

thereon, as he had not given it a mature consideration. He considered it, however, highly desirable that a union should take place—for union would give them more respectability and influence, and would consequently put them in a condition of being of greater usefulness. Respecting the basis of union, he had nothing to object to; if it was worked out with care, prudence, and moderation, they would no doubt be successful in accomplishing a most desirable object; but at the present time he thought that they, as a Church, were not prepared to take the step proposed. They were still receiving aid from home, which they could not dispense with. They were therefore not in a condition to cast off their connexion with the parent Church—to which result he believed it would come, if they united themselves with the body known as “the Presbyterian Church of New Brunswick;” and the question therefore was, whether they would not lose their position as members of the Church of Scotland by forming such a union? whether, if any of their members were anxious to return to their native land (as some of them might be), they would not lose their status as members of the parent Church, if such a step as that proposed was effected? He certainly was not prepared to propose that they should cast off their connexion with the mother Church, and forego the privilege of being one of her ministers. In thus expressing his hasty sentiments, he wished it to be understood that he was quite liberal in his views, and that he entertained the highest respect for members of other Presbyterian bodies.

Mr. ROBERT NICHOLSON (Elder) then observed, that he would not say much on the subject under discussion; but he would say that he had seen no reason why their brethren should have separated from them in the first place. If they were desirous to return again to the fold, they were welcome to come back as members of the Church of Scotland.

Rev. Mr. MACKIE (Moncton) had very little to say on the subject, but his sentiments were in accordance with those which had been expressed by the Rev. Mr. Ogg. Before debating on such an important subject, he thought that the Church at home should be consulted officially.

Mr. GRANT (Elder) briefly said he was in favour of union; but, taking into consideration what would in all probability result if that union were effected, he gave it as his opinion that he would rather stick to the old Church.