

and more effectually combine our efforts to promote the Redeemer's Kingdom, that representatives of our Churches and Societies are here this day assembled.

It is evident that in time past we have needed combination. If we have not this, the independency of which we boast were an evil rather than a blessing. I may be permitted here to glance at some of those objects which especially demand the united counsel and efforts of our Churches in these Provinces, and at which the proposed "Union" or "Convention" may usefully aim.

The importance of this measure for the prosperous management of our *Foreign Mission* hardly needs comment. It is evidently impossible, in any other way, to obtain that concentrated action which, it is apparent, must be necessary to the support and direction of a Mission thousands of miles distant from the Churches that maintain it.

But *Domestic Missions*, also, though not now, perhaps, proposed to be an immediate object of the Convention, might, doubtless, derive great benefit from concentrated thought and combined action. There are in Nova Scotia, and I doubt not in this Province, also, modes of operation, obviously necessary to the increase of prosperity in our Domestic Missions, which cannot be effected but by a more enlarged plan than hitherto pursued; any enlargement of plan, however, requires many minds engaged in it; it requires concentrated power, and, for my own part, I doubt not that a union of the Churches in these Provinces, to some extent at least, in order to obtain the increase of means and of wisdom which constitute that power, would prove highly advantageous.

But the subject about which there may probably exist most jealousy, lest we trespass on the respective rights of our existing communities in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, is Education. I should be sorry to do anything to provoke or alarm that jealousy, but I am, at the same time, assured that we need combination, for the purpose of education, fully as much as any other object, if not more than for any other. The advancement of Religion amongst us is greatly dependent on the advancement of education as an indispensable means of religious as well as social improve-