

revered fathers and brethren who formerly were in these Provinces, men like Principal Snodgrass, the Rev. A. McWilliam of Georgetown, the Rev. C. Ogg of Chatham, Rev. Jas. McDonald of Barney's River, Rev. C. M. Grant, the Rev. Allan Pollok, and all the great men who came as deputations from the Church of Scotland, were always and still are eagerly and earnestly in favour of the proposed re-union. What does this fact mean? It means that all the men that we as a Church have reason to be proud of in our recent history, the men who were able to consider the question impartially and from every point of view, could only come to one conclusion on it. Taking this in connection with the first fact stated, have we not a right to ask for some names as leading an opposition to it, that we may ask of them the reasons of the no-faith that is in them!

3. The Church of Scotland approves of it as an honorable alliance, and she has always said, as loudly as respect for us would permit, that it is our duty to unite. When the Australian Churches united, she said so most emphatically. And this year when Principal Snodgrass explained our basis, she said so again and still more emphatically, both by the mouth of the representative of the Colonial Committee and by the Moderator. To those who fancy that we are cutting asunder any tie that binds us to her, we give the words of the Moderator, "the cord that connects us will be lengthened, not loosed." The Church of Scotland would gladly have union at home on such a basis as ours. And we by uniting will do the Church of Scotland good, in more ways than one. To oppose Union then on the ground of loyalty to the Church of Scotland would be like fighting against the Queen and Parliament on the score of loyalty.

4. The proposed Union is sure to do much good, and can do no injury to any one. First, think of the good we may reasonably hope for. It is a re-union. It is a great home coming of all the children once widely scattered. It is thus a spectacle to the world of the indestructible vitality there is in religion, of the power it gives us

to forgive and forget old feuds and hatreds, and to heal deep divisions. Bitter have the contests been, for when Greek meets Greek, then comes the tug of war. But why should the Greeks be divided, when the barbarians are thundering at the gates?

Again it will enable us to concentrate our efforts at home and abroad. At present the population is increasing in our own Province, the Dominion is being extended in the great North West, and we instead of advancing are barely able to hold our own. We have now eight vacancies, and cannot think of entering on the new fields that are loudly calling for help. The sister Church has twenty-five vacancies. Our Church in the Upper Provinces has as many. And the supply of ministers is lessening every year. Is not this a loud call to concentrate? At present we exist only in five Counties of the Province. Can we be satisfied with such a position, if we have any value for the principles that our Church represents, or any patriotic desires for the true weal of our country? And abroad, we have our missionaries contending single-handed with dense masses of heathenism. Is that right? And how can we expect the heathen to cast aside their idols, if we refuse to cast aside ours. We ask them to sacrifice their ancient religion. We refuse to sacrifice a prejudice.

Secondly, what possible harm can the Union do to any one? Every congregation and individual after it, will be exactly in the same position that they were in before. The Church Courts will be larger and more efficient. Congregations when vacant will have a longer list of licentiates to select from, but as now it will be wholly for themselves to select the man they wish. Property will be undisturbed. The expense of the Schemes will be less, for of course it is cheaper to manage one business than two. But so entirely will everything congregational be exactly what it was before, that people actually would not know that an Union had taken place, unless they were told that it had. Even as to their old prejudices, they may keep them till they die a natural death if they value them very highly.