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Miscellaneous Articles.

UNION BETWEEN THE FREE AND UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES.

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

SIR,—I beg to offer a few remarks on the above subject, suggested by the Rev. Mr. Ure's letter, contained in your No. for January, leaving it, however, to some better qualified brother to go more fully into the matter.* I hope to be "calm," as you recommend, though I fear I may not succeed in being so "argumentative" as you could wish. And let me say, at the outset, that though the prospects of union are not very bright, there are still some rather promising appearances in the case. Both churches profess, and I doubt not, with perfect sincerity, to be desirous of union, on principles which to each seem scriptural. The advantages of such a union, all agree, are numerous, obvious, and great. Sanguine expectations were recently entertained that a union, even more comprehensive, would be speedily accomplished in Australia. Hopeful movements, I understand, are at present in progress, for a union between the English Presbyterian Church, and that portion of the United Presbyterian Church which has a local habitation south of the Tweed. Were either of these junctions happily effected, it would naturally tend to draw ours in its train. What is, perhaps, more to the purpose than all this, it seems probable from Mr. Ure's letter, that there may have been some misconception among us, as to the difference really subsisting between the two churches in Canada. Your contributor, Dr. Ferrier, I think, admits, in your last No., page 38, that there is more hope on this ground than he had previously supposed.

Mr. Ure is pleased to say, that the resolutions adopted by our Synod "were conceived in an excellent spirit." I believe every person present at the Synod will attest that the whole of its procedure in connection with

* A Reply to Mr. Ure may probably appear in our next.—Ed.