

vocates of our own proposed union. They usually quote such passages as John x, 16, 17, 21. And in passing we may briefly notice the sublime and unique prayer of our Lord in the seventeenth chapter of John. In the ninth verse he says he prays only for those whom the Father has given him, not for the world. He asks four blessings for his people, viz.: that they may be kept, sanctified, united and glorified. We believe that all true Christians are kept, sanctified and glorified, and why should we doubt their unity? The redeemed in all ages, in heaven and on earth, are one in Christ. But organic union is not essential to the unity for which our Lord prayed, for it includes only those who are kept and sanctified. There are millions in organic churches who know not the Lord, and consequently cannot be united in any spiritual sense of the word. But you say that the unity that proves the divine mission and power of Christ must be visible to the world. Yes, but it must be the union of zeal, truth and sanctity, not mere uniformity. Who proved to the sixteenth century the power of Christianity; the great organic body that claimed to be the one, holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church; or the few, scattered, and b y n oceans organically united, Reformers that revolutionized the religious life and thought of the world? Twenty men united on the truth will accomplish more for the glory of God than two hundred million united in error.

The saving of men and money is the only forcible, and the most contemptible argument advanced on behalf of organic union. Such an argument is utterly unworthy of the men whose forefathers sacrificed their lives for the truth which we are ready to compromise. It is extremely doubtful if we can save any money by such a union. In the cities our churches will remain essentially as they are, and even in villages no compulsion can be used to force small charges to unite. Though thirty years have elapsed since the union of the various Presbyterian bodies in the Dominion, yet weak charges within a few hundred yards of each other have never united. I know of three Presbyterian churches within a quarter of a mile of each other whose combined membership is not so large as the membership of single congregations in the Presbytery of Toronto. Are weak charges more likely to unite now when they have been so different in origin, history, doctrine and polity? It appears to me that there are six Presbyterian or Methodist congregations in some towns when half the number would suffice, if people would only walk a reasonable distance to church. If congregations will not unite though so near each other, is it likely that organic union will bring charges together that belonged to different denominations?

Endless confusion will be caused by different teaching in congregations and colleges. Does any one imagine that Dr. Burwash will teach Calvinism to his students, or that Dr. McLaren, of Knox College, will lecture in the glorious logic of Arminianism? The sun may rise in the west, but Principal McLaren can never be anything except a loyal Calvinist. If the doctrinal basis of union is Calvinistic, as some maintain, then the Methodist brethren must seriously attein their consciences, for those to whom I have spoken do not seem to understand it so. Indeed, one Methodist minister distinctly stated to me that they would interpret the statement of doctrine from the Arminian standpoint, or words to that effect. So the historic order of the Presbyterian Church is likely to be turned into confusion, and her proverbial liberty into license.

It is more than probable that thousands of Presbyterians and Methodists will positively decline to enter the proposed union. As for our excellent brethren of the Congregational Church, the Presbyterians are, I think, quite ready to unite with them as they have generally accepted the Reformed, or Calvinistic, faith. And, besides, the Independents have a glorious

history as defenders of civil and religious liberty. The difference between the Independent and Presbyterian polity is small compared with the differences between Calvinism and Arminianism on the doctrines of sin and salvation.

As Froude tells us, it was Calvinists that saved the Reformation from being crushed in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. We are told that 'the most moral people of all history, the Puritans, Pietists, Huguenots, Reformed Dutch of Holland and German of the Palatinate, and the Scotch and the Scotch-Irish of Ulster and the United States, were all Calvinists.' All the great saints, preachers, patriots, theologians and scholars have been Calvinists or Lutherans. The Reformers of the sixteenth century have been Pedistarians without a single exception. If we except John Wesley, and he was more of an organizer than a preacher, all the great and successful evangelists from Johnathan Edwards to Evan Roberts, have been Calvinists. All the leading preachers of modern times, such as Strong, Talmage, Moody, Torrey, and the greatest of all—McLaren of Manchester—have been Calvinists.

I cannot name an outstanding personality among our foreign missionaries who was not connected with the Reformed faith. Calvinism is not dead, and it never can die so long as the gospel of God's love and grace is proclaimed. Only yesterday a Presbyterian minister remarked that he never would enter such a united church as is proposed, that he would rather go to the Presbyterian Church in the United States than compromise the faith he vowed to uphold and teach.

PRESBYTERIAN.

The Synod of Hamilton and London will meet in Zion church, Brantford, on Monday evening, 30th April, when the sermon will be preached by the retiring moderator, Rev. Dr. Munro. In addition to discussion of the Reports of Standing Committees, Conferences will be held at such times as the Synod may appoint, upon the following topics: 1. "The Minimum Creed," introduced by Rev. R. Atkinson, M.A.; discussion opened by Rev. C. Fletcher, M.A. 2. "Evangelism and the Ministry," introduced by Rev. H. Dickie, M.A., B.D.; discussion opened by Rev. John Crawford, B.A. Thirty minutes is allowed for the introduction of each topic, and fifteen minutes for opening the discussion.

The need for training teachers to teach Gaelic-speaking children in the Highlands their own language was the subject of a denutation which waited on Mr. Sinclair, Secretary for Scotland, on the 2nd inst. Mr. Sinclair said the department had instituted for the first time a bonus of £10 for the employment of each Gaelic-speaking teacher, and the department would see reasonable facilities were given teachers for the study of Gaelic.

There is a great awakening in Central India. At Sudore services have been held every day, and "I have seen," writes a missionary who visited the place, "the most modest, shy girls—recently rescued as famine orphans—stand up without a tremor in a large mixed audience and give wonderful testimony. They read a passage of Scripture, and then exhort with a profound spiritual erudition."

The Westminster chapel, London, of which Dr. Campbell Morgan is pastor, has decided to give one-tenth of its income to foreign missions, and the pastor is to preach a missionary sermon once a month.

Two brothers of Rev. A. M. Currie, M.A., of Deseronto, successfully passed their examinations in theology in Knox College, Toronto. L. H. Currie, B.A., has completed his final year, and J. W. Currie, B.A., has completed his second year and won two scholarships.

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

Three hundred Russian political prisoners have just been deported to Siberia by way of Moscow and Borisolietsk.

The Glasgow city tramways now extend to 78 miles.

It is proposed to establish an epileptic colony in Glasgow.

Rev. O. B. Millgan, Edinburgh, has been elected minister of St. Columba's Parish, Oban.

The jubilee of the National Temperance League is to be celebrated in London in October next.

Port William Free Church congregation has petitioned to be received into the United Free Church.

On the 27th ult. Kirkwall Presbytery presented Rev. J. Rutherford with an address on occasion of his jubilee.

The people of the United Kingdom spent £22,200,000 less for drink in the last five years than in the five years before that.

Mr. Bennett Burleigh, the well known war correspondent, is critically ill from double pneumonia. He is a native of Glasgow.

On the 3rd inst. a relief of Burns—a book (a poem "The Squire's Tale") which belonged to him—was sold here for £5.

A case of supposed poisoning, the result of eating a species of shellfish known as razorfish, has occurred in Campbelltown.

An old pensioner, Daniel Cameron (95), Campbelltown, was seriously burned through his bed-clothes catching fire from his pipe.

On his semi-jubilee the Rev. Wm. Maxwell, of Cardross Parish Church, has been presented with several gifts, including a purse of sovereigns.

Hawick is to confer the freedom of the burgh on Dr. J. A. H. Murray, of Oxford, editor of the New English Dictionary. He is a native of the district.

The United States Supreme Court has declared divorces void where one of the parties is not a resident of the State where the decree is granted.

In recognition of Sir Donald Currie's gift of £20,000 to the Queen's College, Belfast Corporation have agreed to present him with the freedom of the city.

Linotype machines are being installed at the Bank of England, and in future the addresses on the dividend notices sent out will be printed instead of written by hand.

About a year ago Mr. Wm. Donald, road contractor, Uddington, got £600 stolen from him, and the other day his pocket-book and £400 of it were dropped into his letter box.

Statistics just issued show that the number of emigrants from Ireland in 1905 to the United States was 24,134, and to Canada 2,260. Two hundred and eighty-five went to Australia.

"I knew you were Scotch by the way you gave evidence," said Mr. Trontheek, a London coroner, to a witness. "Scotch people generally give better and clearer evidence than English people."

The bakers in Dumfries are honest men. An inspector called on all the bakers and grocers there, and found that in every case the 2lb. loaf was heavier than the denominated weight.

A papal encyclical has been read in the Catholic churches of Warsaw admonishing the Mariavitz (the new Catholic sect) that they are following the ways of error and should return to the fold.

It is 45 years since King Edward—then, of course, Prince of Wales—bought the Sandringham estate for £220,000. He has considerably increased the beauty of the estate by planting innumerable trees.

The late Wm. Sutherland, Brora, was a regular visitor to all in trouble and when well never missed attendance at the funeral of a parishioner. For many years he had been one of the best known of "the men."