

would also be productive of many conveniences, in the case of a minister being indisposed, or absent from home, as his place could frequently be supplied, without the least expense or inconvenience, by his brethren of other denominations. It would likewise show to the mass of professing Christians, that the doctrines promulgated, and the duties enforced, by ministers of different denominations, are substantially the same. What a disgrace to the Christian name, that such a friendly intercourse has never yet been established; or, when it occasionally happens, that it should be considered as an extraordinary and unlooked for phenomenon! What a strange and unexpected report must be received by Christian converts in heathen lands, when they are told that Christian ministers in this country, who were instrumental in sending missionaries to communicate to them the knowledge of salvation, are actuated by so much jealousy, and stand so much aloof from each other, for the purpose of addressing their fellowmen on subjects connected with their everlasting interests, and refrain from joining in unison in the ordinances of religion, although many of them expect, ere long, to join in harmony in the services of the sanctuary above! It is to be hoped, that such a disgrace to the Christian cause will soon be wiped away, and its inconsistency clearly perceived by all who are intelligent and "right-hearted men."

Such a friendly intercourse and correspondence as now suggested would be far more efficient in preparing the way for a cordial union of Christians, than the deliberations and discussions of a thousand doctors of divinity, delegated to meet in councils to settle the points in dispute between the different sects. This object, I presume, will never be accomplished by theological controversy, or by any attempt to convince the respective parties of the futility or erroneousness of their peculiar opinions; but, on the ground of their being brought nearer to each other, and more firmly united in the mutual exercise of the Christian virtues, and in the bonds of Christian affection. And when such an harmonious intercourse shall be fully effected, it will form a more glorious and auspicious era in the history of the Christian church, than has ever occurred since the "good tidings of great joy" were pro-

claimed in the plains of Bethlehem, or since the day of Pentecost, when "the whole multitude of them that believed were of one heart, and of one soul, and had all things common."

### Some Hints worthy of Application.

BY REV. WILLIAM G. SCOTT.

The spirit of content may be found in a proper estimate of ourselves; in thinking of ourselves humbly, as we ought to think. Conceit is the nursing-mother to a whole brood of jealousies and discontents. An exaggerated self-valuation, an overweening vanity, pervades all classes. The priest is worthy a better people, whilst the flock demand a wiser shepherd. The lawyer laughs at his clients, while these in their turn criticise his closing argument. The laborer thinks he works for nothing, while his employer tells him, 'tis just about what his labor is worth. This vanity leads all of us out of our own province into that of our neighbor's, and curses all with the evil eye of discontent. But, my friends, let us go so roughly no longer. He who is willing to take his proper place in society, content with what belongs to him, believing those who differ from him may be right, will usually find or make pleasant companions on his way. But the worst kind of conceit, and the lowest kind of defamation, are the results of bigotry and hateful sectarianism. I cannot, for my life, imagine a being more completely wretched, or more contemptible, than the bigot pastor, who believes that all the flowers of Zion bloom on his own hill-side; and that all the fruits of righteousness are to fall before his sickle. Have we never seen such, arrogantly assuming to hurl God's thunderbolts on each they deem his foe? By winning, and by warning, we should prove our true regard for such presumptuous zealots. We should trust they might be won to Christ, who is love, and would offer some passages of scripture for their consideration. "Have fervent charity among yourselves; for charity shall cover a multitude of sins." "A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another, as I have loved you." We should thus show the supremacy of love, and by feeling as good-humoredly as possible toward such erring Christians, should win them, for their own