

Christ by faith, and to each other by love, we have all the union we desire—a true spiritual union, and not an external compulsory one.

The union proposed is no union, but the completion of former schisms—no union, but disunion from the Church of Scotland with all her advantages and blessings, it is a movement which robs our people of the privilege and consolation of their national religion—nay, which involves, with the plunder of her property, and the sacrifice of her principles, her complete annihilation down to the proscription of her very name, which is to be blotted out from the list of churches, as if she were the blackest of criminals, and a strange name substituted unknown to Church history. Under the deceptive name, "Union" then is implied the utter extinction of the Scotch Church in Canada.

Viewed even by the discord it has created the union movement is an intolerable evil; but viewed as involving the downfall of the orthodox Kirk, and as entailing upon Canada a night of darkness, it is a calamity that should rouse all true Kirkmen to defend their religion. Nobly did the people in Canada support the Kirk, and if some of them are being estranged from her this is the doing of their treacherous spiritual guides who have done their utmost to draw away their affections from her, and overturn the Church they swore to defend. Oh! shameful treachery! Let the traitors be expelled and punished as they deserve, let the Kirk be relieved of the incubus that has long weighed on its energies, and, with a sufficient remnant of faithful ministers and members left to carry on her work, there is yet a bright and glorious future before her in British America. And while ministers are false, let their congregations be true, and cling to the Kirk as to their strong-hold. Oh! my countrymen, that I could vindicate her right to that place in your affections to which she is so eminently entitled. And I doubt not that among you are many true and noble hearts who love our Zion, and deprecate her fall—Israelites indeed, to whom she is most dear and "most beautiful, the joy of the whole earth."

A great crisis is now before her. Our brethren are in arms—the voice of the coming conflict is sounding over Canada, and we must unfurl the standard of the Kirk. Come to her aid every true son of Caledonia—all who love the land of the heather and the thistle—"land of the mountain and the flood." Come to her aid, brave men of Ireland whose forefathers carried her to your shores in days of persecution. Come to her aid, good men of Canada whose fathers planted her among you, in the first settlement of the Colony, as the greatest blessing they could bestow. Let us all, whether natives of Britain or British America, *as all children of the Kirk*, and as true Israelites, defend our national Zion. Shall those who have even no name contend for their rights, and the Kirk do nothing, that has weathered the storm for hun-