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Miscellaneous Articles.

THE FOURTH ARTICLE OF THE BASIS, WITH OR WITHOUT THE NOTE.

To the Editor of the Canadian U. P. Magazine.

SIR,—I suppose you are well nigh tired of communications in reference to the Union. Perhaps, in the meantime, enough has been said and written about the subject, yet there is one point which I feel to be greatly important, and which if brought prominently into view, and prayerfully considered might help somewhat to the unanimous adoption of the Basis as it stands, without “the Note,” which has caused so much discussion.

The question now is, What will the U. P. Church do about that “Note”? Will it say that without it there can be *no Union*? or will it adopt the Basis without either “Note or Comment”? Of course neither you, nor I, nor any other man can answer that question. The day will declare it. In the meantime, however, perhaps you will allow me to say, as an individual, that I should be sorry, if negotiations between the Churches were broken off on account of that “Note”. The fourth article in the Basis is no doubt declared by some, *prima facie* to favour compulsory principles in religion, and therefore it is said, it would not be honest for a Voluntary to adopt it without explanation, for though he could do so, and quite conscientiously, yet he would do it in a way which would not accord with the understanding of others. That would seem to me to intimate that the “Note” was not so much exegetical as supplementary, to the article, and that therefore, every one who felt the Note necessary would have been acting at once more manfully, more logically, and more frankly, by insisting