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**Union in Scotland.**

THE desire for re-union has found expression recently in Scotland by the formation of committees of the three leading Churches—a committee of seven of each Church, with power to add to their number. It is but a short step, yet it is a step in the right direction, and we hail it with gratitude to God. A union of the Presbyterians of Scotland would gladden millions of loyal hearts in lands beyond the British seas, and it would give a fresh impetus to Presbyterianism everywhere. Perhaps the people of Scotland do not yet realize the patriotic ardour with which the Presbyterians of Canada and of the Colonies generally pray for the peace and prosperity of the mother church. All the branches of that church are dear to us: we hold close communion with all, receiving ministers and members and material aid from all.

We do not presume to offer advice to the Scottish Churches: it is not for the children to instruct the parents. We may, however, with all deference “tell our experience”—an experience which may not be without its use even in Scotland. Our Church has for ten years enjoyed the blessings and advantages of a union which embraces three branches corresponding with the three which to-day so prominently stand apart in Scotland. We had our difficulties. Negotiations were prosecuted with patience

and faith. Property questions of a very grave and perplexing character had to be dealt with even after the union, causing painful disputations for a couple of years; but this unpleasantness has been already quite forgiven, if not wholly forgotten. The union is most cordial; the old lines of cleavage have vanished for ever. Even the negotiations that preceded union did a great deal to sweep away sentimental obstacles, which after all are really the most formidable ones.

But what good has resulted from our union? Our growth has been most encouraging. Our Colleges have been greatly strengthened. Our Foreign Mission funds have much more than doubled, and there has been a corresponding increase in the agencies in the field. But it is in the Home Mission field that the great progress has been made; and indeed it was in view of our necessities in the Home field that we all felt the pressing urgency of re-union. Effort in regard to French Evangelization has also greatly increased. A remarkable stride has been taken in the matter of ministerial support. We can point to fifty places where rival congregations, struggling to “maintain a cause,” at all hazards, have coalesced and become self-supporting, and where one decently-paid minister is now doing the work of two who had barely enough to keep soul and body together. Added to all this, it is scarcely necessary to say that the influence of the