

Merchant.—"Exactly so, what you state was the fact. Another delightful thing is, that marked instances of considerable local revivals have recently appeared in connexion with at least four various denominations; and that, so far as I am aware, they have been all more or less distinguished by the ignition and the blaze of christian catholicity of love and effort. But as, I suppose, we must now drop our conversation for the present evening, you will perhaps allow me to state, in a sentence or two, the other means of revival mentioned in the discourse of yesterday. A third means proposed was special intercourse, of a brotherly and spiritual kind, among believers of the same church or congregation. Just as men of pleasure talk on a morning, of the enjoyments of an evening's festal meeting, and express their longings for another, so must fellow-members of a church talk together of their enjoyment of religious ordinances, and whet each other's appetites for a keener relish of the gospel. The last and chief means named was prayer—increased prayer in public—increased prayer in social circles—increased prayer around the family hearth—increased prayer in the closet, or in the soul's silent ejaculatory supplications at the throne of the heavenly grace."

Sheffield, N. B.

R. W.

Trans-Atlantic Retrospect.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF SCOTLAND.—The annual meeting of this body, for 1860, was held in Glasgow, commencing on the 2nd April. Full reports appear in the *Commonwealth* and *Examiner* newspapers, which have been received from a friend. The meeting seems to have been one of great interest. Forty-one ministers were present. The Rev. A. M. Brown, LL.D., of Cheltenham, delegate from the English Union, preached the Union Sermon, which is reviewed, with an account of the preacher, in No. 336 of those sketches of living ministers for which the *Glasgow Examiner* has long been famous. At the annual meeting of the members of the Scottish Congregational Fund for Widows and Aged Brethren, it was reported that the capital stock was between £6000 and £7000. The sum of £360 was divided among twenty-one widows and three aged brethren. The report of this Fund is to appear in that of the Union, yearly, henceforth. The number of students attending the Theological Hall is not given. Three had completed their course last year, and two others would shortly do so. Three new students had been admitted to the sessions now closing. In consequence of the difficulties resulting from attending two courses of study simultaneously—at the University and the Theological Hall—it had been determined to add three months to the session. From October to April the students will give almost their whole attention to the literary classes; from May to July, to theological subjects. The expenses of the institution would be about £700 a year, but the income was insufficient. An evening "Conference on Congregationalism" was held, reported in general terms only, as follows: "The feeling that generally prevailed was, that every church in a county district, which was evidently required in the locality, and was accomplishing its work, should be vigorously sustained; and that evangelistic efforts, both in town and country, ought to be energetically pursued. In order to attain these objects, the imperative obligation of adding considerably to the regular income of the Union was enforced and responded to. A full, free, manly, outspoken utterance was given on all the points which were started; and while different opinions were avowed, there was a common spirit of brotherhood, and nothing said which could wound the most sensitive mind."