

# THE CANADIAN UNITED PRESBYTERIAN MAGAZINE.

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## Miscellaneous Articles.

### UNION BETWEEN THE FREE AND UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES.

*To the Editor of the Canadian United Presbyterian Magazine.*

REV. SIR:—In the April number of your Magazine, you publish a communication from W. R. A., purporting to be an answer to Mr. Ure's Letter on the union of the Free and U. P. Churches. In that communication the writer advocates the propriety of "discussing the matter coolly and candidly, and with a prayerful spirit, in our different periodicals." Believing this to be your desire and concurring with him in supposing that there are things not fully understood between us, I request the insertion of the following queries:—answers to which will tend much to make us of the Presbyterian Church of Canada understand more fully the "peculiar views," of our United Presbyterian brethren. I do not intend attempting an answer to the article, as I am sure that will be forth-coming in its proper place and time. I will merely refer to some things contained in the article which, for me, need explanation.

On page 99, the writer says, "there was no asking on our part that the Free Church should suppress their testimony on any principle in reference to the Magistrate's power," and again, "we say at once from our general estimate, 'Hold all your sentiments, brethren, we will not quarrel with you for doing so, and if we cannot adopt them *simpliciter* in theory, we will not stand in the way of their practical results.'"

1. Are we to understand from this that in case of a union, the whole body, U. P., and Canadian Presbyterian, will give a *united* testimony on any principle in reference to the Magistrate's power, and that voluntaries in that united body will not stand in the way of the practical application of such principles, according to the views held by the Presbyterian Church of Canada? It must be observed, Mr. Ure says *united* testimony—If this is answered in the affirmative, we certainly are not far apart.

2. On page 100, the writer says "there are national sins, and national duties." As we hold this also, an explanation of what the U. P., brethren mean, either by enumeration or illustration, might lead us to common ground.