

ment; not her destruction, as some of her weak friends dread, but her salvation and her glory."

Dr. Heugh lived to see the Disruption, and to rejoice in it; and he was one of a deputation sent to the Free Church Assembly by the United Secession Synod, to congratulate them on their happy deliverance. Although not without fears lest this new denomination might assume a sectarian character, yet the great movement gladdened his heart. He bade them "God speed," and earnestly prayed that they might be a blessing to the country and to the world. He regarded their emancipation from the National Church as a great work of God. "My fervent prayer," says he, "is that the Lord may go before them, and lead them in a plain path."

Again, "What a stir every where by this new secession! No wonder, for it has never had a parallel in Scotland—perhaps scarcely in any other land. So large a number of ministers leaving every thing for the sake of a good conscience; and much munificence on the part of the people. I think it is a great work of God, although, of course, as men are the agents, human infirmity must be expected to appear. Nothing could be more deplorable than if they should become sectarian in spirit. I hope the Lord will be their guide."

Again, in his diary he says, "May 28th, (Sabbath) 1543.—Great event of the day,—the new Secession! vast excitement here, being the Sabbath on which the seceding men have been 'outed.' In every view, it appears a great work of God, in which he has laid bare his arm with peculiar distinctness. * * In the discussions and negotiations with the Government, an adjustment was often apparently all but effected, as in August last, when the Committee of the Assembly accepted Lord Aberdeen's Bill with Sir George Sinclair's clause: and what hath God wrought! The people who meant to absorb dissent, are themselves Dissenters,—they who wished to enlarge and strengthen the Establishment produce its disruption,—the derided Voluntary principle is the only thing they can bear on, and works with an efficiency which astenishes them,—the judges in whom they confided set their sentences aside, and rebuke and fine them for disobedience to their authority,—every scheme for adjustment misgives;—and the Tories, not the Liberals, are the power that smites them. 'This is the finger of God.' The great proportion seem good men,—they have been much in prayer,—they have excited the people to make amazing efforts,—they have great pecuniary resources, and vast zeal,—and the Lord may employ them for great good in the land, perhaps, among other things, to stir up, it may be to rity and chasten the older Dissenting Churches. We have much chaff mixed with our wheat."

We give one quotation more. In an address to his people on the occasion of the disruption, Dr. Heugh says:—"This disruption of the National Church is a most important event both in itself and in its probable results. Who denies it? If the Secession of four, a century ago, was important, what shall be said of the Secession of four hundred in such times as these? * * If they are enabled, as we pray they may, to avoid a sectarian and exclusive spirit,—if they persevere in that spirit of prayer and devotedness in which they have so happily commenced, they will prove a blessing to the land; their zeal, energy, and liberality, will animate those who were Dissenters before them; and their example may induce the faithful in the