

Had the so-called "Union" in Canada been like that of the worthy bodies of Dissenters in Scotland—a voluntary union of parties of the same persuasion which benefited all alike—or like the Free Church of Scotland that nobly *sacrificed all temporalities for the sake of their principles*, it had been well enough. But the "Union" in Canada was the reverse of all this—a compulsory union, the like of which was never known before, in which Acts of Legislatures were employed to strip people of their property, and drive those of different persuasions into an unnatural union, whether they would or not, and that under civil pains and penalties! It is a political movement, the vain object of its promoters being to rise to power and control the politics of the Dominion; it is a mercenary movement whose chief end is the attainment of wealth, its promoters, unlike the Free Church, having *sacrificed their principles for the sake of temporalities*; it is a treacherous movement, in which those who were pledged by their ordination vows to defend the Scotch Church have betrayed her, and it is a seditious movement intended to strengthen the *party in power* that would sever connection with Britain. In short, you see a persecuting movement on the part of our opponents, in which the whole hue and cry has been "Put down the Scotch Church, trample her out of existence as a moral nuisance, an unholy thing, and give us her property!"

Opposed to such a union are, not only our religious principles, our many civil rights, and the best interests of Canada, but our national honour. No, we will never allow the Church of Scotland to be trampled in the dust in that manner, nor consent to the extinction of her glorious name. *Certain* mean Scotchmen betrayed her, but *all* Scotchmen would not act like them. Thank God, she has been saved from that national disgrace by the few who have stood by her through all this persecution.

Notwithstanding the many obstacles which present themselves to a union attempted on its present basis, it has been rashly entered on by its promoters; but as their whole previous procedure, at alleged Synod meetings, was illegal, and in violation of the constitution of the Church, even to overriding the Barrier Act, their union falls to the ground; in reality there never was a union, nor will their action stand the test of law. Based on crime, their movement cannot prosper, though it may boast great things, and for a little spread itself out like the green bay-tree. And our traitor brethren are already beginning to reap their reward, being expelled, one after another, from the union ranks, which have now *no more use for them*! The injury their ecclesiastical robbery has done to religion in Canada is incalculable; the injustice of the whole movement is a matter of comment to every one. A writer well observes: \* "The first clause in the

\* Toronto "Mail," Jan. 31, 1878.