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Miscellaneous Articles.

REFLECTIONS ON THE UNION.

It is an important question, Have the united Churches, now forming the *one* Canada Presbyterian Church, received a fair remuneration for fifteen years' delay in consummating the Union? We think they have. Sudden unions are seldom lasting. The nearer two bodies come to each other without an actual amalgamation, the greater are the obstacles to perfected identity. Moreover, the phrase has been turned almost into household words—that “great bodies move slowly.” Yea, what is most worthy of notice, the years of delay were not spent in controversy, but in something more profitable. The two Churches began with controversy, and some smart pamphlets were put out; but the period of battle was succeeded by a period of repose. No progress was then made at all in the way of Union; and for obvious reasons. *That* was not the way of getting at it, except in an indirect manner. Both parties rested on their oars; looked at one another; examined each other's position; got better acquainted; felt the desirableness of Union more every day; and grew in mutual affection. After pauses longer and shorter, the union intercourse was ever and anon renewed; Providence and the gracious loving spirit of God shed a propitious influence around all the parties, and now a happy result is realized.

But is that result the issue of feeling and of expediency only? We apprehend not. Intellect and study have had much to do with it; yet, controversy apart, the whole question has been viewed on its bearings *pro* and *con*; and the obstacles have been seen to give way before the dawning of greater good on the whole. On both sides there has been a narrowing of the neutral ground. Concessions have been made on both sides till the question has become not “how