

that Union they might cease to be upon the list of those children who were deriving paternal support, they would ever follow them with a mother's fondness—they would always have that tender regard for them as for their most dutiful children; and the solicitude would not be the less inasmuch as they had entered upon a great undertaking of their own. They knew that, although separated from the parent vine, they would never malign the parent from whom they sprung. (Applause.) They knew that, although the silver cord that bound them was lengthened, it would not be loosed, nor the golden bowl of their warm and affectionate interest in them be broken. One evangelical creed, one faith, one hope, one baptism, would continue to bind them as members of the same family, but names, designations, and possessions alter as they might. (Applause)."

Thus spoke the Moderator of the General Assembly, and the writer offers to show the *Courant* whence these quotations are taken to any doubter who may desire to see it for himself, for which purpose, Mr. Editor, you are at liberty to furnish any applicant with his address. And it will be seen that, albeit it is quite true that the Church of Scotland has given no formal deliverance upon the subject of Union, as alleged (it is said) in the Convener of the Colonial Committee's letter to the Picton inquirer, the reason is that the Church, on being applied to, declined to express her views, not because she disapproved of Union (she alone of all the Presbyterian Churches in Scotland has now a Committee appointed whose business is to be on the watch for any indications favourable to Union in Scotland itself,) but because she preferred that her children in the colonies should work out their destinies for themselves. And she has, in the strongest possible terms, by the voices of her leading members and officials, approved of the terms of Union agreed upon by our Committees.

The writer thinks that it is well that the real state of matters in every part of the field should be known; and this is his apology for troubling the *Record* with so lengthily a letter. D.

The Manse during a Vacancy.

At no time is the manse over-repaired. It belongs to too many owners for that. Consequently the amount that the min-

ister must generally spend on the property of the congregation is more than he ought and more than he can well spare; and if he thinks of leaving, he is not likely to spend a great deal for the previous six or twelve months. Indeed one cause of his leaving may be that so much wind drives through the chinks and crannies of the manse that he is blown out or frozen out. "Starved out" is not an unknown expression on this continent, and one way of effecting such a process on the hapless victim is a masterly inactivity with regard to the manse. For one reason or another, or for all these reasons, the manse, during a vacancy, is likely to be sadly out of repair. But what better time could there be for putting the premises in order? There is no need of a rush. No family is inconvenienced. The congregation has not to pay stipend, and the Trustees have nothing else to do as far as Church business is concerned. And yet, strange to say, as a rule, nothing is done during this period. The manse gets into a more tumble-down state, and when the next minister comes with his wife and family, he finds it uninhabitable, and, naturally enough, he is not favourably impressed with his congregation. Serious inconvenience is another result, for in our country districts and small towns it is almost impossible to get a house to rent. The moral is, make hay when the sun shines, that is,—keep the manse in good repair and give a special overhaul to it during a vacancy.

PRESBYTER.

Meeting of Presbyterian Delegates during the Sitzings of the Evangelical Alliance in New York.

One evening, October 6th, was given up by the Alliance for French meetings, and President McCosh of Princeton took advantage of this to invite a number of the Presbyterian members of the Alliance to meet in Dr. Crosby's Church to give their views on the subject of a general Council or Conference of all Presbyterian Churches, to meet in Edinburgh or elsewhere at some appointed time. Dr. Crosby, Chancellor of the University of New York, was called to the chair, and Dr. McCosh was appointed Secretary. We give notes of what