

and be enabled to cherish a comfortable hope of saving all of whom you have the oversight. You will also make the gainsayer ashamed of himself, seeing he will have no evil thing to say of you. Right Reverend: Study to show yourselves approved unto God, workmen that need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the Word of Truth. Acquaint yourselves with the necessities of the several members of your respective flocks, that you may be able to give to every one his portion of meat in due season. Be it your special care to feed the Church of God with that true bread from Heaven which you have proved by experience to be the life of your own souls. That which is life in yourselves, you will be able to dispense in the full conviction that it will be life also in all who receive it. Right Honorable: You may well magnify your office. It is the great glory, indeed, of our Presbyterian polity. It is that which makes our Church emphatically the Church of the people, by supplying her with an order of overseers who are constantly mingling among all classes of them in the ordinary relations of life. Make it habitually your prayerful endeavor, to discharge the functions of your high office to the glory of God and the good of souls. Keep diligent watch over the morals of the flock. In your social intercourse never let the word in season be wanting on your lips which shall rebuke vice and give encouragement to virtue. Be found in your respective families and neighborhoods sweet savors of Christ unto God, and make it felt by all about you, that the spirit of Jesus does, indeed, dwell and rule in your hearts. Let the educational and missionary enterprises of the Church have your warmest countenance and support, and labor assiduously to enlist in their behalf the sympathies of all whom it may be in your power to influence. Strain, especially, to call forth the efforts of the members and friends of the Church, of all orders of society, to secure to every neglected family in the land the blessings of a preached Gospel. Make all see in you a living image of Him who was appointed of the Spirit to preach the Gospel to the poor. Right Reverend and Right Honourable—Pray for the peace of Jerusalem, that peace may be within her walls, and prosperity within her palaces. Ye that make mention of the Lord keep not silence, and give him no rest, till he establish, and till he make Jerusalem a praise in the earth—till he create Jerusalem a rejoicing and her people a joy. Right Reverend and Right Honourable—As we met in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, the sole King and Head of His Church, so do I, in His great name, now dissolve this Assembly; and as, by the good laws of this kingdom, of which her Majesty is the faithful guardian, it is provided that a General Assembly of the Church of Scotland shall meet every year at the least, I appoint, presuming on your pleasure, the next General Assembly to be held here on Thursday the 20th of May 1858.

The Moderator, then addressing the Lord

High Commissioner, said—May it please your Grace,—The proceedings of this Assembly have now been brought to a close. They have embraced various matters of deep importance, both to the right ordering of the internal arrangements of our National Church, and to her operations in furtherance of the interests of Christian truth, both at home and abroad. Perfect unanimity in all the topics that have come before us was not to be expected—perhaps, as truth gains by the collision of conflicting opinions, not to be desired. In regard to several of the subjects which have been discussed, differences of opinion have manifested themselves; and these differences have been maintained in a tone of manly independence. Still, though we have differed, we have differed, we trust, in a spirit of Christian charity, and more about means than ends. We are not without a humble hope, notwithstanding our differences, that the interests of the Church, and the interests, also, of pure and undefiled religion, have been promoted by our deliberations. And in this view we presume to indulge the farther hope, that your Grace, who has been a witness of all our proceedings, will be able to make a favourable report of them to our beloved Queen. We desire to renew the expression of our devoted loyalty and unalterable attachment to her royal person and government. Before we separate, I beg to tender to your Grace our most respectful and grateful acknowledgements for the uniform condescension and kindness with which you have studied, during the sessions of the Assembly now closed, to promote our comfort and convenience. I beg to assure your Grace, at the same time that it will be our fervent prayer to Almighty God, that he would enrich with the blessings with which he adds no sorrow.

The Lord High Commissioner then said:—Right Reverend and Right Honourable.—It shall be my pleasing duty to report to my Sovereign the manner in which all your proceedings have been conducted, which must tend to the welfare of her people and of your Church. I beg leave to you, and all the members of this House, to return you my sincere and warmest thanks for all the kindness I have received amongst you. Right Reverend and Right Honourable—It is now my duty, in my Sovereign's name, to declare this Assembly dissolved: and I appoint the next General Assembly to meet on Thursday the 20th May 1858.

After the usual devotional exercises, conducted by the Moderator, the Assembly was dismissed shortly before one yesterday morning.

THE CHURCH AT HOME.

The Church Union.

The subject of our Church Union, repeatedly alluded to in the pages of this magazine, has at length assumed a shape that gives every promise of highly interesting and successful working. We can only give the outline of details

at present, reserving our further remarks for a future number. A meeting then of office-bearers and members of the Church of Scotland was held, according to advertisement, on the 27th May, in the Committee Room of the Queen Street Hall, to take steps for the formation of an association to promote Christian fellowship, and to aid each other in the great work of the Church. The attendance was large and influential. Sir William Baillie, Bart., of Polkennet (in the unexpected absence of Professor Swinton,) was unanimously called to the chair. The meeting was opened by praise and reading of the Scriptures. The devotional service, were conducted by Professor Martin of Aberdeen. Very full statements were made as to the objects of the association, and its relation to the regularly constituted Courts of the Church. These objects will be fully seen from the resolutions which were adopted at the meeting, which we subjoin.

It was moved by the Rev. Norman Macleod of Glasgow, and seconded by James Gordon Morrison, Esq., Touch House, Stirling:

I. That it is highly desirable that there should be a greater degree of Christian fellowship and union among the office-bearers and members of the Church of Scotland.

It was moved by Sheriff Barclay, L. J. D., Perth, and seconded by the Rev. William Smith of Lauder:

II. That in accordance with these views, an association be formed of the office-bearers and members of the Church of Scotland to be called "The Church Union."

It was moved by the Very Rev. Principal Tulloch, D. D., St. Mary's College, St. Andrews, and seconded by the Rev. Alexander R. Irvine of Blair Athole:

III. That the objects of the Church Union shall be—1. To hold meetings for united prayer and exposition of the Scriptures. 2. To discuss various points connected with missionary labour at home and abroad. 3. To consider the great social questions of the day. 4. To assist each other in the devising of agencies for developing parochial and congregational action throughout the Church.

And that the general laws of the Union shall be as follow—1. The Union shall consist of all office-bearers and members of the Church of Scotland who express, through the secretaries, their wish to join it. 2. Each member shall contribute half-a-crown yearly to the funds. 3. An annual meeting shall be held in Edinburgh, during the sitting of the Assembly. 4. The members of the Union in various districts shall originate and carry on branch associations, in such a way as shall be most convenient to themselves. 5. The business of the annual meeting shall be to report proceedings from the branch associations, to appoint office-bearers for the following year, and to consider some question, to be fixed on only by the Committee.

It was moved by the Rev. William Robertson of New Greyfriars, and seconded by the Rev. William Leitch of Mommail:

IV. That the office-bearers of the Union shall consist of a president, vice-presidents, a treasurer, two secretaries, and a committee.

The following committee has been appointed, with power to add to their number.—The Very Rev. Principal Tulloch, St. Andrews. Revs. Norman Macleod, Glasgow; William Robertson, New Greyfriars; William Smith, Lau-