

which this union has been effected having been brought under the consideration of the last General Assembly, and that Assembly having declared that there is nothing in those terms to prevent the Assembly from wishing God speed in their future labours for the Lord to brethren who propose to accept union on that basis, or from co-operating with them in any way that may be found possible in the new state of things, the General Assembly resolved to record, and through the respected deputies from Canada to convey to the brethren in the United Church of the Dominion, an expression of their earnest prayer that God may be pleased to hallow and bless the union, and to make it the means of promoting peace as well as all the other interests of religion among the people. The Assembly, at the same time, regret to learn that the threatened division in the Canadian Synod of which intimation was given in the Report to the last General Assembly has, to some extent, become a reality. As to different views of duty in regard to accepting or rejecting the union, this Assembly, like all former Assemblies, express no opinion; but, being persuaded that those brethren who have declined to enter the United Church, not less than those who have accepted the union, have acted under a strong sense of duty, the Assembly assure them of their continued regard and desire for their prosperity and usefulness. And, while the Assembly will not cease to pray and use such means as may be within their power, and entreat their brethren in Canada to unite in the same prayer and efforts, that all heats may be allayed and any remaining division may be healed, they will cordially continue to co-operate in any possible way with both parties in promoting the religious interests of their colonial brethren."

Then follows the last sentence, which I have already read. That is the resolution passed in my presence at the meeting of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in May, eighteen hundred and seventy-six.

MR. MACMASTER.—They gave them both a blessing.

PRINCIPAL GRANT.—That shows that they did not disapprove of our action. What is more, they continue to give us money.

MR. MACMASTER.—You will have money; there is no doubt about that.

PRINCIPAL GRANT.—Ministers do not care for money, but I am speaking to laymen. However, grants of money are a substantial expression of opinion that all men can interpret. Now, Mr. Chairman, having thus constitutionally taken action in our own Church, and having got the approval of the Mother Church, did we unite? No. We had first to see what the Legislatures of the country—the men we had elected for the purpose of dealing with temporal affairs—would say to the proposal. There was a contrast drawn by Mr. Macmaster yesterday between Providence and Parliament. He, being a member of a Provincial Parliament, ought to know. I did not know that there was such a marvellous distinction. I decline to believe that there is. My way of finding out the meaning of Providence, so far as the relations of man to man from day to day are concerned, is by learning what the