individuals and congregations have we been liberally supporting the servants of Christ who have been set over us in the Lord? or have we been giving only a bare subsistence to the ambassadors of Christ? If they have sown to us spiritual things, is it a great thing if they shall reap our carnal things? Some may be ready to say, "Well, most of the ministers have had augmentations to their stipends, some of them by donations, others by permanent increase." The latter we approve of rather than the former, as by it they can calculate their outlay to their income. By the former, they are always dependent on benefactors, as they would call themselves. We would ask, is it beneficence to pay our just debts? We trow not. However, last year augmentations to ministers' livings are so far creditable. May their people feel it more and more their duty to lift them above pinching and penury, and enable them to give their families a suitable education, as becometh their calling, and further, when they advocate the cause of Missions, to draw liberally from their pockets, and freely give, as they have freely received.

The Students' Aid Fund is the next thing we notice. Those who have done anything at all for the furtherance of a liberal education among those who have devoted themselves to the Ministry, we would say have shown a pretty fair example; and although that scheme has not been universally popular, we hope that before the remainder is wanted, it will be supplied by those who have not yet given. Such a scheme is, in existing circumstances, a most laudable