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"IF I FORGET THEE, O JERUSALEM! LET MY RIGHT HAND FORGET ITS CUNNING."—PS. 137: 6.

PATRONAGE.

The Mother Church is at present engaged in an undertaking of more than ordinary dimensions. She is making one great simultaneous move for a modification of the existing Law of Patronage—clergymen, Elders and Laymen together unanimous, and with such determination, that she must succeed and cannot fail. In her endeavours to have the Patronage of the Parishes modified to suit the changed circumstances of the times, we wish her God speed. Her aim, so far as we can understand from the reports which have come under our notice, is simply to effect a modification of the Law of Patronage as a matter of expedience; not that the Law is wrong, but simply that it does not work well. Hence there is nothing heard of the serious onslaughts as in the discussions previous to 1843. We would prefer not to make reference to unpleasant times so long past and now fortunately speedily becoming forgotten, were it not that it has been several times taken for granted, assumed without enquiry, that the present movement in the Church of

Scotland is the movement which ended in the Secession of '43 revived. It is the same only in part. It is the same in so far as dissatisfaction with the present working of Patronage is concerned, and that is about all in common between the present and former movement. In the former movement the Goliaths came out in their war paint, and wielded all the keenness of the dialectic tomahawk and scalping knife. Even the more chivalrous men of the Guthrie class, dealt more in words that would sting and hurt, than in arguments that would by weight convince. Men like Marshall, Ritchie, Cunningham and Gray used characteristic weapons, and, fighting with "grim and terrible ferocity," made wounds that caused inflammation, but did not kill.—Even good Dr. Chalmers, in weak hours and in the midst of excitement, spoke of the Church whose baptism admitted him to the visible fold, whose learning had made him great, and whose ordination vows were upon him, as a "moral nuisance to be swept away." Dr. Cunningham termed her "A synagogue of Satan." The language of Dr. McDonald