

"First of all," said the Reverend Father, "the Catholic religion was the only true religion, the only religion designed to meet all the spiritual wants of men. It filled the mind and laid hold of the affections, purifying while it strengthened them; it provided against all the dangers of society; it met in its liturgy and ceremonial the natural cravings of the human heart; and no people ever yet separated from the Catholic Church who did not sooner or later go back again hankering after her. Even although they had not the courage or faith to enter once more into her holy fold, they set up something as like her as possible to satisfy their wants. (Applause.) In England at this moment there was a regular war going on between two parties who call themselves High Church and Low Church; and what was that war about? Because a great number of Protestant clergymen and Protestant people had in their churches altars with candles lighted on them, and a man came out with vestments on him and went through all the ceremonies like a priest when he said mass. He pretended to consecrate, and then the bell was rung and the people bowed down. So far had this gone that a poor fellow who came over from Ireland to reap the harvest went into one of these churches one day. This poor Irishman saw the mass going on and knelt down very piously. After a while he took out his little beads and began to say his rosary, whereupon the sexton came over and said—'You must not do that here, sir.' 'What do you mean?' said the Irishman, 'is not this a Catholic church, and is not that the priest saying mass?' (Laughter) 'No,' said the sexton, 'this is not a real Catholic church.' (Loud laughter.) 'God bless me!' said the Irishman, and retired, crossing himself—an action which the speaker merely indicated amid the continued laughter of the audience."

The union of the different bodies of Presbyterians in New South Wales, which took place in 1865, has been followed by increased activity in the united church. A college endowed by the Government with £10,000 and an annual grant of £500 has been established in Sydney. New stations have been occupied, and large charitable funds

have been raised. The parties to the union were the Synod of Australia, connected with the Established Church of Scotland, the Synod of Eastern Australia, connected with the Free Church, and the United Presbyterian Church in Sydney, which represented the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland. One of the articles of agreement was that the question of Voluntaryism or Establishments should never be discussed in their public assemblies. The condition has been carefully observed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

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Col. St. Matthew's Church, Pugwash.	\$ 15 10
" St. Stephen's Church, St. John,	
N. B.	32 23
Col. St. Matthew's, Halifax.....	253 00

\$300 23

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Halifax, N. S., 6th April, 1875.

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