

sincere regret of his many friends, and by their best wishes for his personal welfare and his success in the work of his Divine Master, which he loves so well, and which, by gifts and grace, he is so eminently fitted to perform.

The readers of this Magazine will of necessity be subjected to loss, in common with the Church, by the departure of Dr. Taylor. They will greatly miss the pilotage of his steady masterly hand at the helm. Of the ability and judiciousness with which he conducted it from the day of its launching, amid breakers and gloom, on to the present time, its readers need not to be told.* It is only to be regretted that he did not more frequently freight its columns with the valuable products of his own pen.

[The foregoing article has not been seen by Dr. Taylor, but was inserted after he resigned the charge of the Magazine.—ED.]

ELECTION OF MODERATOR FOR THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN SYNOD.

To the Editor of the Canadian U. P. Magazine.

SIR,—I have just seen the arrangements for the consummation of the Union at Montreal; and am glad to say that, in the main, they meet with my approval. I do not anticipate being present; but I cordially wish that the occasion may prove creditable and comfortable to all concerned; and that the interests of pure religion may be promoted. There is one point, however, which I think might be better ordered, and to which, I hope, it is still not too late to advert. I refer to the *election* of Moderator. I am sorry not only to learn that such a thing is spoken of, but that several Presbyteries have been naming different individuals for the office. A more excellent way, I humbly conceive, was adopted at the Union of the Burghers and Anti-burghers in Scotland in 1820, and also at the Union of the Secession, and Relief in 1847. In these cases there was properly no election at all. The principle was laid down that the oldest minister present should be called to the chair. The reasonableness of such a method, or rather the gross impropriety of any other method, I trust will at once present itself. If any feel inclined to dissent, may I beg them to read Leviticus xix. 32, "Thou shalt rise up before the hoary head, and honour the face of the old man, and fear thy God; I am the Lord." I hope few, if any, would vote for any other than the oldest. He must be either appointed, or slighted, almost insulted. There is no alternative. They who vote for any one else, just say to him, your position would certainly have entitled you to the appointment, had you been fit for it; but for lack of qualification you must stand aside,

* It is but justice to state, that Dr. Taylor not only gave his labour as Editor gratuitously and ungrudgingly, but for several years was subjected to considerable pecuniary outlay in meeting the cost of publication, owing to the non-payment of numerous subscriptions,—an outlay that has only recently (and but barely) been recovered, in consequence of an increase of subscribers and a more punctual payment of subscriptions.