

## THE UNION OF THE PROVINCES OF UPPER AND LOWER CANADA.

Although our periodical is religious and not political, it does not follow that important events connected with our more immediate local history, or even with the history of eventful changes in other lands, are to be unnoticed in our pages. "Can ye not discern the signs of the times?" The Christian is a man of observation. He recognises the hand of Providence in all the occurrences transpiring around him, and seeks to turn them to some holy purpose. Our more reflecting readers will feel, we are assured, that our present political circumstances, but more especially the event alluded to in the heading of these remarks, constitute an interesting and important crisis in the history of Canada. Let Canada Christians and Canada Baptists be fully alive to it. *Union* is now the watchword of our politicians. Let it be the watchword of the Christian church and especially of the Baptist denomination. For the political and social improvement of this extensive country, every thing, at the present moment, appears to augur well. At the helm of affairs we behold an experienced statesman. The Government of Britain appears determined that the country shall derive the full benefit of her patronage and fostering care. Emigration is about to pour her tens of thousands into our Townships. How stands the case in respect to a higher kingdom? What is the aspect of the Church of Christ in Canada? what the attitude of Canada Baptists? Are we combining, and adapting our plans and enterprises to this awakening and brightening condition of our political prospects? The present season calls loudly for co-operation amongst all, who have at heart the welfare of the glorious cause of our Redeemer. Shall Citizens and Senators be seen blending their counsels, who have never blended them before, and resolving for the good of their country to bury the very recollection of past animosities; and Christians, even Christians of the same household, present the melancholy spectacle of division and mutual distrust and perpetuated strife? Shall the professed disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ be behind other men in mutual forbearance, in public spirit, or a readiness to make sacrifices for the promotion of great objects? We trust it shall not be so. May the delightful sound of union which has gone forth amidst the acclamations of approving thousands from all our high places, be reverberated from every sanctuary, from every domestic altar, and from every holy spot where solitary prayer ascends to heaven. May this especially be the case as it regards our own denomination: Baptists have been charged with having less of the spirit of Christian unity than other bodies. We believe this to be an unfounded reproach. May the proof of its falsity, so far as Canada is concerned, speedily be furnished. But how shall it be furnished? Upon what ground shall we unite? Around what common centre can we rally? There can be but one reply; let us be thankful that a kind providence has enabled us to give it. We may unite upon the holy ground of missionary enterprise for our destitute Townships. We may rally around the Theological Institution and the Magazine. *And now is the time.* Let Canada Baptists from Huron to Champlain, in a spirit of piety and fraternal love, gather around that good society which has risen up from amongst themselves, which invites all will repay their support. Let them cherish an institution identified with their warm desires, their prayers, their Christian sympathies, and their cherished sentiments, as earnestly avowed, uncompromising Baptists.

\* \* The Union of the Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, under the name of the Province of Canada, for their "good government" and "for the security of the rights and liberties, and the preservation of the interests, of all classes of her Majesty's subjects within the same," was officially proclaimed in the city of Montreal on the 10th of February.