

first three of them, must be observed if the union is to prove a real unity.

1. Each religious body to have in the union all the rights and privileges and the form of government which it has at present, if desired by the members.

2. The financial rights of each congregation or religious body, as at present existing, not to be infringed upon.

3. That no attempt be made to unite two or more congregations unless their adherents be practically unanimous in their desire to unite.

It may be asked, If these three conditions are agreed to, what room is there left for union?

4. Well, there might be the union conferred by the possession of a common name—no weak bond.

5. There might be an act of mutual eligibility passed, enabling congregations to elect over them any minister in the union.

6. A general Council might be formed of representatives from all the bodies in the union having power to deal with foreign missions, with the more remote sections of home missions, and with questions relating to foreign Churches.

7. A committee might be formed of representatives of all the bodies in the union to confer and advise regarding the planting of mission stations in the more settled districts.

If these seven conditions were agreed to, and if, after a term of years, the union resting upon them proved satisfactory, the basis of union might be widened. The general Council might assume control of the home missions, and the different bodies might assimilate more closely in matters of ritual and government.

With the fervent hope that the outcome of this movement will be to unite more closely the different branches of Christ's Church in Canada, I am, etc.,

CHARLES B. ROSS, B. D.

Launceston, Ontario, 1886.

[In approval of these timely hints, we add the simple yet excellent basis of Union adopted at the late Christian Convention in the United States:—

"The Committee on Christian Union reported the following, as the basis for union with the Christian Union Church of Ohio:

"1. The Bible our only rule of faith and practice.

"2. Christ the only Head of the Church.

"3. Christian character the only test of fellowship.

"4. Individual interpretation of Scripture the right and duty of all.

"5. The union of all the followers of Christ without controversy.

"6. Each local church govern itself."

This basis of Union was adopted by the Convention: having already been adopted by the Christian Union Church, and by the Ohio State Christian Association.—Ed.]

LETTER FROM THE PACIFIC COAST.

REV. P. MELVILLE, A. M., B. D.:

DEAR SIR,—I received your pamphlets, for which I feel greatly obliged. "The Secrets of Logic" I regard as the most admirable thing of its kind. It is a volume in a nutshell. The "Reply to Prof. Robertson Smith" is an admirable exemplification of the principles laid down in the "Secrets of Logic." Rev. John R. Thompson of Halifax is our minister here in Vancouver. He wishes to be remembered to you, and says that he was acquainted with you. He had been Pastor of the Presbyterian Church of Olympia, (capital of Washington Territory), for the last fifteen years. He is a good man, a good speaker, generally popular, and is a native of P. E. Island. Hoping that you are enjoying yourself,

I remain yours, etc.,

D. M. MCINTOSH,

Physician and Surgeon.

Vancouver, Washington Territory.

LETTER FROM SCOTLAND.

THORNHILL, DUMFRIESSHIRE, 1886.

DEAR MR. MELVILLE:

WE are in the midst of a great sorrow just now. This day week the son and heir of Buccleuch, Lord Dalkeith, met his death in the country of Locheil. He had been on a visit to his aunt, Lady Margaret Cameron of Locheil, and, as he was a keen sportsman, went out deer-stalking with a friend I believe of his College days, Mr. Albert Gray. One took the one side of the Loch, and the other the other side. After a day's stalking with little success, he at last got within range, fired at and wounded a stag. Thinking he might still get it, he started down the hill-side after it, but his foot slipped, and he could not stop till brought up by a flat rock, which his rifle struck, and it went off, crashing the bullet through his shoulder, making a terrible wound. Two keepers were with him, a Cameron and a McDonald. Cameron did his best to stop the bleeding, but it was beyond his