

But, we are told, our attachment to the Church of our fathers is a mere sentiment. Faith in a Redeemer is a sentiment. Are we to give that up for a sneer? The love of country is a sentiment. Are we to despise and laugh at and pity the patriots who fought and bled and died for beloved Scotland, and made her, small as she is, a power on the earth? The love of home is a sentiment. When the wife of your youth, who has shared your struggles, your cares and anxieties, begins to lose the fresh tints of girlhood, when her cheek has lost its bloom and her eyes their brightness, when her hair is sprinkled with grey, and time is telling on her, is a mere sentiment to bind you to her when fresher beauties attract you? On the contrary, is his wife not dearer to every man whose heart is sound and true, and to whom his Saviour, his country, the wife of his youth, are held nearer and closer as the years roll by, in the sentiments of the highest devotion, of the truest patriotism, and of that tender love which strengthens day by day? But we reject the sentimental twaddle which urges us to seek new affinities and to break up old associations simply because they are old.

Another argument for consummating the union was: What will the religious world say? What will Mrs. Grundy say? The weakness of the cause was never more clearly shown. It was the one argument, if it can be dignified with the name, that many could not get over. We don't want this union, said many, piteously, but we have gone too far. The following extract of a letter from one of these members, who went to the Skating Rink with the multitude, shows this feeling. He says:

"The education, temper and spirit of the body as a whole are so unlike our own, that it may be possible to tie the two together, but I hardly expect them to unite.

"I can live quietly in my manse and let church courts and schemes go. But that is not Presbyterianism, and a very unpromising prospect it is to me."

Yet we are told that the union was almost unanimous, and that all went over rejoicing. This is but a sample of the utterances of the large majority of those who have been driven in by means which we shall not characterize.

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THE LEGAL RIGHTS OF THE ADHERENTS OF OUR CHURCH.

In order to soothe the minds of those who entertained fears as to the validity of the legislation obtained in the Provincial Legislatures for the purpose of transferring the property of the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland to a new and, at the time, a non-existent body, opinions of counsel were printed and circulated in the Synod with the object of proving that the bills were legal and workable. Unfortunately, or designedly, counsel were not asked to express an opinion as to the powers of either Legislature to pass such laws. They were simply asked to say whether there was such a variance between the bills passed by the different Legislatures as rendered them unworkable. The answers were sufficiently vague to please anybody. The following opinion was obtained from ex-Judge Badgley, whose