

effect us as a body, for good or for evil, and it is our duty to deal with such matters as a *united organization*, in the manner that may be deemed proper, keeping always in view our glorious watchword, "The Altar and the Throne." I think you will excuse me, if I here quote a portion of Br. Benjamin's speech to this Grand Lodge in 1853. He says: "and I warn you my Brethren, and not only you, but I warn those who have a stake in our country, or a deep interest of any kind in its welfare, that it is a most revolutionary error, to countenance, support, or by any means perpetuate Romanism. It is my duty to give you this warning; it is my duty to approach the vital point and with boldness to strike at the spot where the danger lies, and I say to you again, as I have said before, while you tolerate freely and fully, hesitate before you are found co-operating with, and supporting the intrigues of Romanism; no matter who may be the adviser, he is to be regarded with suspicion who advises you to enchain under the enemy's tent, and you may rely upon the fact, that those with protestations of freedom and toleration on their lips, and persecution in their hearts, those too, who professing a desire to see the principles of Protestantism flourish, yet dare not come forward in defence of those principles except to gain an object—an end—are the truest causes of all evil felt and experienced, not only by Orangemen, but by Protestants in general."

I again say that harmonious action must prevail amongst us, and if it does, we shall see the Orangemen of British North America have that standing and influence which is their just due, and to which they are entitled.

COMPANIONS AND BRETHREN:—You are aware that a Bill was introduced into Parliament during the present Session, to incorporate Orangemen. Having learned it was intended to, include only the Brethren now unhappily separated from us, and by constituting them the only *legitimate* Orangemen, we would be unrecognized by Law, and otherwise prejudiced, I called a Grand Council to consult with me as to the best course to be pursued under the circumstances, many could not attend owing to the season, but I had the benefit of their advice, and the result was, that I forwarded a petition to all the branches of the Legislature, praying that the Bill be not passed until such time as a union be effected, or if passed, that we should be duly recognized in it. The Bill has not become law, and it seems to be the opinion of many, that powers of Incorporation were not required, and I am rather inclined to that opinion myself, though it is not now necessary to decide the question.

COMPANIONS AND BRETHREN, I regret that I cannot at present announce to you a union of the Brethren throughout British North America, but I am happy to be able to state, that the feeling in favor of a union is so strong amongst the separated Brethren, that I have well founded hope that the means we have adopted to bring about a union will be crowned with success. God grant it may be so.

Our separated Brethren see as well as we do, the necessity of a union. They see that the usefulness of the Orange Institution is sadly limited, if not wholly paralyzed, by our disunion, and that so long as it remains, so long may we all expect our enemies to triumph. Union is absolutely necessary to impart to us that strength and vigor which will command respect, and give us that just influence and power which our numbers and respectability demand. Those who keep us apart are playing into the hands of the enemy, and have much to answer for.

It occurs to me that as union was so desirable, nothing should be left undone on our part to bring it about, and I called together a Special Meeting at Kingston on the 5th instant, to concert such measures as might be deemed most advisable to effect the object in view, and I have to state to you, that it was then decided to appoint a Committee to proceed to Brockville, where the other Grand Lodge