

Church; and, at the beginning of the present century, they renewed their correspondence with this Church, and entered into very close alliance.

It was in the summer of 1801, that the Rev. John Mason, of New York, belonging to the Associate Reformed Church of America, paid a visit to Scotland; and his chief object was to obtain a supply of preachers for the American Churches. He was received by the Associate Synod with much cordiality, and took his seat as a corresponding member. The Synod appointed a committee to assist him in the object of his visit, and gave every encouragement to ministers, preachers, and students, to devote themselves to this Transatlantic mission. The result was, that when Mr. Mason sailed home in 1802, he was accompanied by six ministers, who were all soon afterwards settled in different parts of the country; and thus a much closer connection was formed between the Synod in Scotland and the American Synod. They agreed to preserve a regular correspondence; and the following articles of union and correspondence were adopted by the Associate Synod of Scotland, and transmitted to this American Synod:—

“1. That there shall be a regular transmission of the minutes of the several meetings of the two Synods to one another.

“2. That the transmission shall once a year be accompanied with a judicial letter, containing such information respecting the state of religion in the congregations under their inspection, as may be practicable and useful.

“3. That the same faith shall be given mutually to testimonials from either of the corresponding churches to the other, that is usually given by the different parts of the same church to one another.

“4. That the members of either Synod who shall occasionally be present at any of the meetings of said Synod, or of the Presbyteries in subordination to them, shall, on proper evidence of their character, be invited to act along with them as corresponding members.

“5. That the Associate Synod shall from time to time, according to their ability, and as the circumstances of the Reformed Church may require, do everything that is competent in them, to furnish them with a supply of ministers and probationers, to preach the Gospel under their inspection.”

To these articles an answer was soon received from the Associate Reformed Church of America, in which they expressed the happiness they felt in being so cordially recognized by their brethren in Scotland, and the pleasure it gave them to reciprocate in this recognition; as also their gratitude for the supply of ministers they had obtained; and their sincere wish to cultivate and carry on the correspondence which had been proposed.

There are few other subjects of prominent interest connected with the history of the Associate Synod. Towards the end of last century they presented an address to his Majesty King George III., in reference to the threatened invasion by the French—breathing that loyal spirit, for which the ministers and members of their Church had always been distinguished.

The excitement respecting invasion burst out anew, and with increased force, in 1803. Great alarm was felt, and the danger was considered real. The country was aroused, and combined in preparing to do everything in their power to repel the enemy. Every exertion was made by persons of influence to inspire the people with a patriotic spirit, and stir them up to meet with fortitude and courage the expected crisis. The Associate Synod, on this occasion, not only appointed a day of humiliation to be observed by all their congregations, but they published an address to their people on the subject of the threatened invasion, pointing out their duty in the existing emergency.

In supporting and encouraging the several benevolent institutions of the country, the Associate Synod manifested a spirit of Christian liberality. In 1805, they contributed nearly £1000 among their congregations, in behalf of the Royal Infirmary at Edinburgh.

In the British and Foreign Bible Society, which had originated in the pre-