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Miscellaneous Articles.

A WORD FROM SCOTLAND ON THE UNION.

It is from no wish to intermeddle with matters which do not immediately concern me, that I venture to indite a few thoughts from this side of the Atlantic on the proposed Union between the United Presbyterian and Free Churches of Canada. The discussion of the terms of their Union is interesting to the whole Church of Christ, as involving principles of Christian brotherhood and showing the way in which sister denominations of the Presbyterian family may be incorporated into one. If this Union is conducted to a prosperous issue it may form a pattern for other Churches to follow; but if it is marred by any ungenial element, it may injure the cause it is designed to promote. These considerations are, I doubt not, much before the minds of brethren of both Churches in the Province, and are felt to deepen the responsibility of their decisions. It is with a sincere desire to further this Union, on what I regard sound principles, that I crave liberty to offer these remarks on it. I wish it to be understood at the outset that I speak as a Scottish United Presbyterian, and avow myself a Voluntary, in creed, as well as in practice.

It appears to be very generally agreed that this Union is most desirable in itself, and likely to exert a happy influence on the prosperity of both Churches in the Province. That the great ends of Union, however, may be secured, it seems absolutely necessary that there be a full and explicit avowal of mutual sentiment on points of difference as well as agreement. If any ground is left for lurking suspicion, that reserve has been maintained on a cherished opinion,