

POETRY.

TRUST IN HEAVEN.

"This world is all a fleeting show,
For man's illusion given;
The smiles of joy, the tears of woe,
Deceitful shine, deceitful flow—
There's nothing true but Heaven."—MORE.

Trust in Heaven! when o'er thy path,
Clouds and tempests come in wrath;
When thy grief oppresses thee,
When obscured thy prospects be,
When around thee mists are driven,
Heed them not, but trust in Heaven!

Trust in Heaven!—when morning lifts
Up her head and casts her gifts,
Light and dew, upon the earth;
When she brings her blossoms forth,
Till shall shine the stars of even,
For a safeguard trust in Heaven!

Trust in Heaven!—when there afar,
Burneth many a glorious star;
Can'st thou doubt when thus her light
Glams unshowed through the night
That protection may be given
To thy pillow!—trust in Heaven!

Trust in Heaven!—when one by one
Sweet the waves of hope glide on
Leaving thee a wreck at last
On the shore whence they passed;
Though thy heart be wrung and riven,
Still for ever trust in Heaven!

Trust in Heaven!—when from its way
Those thou lovest go astray;
Strive, still strive to bring them back,
To its straight and thornless track;
And that truth may soon be given
To thy spirits, trust in Heaven!

Trust in Heaven!—it shall not fail,
When the darkest griefs prevail,
And when death at length shall come,
When around thee spreads his gloom,
Pray that thou mayest be forgiven—
Place thy dearest trust in Heaven!

Ecclesiastical Intelligence.

PRESBYTERY OF GLASGOW.

UNION WITH SECEDERS.

The ordinary monthly meeting of Presbytery was held on Wednesday—Dr. Muir, moderator, *pro tempore*, in the absence of Mr. Lorimer. An unusually large number of members were present, both ministers and elders, and the benches appropriated to the public were fully occupied. After the reading of the minutes.

Dr. BLACK said that the Presbytery were aware they were that day to have the pleasure of having an addition of two members made to their number; and if the Presbytery had no objection, it would be as well that they should be amalgamated at once, so that their friends might join them in the business of the day. (Hear, hear.)

This being immediately agreed to, Dr. Black and Mr. Buchanan retired, and returned after a brief space introducing to the Court the Rev. Dr. Willis of the Secession church, Renfield Street, and the Rev. Mr. Cochrane of the Secession church, Cumbernauld. Mr. William Brown, elder of Dr. Willis's church, was introduced to the Court at the same time. Nothing could exceed the cordiality with which the gentlemen were received by the members; and at this and subsequent periods of the proceedings, the enthusiasm of the crowd beyond the bar broke out in uncontrollable bursts of applause. The whole aspect of the Court was for some time novel and exciting in a peculiar degree.

Dr. BLACK read documents handed in by the two Rev. gentlemen from their respective sessions, managers, and congregations, expressive of their cordial agreement in the measure of union with the Established Church, in terms of the decision of the General Assembly and the Associate Synod. The Act of Assembly was also read. The whole of the papers having been now heard by the Presbytery, Dr. Black suggested that before proceeding farther the Moderator should be requested to engage in prayer, which was done.

Mr. FORMAN of Kirkintilloch, the senior member present, said he rejoiced in admitting the members of the Associate Synod, and in seeing his respected neighbour the gentleman from Cumbernauld becoming connected with this Presbytery. With all his

heart he rejoiced to receive them both; and he hoped that their union would be for their mutual comfort and edification.

Professor MACGILL, who was evidently deeply affected, said he was not present at the commencement of these proceedings; but he need scarcely say that few things in the course of his life had given him greater pleasure than the important business that was now before them. He gave his most cordial approbation to it; and he had pleasure in welcoming his friend Dr. Willis, which he now did as a brother—(shaking him by the hand.) He (Dr. Willis) had been a student of his own, and his worth, his talents, and excellent principles, he (Dr. Macgill) had known for many years. He should not take up their time farther, but he could not refuse to speak, however imperfectly, a few words on this occasion, from the great pleasure it afforded him. He hoped it would tend to promote the interests of both parties, and, above all, the interests of the cause of the great Master whom they both professed with all their hearts to serve, and whose interests it would be the great pleasure of their lives in every situation to maintain. The Rev. Doctor concluded by again expressing the great delight he felt in seeing this important matter carried so far into effect; and he wished from the bottom of his heart that the completion of it might draw closer than ever the ties of affection between them. (The Rev. Doctor again cordially shook Dr. Willis and Mr. Cochrane by the hand.)

Dr. SMITH said he was sure there was but one sentiment and one feeling pervading the members of Court on this most auspicious occasion. This was one of the most eventful days that they the members of the Presbytery of Glasgow had ever witnessed;—the consummation of their earnest desires for union with their much respected friends, now members of this Church—that consummation had been reached, and reached on terms which they rejoiced to think were honorable to both parties. One of the most gratifying circumstances connected with the re-union of their friends as members of the Church of Scotland, was that the re-union had been preceded by much anxious and mature deliberation, and many earnest prayers. It was our Saviour's prayer in behalf of his disciples that they all might be one, even as he is one with the Father; and they rejoiced to think that there is one faith, one hope, one baptism, and that these their brethren in Christ, now no longer separated from them by conscientious difference of opinion, could at last unite with them on the great principles they held in common; and it was peculiarly gratifying to think that they had now received two members of Presbytery so highly excellent in every point of view. With one of them he had enjoyed the privilege and happiness of living on terms of brotherly affection almost ever since the time that he (Dr. S.) became a member of Presbytery. They had been associated in the management of a most important institution and he knew well the high talents, the great integrity, the devotedness to the cause of Christ, and the zeal in every work of faith and labour of love of that individual. It was cause of peculiar gratification to them in the midst of the conflicts and shakings of the present time on the great principles for which they were both contending, that these excellent men could now stand with them an equal ground, and with a good conscience maintain those important principles which were the more immediate cause of the separation; and he did feel that gratitude was due to Christ as the Great Head of the Church, and who turneth the hearts of men, as the rivers of water, whithersoever he willeth, for turning the hearts of those men, and giving us the support of those who entertain the principles which the Church is now maintaining, and which he wished she might maintain till the latest generation. It was delightful to think they were living in a time when the cause of Christ was dear to the people of Scotland, and when the true-hearted in the land were coming forward, with one heart and one mind, to maintain the prerogative of Christ as the sole Head of his Zion; and that whatever conflicts she might, in the meantime, be called upon to encounter, she would yet be brought forth "strong as the sun, clear as the moon, and terrible as an army with banners." He rejoiced with his whole heart in the union now consummated—a union of heart and soul. It was a union of faith and affection before, but it was now a recognised union in this Presbytery of Glasgow. (Hear, hear.) He moved that the papers now laid on the table be approved of.

Mr. HENDERSON of Carmunnock expressed his sincerest pleasure at the scene the Presbytery of Glasgow this day exhibited. Congregations belonging to another body of professing Christians, who had long been in a state of secession from the Establishment, were coming forward represented by their respected pastors, and telling us that the original grounds of secession were now done away with, expressing an anxious desire to return into the bosom of the Established Church, which with perfect consistency had ever been looked upon by all of them as the

Church of their fathers—the day that witnessed this had been expected by all of them, but few expected that their hopes would be so speedily realised. He could not lose the opportunity of expressing the sincere pleasure he felt on the occasion, and his hope that they and their respected friends would long continue in the bonds of love, and in the prosecution of the great end of a gospel ministry—the salvation of that people whom the Saviour had come to ransom with his blood and enrich with the favours of his grace. (Hear, hear.)

Dr. FORBES said that he felt it quite superfluous to offer any additional expression of the cordial feelings which this event was fitted to produce. They had heard the highest testimony born to the talents and respectability of those who had come here this day—testimony which he was sure was responded to by all who knew these gentlemen. (Hear.) It was indeed a high consolation, when the public mind was so much agitated on the great principle of Establishments, to find these individuals coming back to support those who along with them considered this to be the cause of truth and righteousness. It was a union of principle. No unworthy concession required to be made on either side; and he trusted that under the blessing of God this union would be a mutual benefit, and show to the world how far the Church of Scotland was from looking with any invidious feeling on those who differ from her. The Rev. Doctor again expressed his cordial delight at this event, and seconded the motion that the Presbytery should now give effect to the law of last General Assembly on the subject by receiving these gentlemen into the Presbytery.

Mr. DUNCAN of Milton said, he might perhaps be allowed, from peculiar circumstances, to offer a few observations. He was born of Seceding parents, baptised by a Seceding minister in the face of a Seceding congregation, having received his early instructions in the principles of religion in that Church, having long worshipped in that Church, and studied for two sessions as a student in a Seceding hall, under the venerable and esteemed Mr. Archibald Bruce of Whitburn. It was not precisely in the same body as that to which their respected and beloved friends and brethren belonged, but one very nearly allied in sentiment to the Original Associate Synod. There was much cause to bless God that he had supported and revived our Church—so revived her, he trusted with regard to doctrine, with regard to vital godliness with regard to fidelity to the claims of Christ's crown and blood bought rights, as that the people of the Secession could, with a good conscience, come amongst them again; and God having been pleased to free her from many serious declensions, and to purify and strengthen her by means of her present trials, we may now say of that Church.

"Merges profundo pulchrior eventus."

He hoped that their brethren would not only strengthen their hands, but would give them an impulse forward in their farther reformation; and that the time may speedily come when all the remaining scruples of all the Presbyterians in Scotland holding the Confession of Faith being removed, they would form one great union, striving together for the faith of the Gospel. (Hear.)

Dr. BLACK, in proposing that the new members should now be requested to sign the Confession of Faith, expressed his entire and cordial concurrence in what had fallen from his Rev. fathers and brethren this day. He did congratulate the Presbytery on having added to their number two such respectable members; and he congratulated himself that the Barony parish would now have an additional minister who had already proved himself to be a faithful and valuable minister. (Hear.)

The new members having signed the Confession,

The MODERATOR, addressing them, referred to those great men and great lights of their day who founded the Secession, and whom those now living could have known but by their works—he meant Ralph and Ebenezer Erskine. Although they went out from us on conscientious grounds, they still remained of us, and stood up for the truth when it began to decline in Scotland. The same principles had been held and vindicated all along by the body with which they were connected; and therefore while this Presbytery felt very great joy in receiving them into communion and fellowship, they also rejoiced that among the multitude of its members—for it was now a very numerous body—hey would be of one heart and of one mind. The Rev. Doctor then formally announced their reception by the Court, and gave the new members the right hand of fellowship, the other members of Presbytery following the example.

On the motion of Mr. KING, Dr. SMITH was called upon to return thanks to Almighty God for the auspicious consummation of the union, which he did in solemn and affecting language.

The other business before the Presbytery was not of any public interest.