

men. On the other side, the students affirm, that while the intellect is darkened, it is not destroyed by sin.

The College Committee of the Free Church have made minute and elaborate inquiry into the whole affair, and, as reported in *The Witness*, have cleared the students of the stain of heterodoxy. When their report is placed before the General Assembly in May next, Mr. Gibson must be prepared to make good his charges. Meantime, it is known that a pamphlet has been printed for private circulation by the Professor, containing his account of the case, and extracts of the essays, with the grounds of the charges preferred.

The matter has thus been taken up by the authorities of the Free Church, and it will be interesting to learn how the Committee, with the renowned Mr. Candlish at its head, can clear the students of the heretical imputations, while their own Professor in the Glasgow Presbytery affirms that serious doctrinal error is held and defended by the young men.

It now begins to be acknowledged that the appointment of Mr. Gibson to one of the chairs to the Glasgow College, about two years ago, was most unfortunate. It was not, it is true, unanimous and hearty, but nevertheless carried by a majority. The munificent gentleman who devoted £30,000 to the founding of this new college, and was, therefore, its chief founder, strongly urged Mr. Gibson on the Committee; and even the gifted Dr. Candlish was influenced by this private influence so far as to propose in the final meeting the election of Mr. Gibson.

Professor Gibson has always been a man of war. The controversial pamphlets and books he has written would themselves form no small library, and he has lost large sums of money by these literary speculations. He has fought and written against the State—against Non-conformity and Dissent—against Arminianism—against Revivals—against Total Abstinence from intoxicating drinks—and against Popery. Could his weapons of war always be reserved for the rout and discomfiture of the Papacy and its myrmidons, all would be well, but this has been impossible.—“*Beta: Cor. of Independent.*”

PRESBYTERIAN UNION.—The *Toronto Globe* says that the United Presbyterian Presbytery of Toronto, Canada, at their late meeting, amongst other business, adopted the following motion on union with the Free Church:—“That the Presbytery having received reports from all the sessions in the bounds except two, respecting the proposed basis of union between the Presbyterian Church of Canada and the United Presbyterian Church in Canada, find that all these sessions are favorable to union; but that, with respect to the basis, there is considerable variety of opinion. And the Presbytery agree to state that they cordially concur with the sessions in earnestly desiring union, and cherish the hope that it may

soon be satisfactorily accomplished, but receive that the basis ought to be that adopted in Victoria, Australia, by the Synod in connection with the Church of Scotland, by the Synod of the Free Church, and by the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church; and respectfully submit that that basis ought to be brought under the consideration of the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in Canada as preferable to the basis proposed here.”

THE CHURCH AT HOME.

OPENING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE CHURCH OF SCOTLAND.

THE LORD HIGH COMMISSIONER'S LEVEE.

On Thursday morning, May 19th, his Grace the Lord High Commissioner held a grand levee in the Picture Gallery of Holyrood Palace.

Immediately after the termination of the levee, his Grace left the Audience Chamber, and went in procession to St. Giles's, by the Abbey Hill, Calton Hill, Waterloo Place, New Bridge, and High Street. The whole road was lined with the military from a little to the eastward of Burn's Monument to the High Church.

When Divine Service was concluded, the Lord High Commissioner proceeded to the Assembly Hall to open the General Assembly.

The Moderator having engaged in prayer, the roll of members of the Assembly was read by the agent of the Church, after which

Dr. Leishman, the retiring Moderator, delivered a brief address, thanking the Assembly for the honor which had been conferred upon him, and concluded by nominating as his successor Dr. John Cook, minister of St. Leonard's, St. Andrew's.

The motion having been carried by acclamation, the new Moderator was called in and took the chair.

APPOINTMENT OF CLERK IN ROOM OF THE LATE DR. LEE.—The Moderator intimating that, in consequence of the lamented death of their dear friend and father, Dr. Lee, the office of Principal Clerk of the Assembly was vacant, and would now require to be filled.

Dr. Hill rose and said, that although the vacancy might be easily filled up, there was a blank in the Assembly which they could not supply. The venerable reverend aspect which could never be unnoticed by those who entered the Assembly, was now no more. The tones of his voice, which were familiar to all who frequented the Assembly, and which were peculiarly solemn and impressive at the reading of God's Holy Word at the commencement of their every day's proceeding, would be no more. An authority on all matters affecting the Church, to whom most justly the greatest deference was paid, no longer to guide their deliberations. A champion of the Church, who was sensitively alive to