

compromise there could be no Union at all ; and, therefore, if each tenaciously maintains the ground indicated above, they must be content to be understood as saying—"We want no Union with the other party on any terms whatever."

In the matter of Lay Representation in the Annual Conferences, the opposition, if any, will probably come from Ministers of the Methodist Church of Canada. The Primitive Methodist and Bible Christian Churches have always had it, and will not object to it now. The Methodist Episcopal Church has not had it, but, so far as I can learn, they do not object to its introduction. The laity of the Methodist Church of Canada have shown no special desire for it ; but as it will increase rather than restrict their privileges, it is not likely they will oppose it. Ministers of the latter body may object, not because they are averse to laymen taking an equal share with themselves in the business of the Church, but because they see no good likely to accrue from the measure, while on the other hand it will necessitate further divisions of Annual Conferences, or greatly increase the difficulties of billeting.

In regard to the Superannuation Fund, it is not easy to tell from what source opposition may arise. Some may regard the proposed basis as unsatisfactory ; but let them sit down and endeavour to draft something better, and they will probably find that the plan submitted by the Committee is as fair and equitable as any that can be devised.

#### *Surplus Men.*

One very common objection urged against Union is, that in the unavoidable readjustment of the work a large number of ministers will be on the hands of the various Stationing Committees for whom there will be no circuits. But I am persuaded this difficulty is greatly over-stated. The number of "surplus men" will be found to be much smaller than many suppose. A short time ago a minister of the London Conference (who, by the way, is anything but favourable to Union), referred to this point. He said some argued for Union on the ground that it would effect a great saving in men and money, "but," he continued, "I have been looking over the London Conference, and I can call up but two or three places where, if Union were con-