

in head, hand, and heart, the union would be founded on compromise and not on principle. Then neither churches were self-sustaining: if a union did take place, with the consequent severance from the parent branches, what condition would they be in? They all knew the difficulties in the Church at the present time; how would those difficulties be increased then if it was obliged to sustain itself? There was only one church in the Province, at St. John, that could do more than support itself—there might be one in Richibucto also; but beyond these two, there were none other that could put forth a helping hand to the many struggling congregations throughout the Province. He did not think, therefore, that their church would be strengthened by such a union. And further, it was much to be feared that those who were so anxious to promote that union were desirous that the Presbyterian churches in the Province might be strengthened politically; but nothing, to his mind, was more to be deprecated. If the churches united were thereby strengthened politically, there was every reason to fear that the influence of their body would be merged and lost in that with which they were incorporated. Union demanded of necessity a compromise of principle. The members of the other Presbyterian body had been led to entertain different opinions from themselves as to the right of interference by the civil magistrate in any ecclesiastical procedure. Difficulties would therefore in time arise on that point among the members of the united body: many parties would refuse to recognize such interference, while the members of the Synod on principle would do so. Here then there would be an ever recurring cause of disagreement. There was another difficulty in the way of union, and a no small difficulty, and that was the position held by them as members of the Church of Scotland. At present they enjoyed certain privileges; they held the same status as the clergymen of the Church of England: it was a position that was to be highly prized (he had been surprised to hear members of the Synod say that they would be willing to give it up under certain conditions—he would relinquish it on none); but it was as certain as anything, if that union did take place their status would be lost.

There must be a union of feeling and sentiment before an incorporation of the two bodies could take place. Let them exchange friendly acts as individuals; let them assist each other in the pulpit (several of the ministers of that body had preached for him and he had preached for them); let them go along and unite in that friendly way; let them bear and