

sult upon her, but "retract! no, not a hairbreadth!" They have disturbed and distracted the minds of congregations, and done everything to break them up; but "they are men of peace, and "there need be no misunderstanding—if you quietly withdraw "out of our road."

There are other causes of weakness which might be pointed out, but those who pursue the investigation searchingly will be at no loss to discover them.

It may assist some to arrive at a definite conclusion as to the course they intend to follow, if they bear in mind that even should a majority of the Synod decide to sever their connection with the Church of Scotland, there will still be left behind a fair number of ministers and adherents fully equipped for the work of the Church, with colleges, with an endowment fund, with church buildings, with a prosperous ministers', widows' and orphans' fund. To those who have watched, calmly or otherwise, with a full knowledge of the legal rights of parties, the proceedings of what *purport* to be meetings of Committees on Union, it has been amusing to see them differing in opinion about the disposal of funds; quarrelling, almost to the point of breaking off negotiations, about the position the colleges are to occupy; negotiating about the manner in which the Church they were about to enter was to raise funds commensurate with those brought in by the new adherents. Diplomacy may be regarded with admiration when it is seen employed by skilled diplomatists engaged in settling weighty questions of reality. When these gentlemen are busily engaged in discussions analogous to the carrying of water in sieves, they are apt to be looked at in a ridiculous light. To the Presbyterian Church of Canada in connection with the Church of Scotland belong the whole machinery and equipments now held in her name. Relieved from the incubus that has weighed on their energies, the adherents of that Church will proceed to the work given them to do, earnestly, faithfully, vigorously. They may, no doubt will, have their days of trial; they may, no doubt will, be calumniated, misrepresented, maligned; but their duty is plainly set before them, and to that duty they will devote themselves, no matter how many or how few of them

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