

tions by themselves, and giving contiguous accounts of the procedures of Synod respecting them; because a regular account of each subject by itself, will be better than going from subject to subject in detached portions as necessarily presented in the Synod's meetings from year to year. We did this on the prominent questions which came before the United Associate Synod; and for distinctness and brevity we find it even more necessary here. The following are the important subjects which we propose in this manner to take up, namely: National education, Theological Education, Psalmody, the Organ Question, the Deaconship, Funds and Statistics, Public Questions, the more liberal Support of the Ministry, and Missions, Home and Foreign.

But, whilst these great subjects are taken up by themselves, we shall state what is necessary on some minor matters, as nearly as possible in the order of time in which they were taken up by the Synod.

First of all we notice the proposal to have a Delegated Court, which now very naturally, occurred to many, a necessary expedient. For, in a Synod of five hundred Ministers, and as many Elders, with much important business coming before them, where all had a right to speak, and where so many would be anxious to be heard on subjects in which they were more particularly interested, it was thought that discussion would be protracted so as either to render it impossible to overtake the whole business, or to make their sessions unreasonably long, or inconveniently frequent. The plan of a Delegated General Assembly was thus suggested, and it was accordingly proposed. The question was felt to be important, and the Synod agreed that it should be sent to Presbyteries and Sessions for their consideration. A list of questions as to the constitution and working of the proposed Delegated Court, was also transmitted for consideration. It was found, however, by the returns from Presbyteries and Sessions, that there would be considerable opposition to such a change at present, and on the whole the views were so diversified that the Synod determined in the meantime to delay the whole question.

We partially considered the subject of National Education in our account of the proceedings of the United Associate Synod. This perplexing question was also brought before the United Presbyterian Synod at its first meeting, and at several succeeding ones.

We formerly found that the Bill brought forward by the Lord Advocate for the improvement of the Scottish Universities, had become objectionable in certain clauses from the interference of some of the Courts of the Established Church, and that the United Associate Synod had passed resolutions on the subject which had the effect of preventing it from being passed into a law. But the subject did not terminate here. From time to time new measures were proposed by Government, and the final arrangements, on this subject, we believe, are still pending. The great objections of the Synod to measures now proposed by Government, refer to a proposed religious provision, and to a sectarian test of qualification in teachers; and in opposition to these the Synod resolved:—

“1. That it is not inconsistent with the legitimate functions of civil government to provide for the secular instruction of the subject.”

“2 That it is not within the province of civil government to provide for the religious instruction of the subject; and that this department of