

one another and with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Synod is over, and its work has not been in vain. The influence of our meeting will be felt in a hundred congregations, and in ten thousand families. Plans have been projected for future work. The weak have gained strength and courage. The cold-hearted and mistrustful have been warmed and cheered. The young have sat at the feet of the fathers learning wisdom. The fathers have had their hearts gladdened to see the vigour, discretion, zeal and good sense of our younger men. O how thankful should we be that we had not to return to our churches, as many have had to do before now, wounded, sorrowing, almost despairing, because of bitter strife and division!

Ministers and Elders returned from Synod determined to do all in their power to carry out the Synod's righteous purposes. May God give us grace to remember our resolutions and to perform our vows!

The Doctrine of the Trinity Underlying the Revelation of Redemption. By the Rev. G. Patterson.

This book is not a treatise on the whole subject of the Trinity. If it professed to be so we should have to complain of its deficiencies. Nor is it, on the other hand, a controversial tract written for the purpose of making an impression on socinian readers. A more limited range of argument would suit that purpose better. Its contents correspond precisely to its title; which is more than can be said of some books. It ranges on the entire history of revelation, from its beginning in Eden to its close in Patmos, but with one object constantly in view—to detect and exhibit the traces of a *trinity* in the divine nature, as presupposed and proceeded upon, rather than formally announced in the successive utterances of God's mind and will to men. And so rigidly is this object adhered to that passages which point so far in the same direction as to indicate a *plurality* of persons in the Godhead are passed by as not lying within the present line of investigation.

The result will surprise most readers. We have not attempted an exact enumeration of the passages adduced, but a glance at the index will suffice to show that these indirect testimonies to the doctrine of the Trinity must amount to over a hundred in number. In the exhaustive fulness with which evidence is accumulated on a single point—and that a point generally supposed to rest on a small number of proof-texts—this work of Mr. Patterson's will take rank with that of Trefry on the Eternal Sonship of Christ. And his exposition of the texts quoted is sound and judicious, indicating an extensive acquaintance with the latest results of Biblical criticism and exegesis. An occasional expression may occur which one would hesitate to adopt. Thus he speaks of the ordinary parallelism of Hebrew poetry being *sacrificed* for a threefold rhythm to indicate the Trinity, in ascriptions of praise. (p. 34.) The parallelism of *these* lines is no more a sacrifice of the laws of poetry than of geometry—the triplet being a recognized form of parallelism as well as the couplet. And the weakness of the argument based on the threefold repetition of the name of Jehovah in the Psalms quoted, lies not in the smallness of their number, (five examples are given) but in the commonness of a similar repetition in the case of other subjects. If the Trisagion is proof of the appeal of the prophet, O earth, earth, earth, hear the Word of the Lord, may be quoted as proof that the earth is composed of three elements. In both cases the idea is expressed more forcibly by being echoed and re-echoed in the utterance. But we do not wish to convey the idea that Mr. Patterson's proclivities are in favour of a cabalistic method of interpretation. On the contrary his exposition is exceedingly cautious and temperate, and when, as in the case just referred to, the argumentative bearing of a passage or group of passages is doubtful, he presents the subject with its attendant difficulties, and then passes on with the remark that he does not wish to lay much stress on it. His style is simple and pellucid, rising to the ornate or the elevated as occasion requires. The typography and general getting up of this book