

nation that but too clearly reveals *foregone conclusions*.

But it is urged, in extenuation, that these objections of the opposing congregations arose from frivolous and groundless prejudices; were it not that the echoes are still giving back the *strong language* in which their attachment, fidelity, and loyal adherence to the Church of Scotland were loudly applauded, previous to the negotiations for Union, the cry of "prejudice and bigotry" might have some plausibility.

The *minority* were ungenerously taunted with having no *conscientious* grounds of opposition. It is well known to many of the *majority*, that the personal interests of most, at least, of the minority, would be best promoted by voting with the majority, but they made the thought of shepherdless flocks (as the opposing congregations would undoubtedly be,) a matter of *conscience*, and chose rather to remain with them, until perchance they, too, may, by and by, be convinced of the advantages of Union, and led "to come with the majority, that they may do them good."

If they, for *conscience sake*, pledged themselves to Union, out of respect to congregations, of whose attachment to the Church of Scotland history deponeth but little, why not concede a *little sincerity* to us, who shrink not from obloquy, in our desire to adhere to, and sympathize with a people, but for whose attachment and fidelity, Ichabod would long ago have been written on the church of our fathers here?

These lines are not written with the view of perpetuating discussion on the subject of Union, nor with the intention of alienating brethren, but to repudiate unworthy motives to those who, for conscience sake, chose to remain "as they were." ONE OF THE MINORITY.

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## UNION AMONG PRESBYTERIANS IN INDIA.

At a Conference of Presbyterians held at Allahabad, steps were taken for bringing into closer connection the representatives of the various Presbyterian churches now laboring in India, with a view to a union of all the churches. A letter has been addressed by the Conference to their fellow-countrymen in

India, giving reasons for the serious consideration of the proposal. By God's blessing, a large and increasing Presbyterian membership has been gathered together, and an extensive and successful system of evangelistic agencies put into operation. There are now in India and Ceylon at least 150 Presbyterian ministers, who, besides their evangelistic work, are ministering to a Christian community of 30,000 persons. These are scattered geographically, and are also ecclesiastically apart by reason of their connections with churches at home. Eleven Churches of Europe and America are engaged in missionary work there, and these have their respective congregations and Presbyteries connected with their Synods and General Assemblies. The Conference submits the following additional reasons for their action:—1st. In obedience to Christ's prayer for unity among His people, especially as Missionary Churches in a non-Christian land. 2nd. To secure common and united action in all evangelistic enterprises by Church courts, in accordance with the requirements of the Presbyterian system. 3rd. For the purpose of defence against divers forms of unbelief without, and errors in doctrine and extravagances in practice, within, the Church. The Conference believes the great remedy for these evils is to be found in the system of doctrine and polity contained in the Presbyterian standards; and, in order to bring these to bear efficiently upon those who are within the sphere of their influence, organization for systematic effort is necessary. 4th. For the purposes of education, and the training of a ministry suitable to the wants of India, which cannot be satisfactorily decided either in Europe or America. 5th. That the people of India may have more sympathy with, and interest in, the work of the Church, by having a representation in the higher Church Courts of an Indian organization, which at present they have not. The Conference, while believing such an union to be of immediate and pressing importance, do not think it desirable in the least degree to weaken their connection with the Churches at home, to which, for some time, they must still look for aid.

The action of all Presbyteries and