

ch. In consequence of the migration of people to the suburbs, their City Churches in Glasgow did not pay. The rents did not come up to the sum for stipends, and every year there was a field day in the Town Council, as the Volunteers got up and protested against the expense of the City Churches. Some of them had been looking into it, and they found that since the Reformation the Corporation of Glasgow had received large grants of land from the Crown and private individuals, far more valuable than the annual payment to the Churches, even if there were no rents in the form of seat rents at all, giving the condition that the Corporation should maintain churches and ministers adequate to the necessities of the city. They had recognised the duty for a time, but now they had ceased to do so, and ignoring the fact that the common good of Glasgow amounted to about £200,000, was almost entirely composed of property that they received from property that belonged to the Church. He had said it was the same in Aberdeen, but he knew it was the same in Dundee, where he labored for a time, and where there was about 20 years' litigation between the minister and the Corporation, but he had the satisfaction of knowing that the Corporation was thoroughly honest. Then they had the statement that once the Church was down all the Presbyterians would unite, and Dr. McLeod, in the most childlike way spoke of the strain in the U. P. Synod; but the Free Church and the U. P. form were united, Presbyterian Churchmen had wooed each other about 20 years? Were they not just as far removed as ever? Well, let them stand by the good old Church. They had shown enough members of a State Church, and could give liberally, and statistics showed that they were as numerous as the other two together. Mr. McLeod said they were in a minority, but not in a minority by counting the Roman Catholic priests and congregations existing in Scotland. If he would put his denomination on a par with the body let him do so, but they were inclined to put themselves on a par with the Roman Catholics. They did not believe in religious equality, yet it

that equality meant Mohammedanism and Roman Catholicism were just as good religions as the religion recognised in Protestant creeds. He maintained they had a majority of the Presbyterian people of Scotland. Let them stand together, and, if it must be, let them fall together, but let them not fall as cravens, let them fall as men, resolving that if their Church was disestablished they would still maintain the principle of a national recognition of religion. With the national Church there was bound up the Protestant succession, and if the one fell the other would, and also many things that some did not dream of. Dr. Hutton meant to lay hands on the modern as well as the old endowments, including such as they had recently had in Aberdeen, his argument being that the churches were handed over to the National Church, and that was connected with the State; therefore the endowments were connected with the State. He again appealed to them to help to maintain the Church, and asked them to resolve that, though she might be the Church burning, she should not be, so far as they could help it, the Church consumed.

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· THE NEGLECT OF THE BIBLE.—In how many a nominally Christian home lies a Bible unread from Sunday to Sunday! (so left unopened, unregarded on the shelf or the table!) eyed (to say) askance, as an enemy and an intruder, not come to benefit or to comfort, come rather to torment us before the time! Some who pray read not: how many, alas! neither pray nor read. Consciences are sensitive upon this subject. You might bring in vain many tentative charges against a congregation or against its members; you might draw your bow at a venture, trying one by one the arrows of remonstrance or conviction, upon a sick man, dying and unawakened before you, and none should pierce, and none should hit; but this, I think, might almost be depended upon, to hit at least if it pierced not. Was the Book of God your study and your meditation? Did you daily read, daily mark it? Was it