

since a Church which holds property on certain terms must come under the cognizance of the State law, whenever it ventures to change the terms on which it holds its property?

The long discussion did good. It made men acquainted with each other and with each other's attitude; and above all it made men see the advantages and the dangers which attend their differing ideals. Men are always the better for being compelled to say how an ideal will work.

The Church of Scotland Committee, however, came to closer issues by preparing "Articles Declaratory of the Constitution of the Church of Scotland in matters spiritual." They proposed that, if these Articles, with or without adjustment, were found acceptable by both Churches, their Church should seek to carry them through Parliament with the benevolent assent of the United Free Church. When this had been done, it would be possible for the two Churches to proceed to union on that basis. The Articles, even in their present condition, are so significant that they seem to merit to be printed at the end of this paper.

Naturally, since the document had only been prepared by a Committee, it was necessary to submit it to the Church of Scotland itself in order to see whether its members approved. The Articles were accordingly laid before the General Assembly, and, since they were as important as they were novel, were sent down by that Court for examination and report by the Presbyteries. At the same time, the Assembly gave authority that they should be transmitted to the United Free Church Committee, in order that any necessary explanations might be given and difficulties removed.

No sooner had the Articles been remitted to the Presbyteries than opposition began to show itself. The fact is not in the least surprising. We all know how, so long as Union is talked of in general platitudes at bazaars, etc., everyone is astonished, or professes to be astonished, at the delay in carrying it out. But we also know how, so soon as the proposals reach the stage of being practical, opposition appears. Men see what Union is going to cost and to take