

THE OBJECTS OF THE UNION.

MOTIVE is the test of character. From the moment we feel ourselves authorised to conclude respecting any man, or body of men, that they are totally devoid of rectitude of principle, their most ostensible acts justly stand divested in our view of all moral value.

Whoever has perused the pamphlets published by Messrs. W. and E. RYERSON, and yields implicit credence to the views they contain of the character of the men to whom the British Conference confides the management of its missions, must not be a little surprised that those Gentlemen, instead of congratulating themselves, and the Conference to which they belong, on the termination of all intimate connexion with so corrupt a body, should still indicate a strong desire to continue associated with them. No political aspirant, who, in his pursuit of the coveted object of his ambition, had renounced all allegiance to conscience, could, if Messrs. W. and E. Ryerson are to be credited, be actuated by principles more unworthy than those which prompted the Secretaries of the Wesleyan Missionary Society to entertain the proposal of a union with the Conference of Upper Canada. Whereas the avowed motive of the two connexions in this important measure was a mutual conviction, "that the cause of religion generally, and the interests of Methodism in particular, would, under the blessing of God, be greatly promoted by their united exertions," the Messrs. Ryerson assert, on what they designate *indubitable evidence*, that the Missionary Secretaries and other members of the English Conference, had, from the commencement of the negotiations of the union, ulterior objects in contemplation; that with the most specious, pious and philanthropic purposes upon their lips, they were insidiously aiming at "the gradual extinction of every sort of influence as identified with the Canada Conference—the transfer of that influence into other channels, and into other hands—and the absolute supremacy of the Committee and Conference in England over all the Departments and Institutions in Canada." In reply to their assertion, that this was in substance avowed by DR. ALDER, in the late Conference in England, and will be found embodied in the Resolutions of the

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