

Warmly as he was attached to the creed and polity of our Free Kirk—of our Presbyterian communion, he belonged to the Church catholic—to the brotherhood of all the saints, of all true men in all true denominations. The universal anxiety of many and various pastors and congregations during his illness, so many of all varieties of religious sentiments and views thronging this house, and crowding round the open grave, witness to this in an unexampled manner. His less presses heavily on you—on you, my dear friends, who have been wont to hang upon his charmed lips here, and welcome him to your homes where his very presence made sunshine. You have the whole family of God's people with you. We may be thankful that such a man has lived.—He was, to use the poet's words, "a rare man." Gifted originally with an extraordinary combination of mind and heart, he had qualities any one of which apart might have made another man distinguished—a fine poetical temperament, a subtle vein of humor, an apt and pointed wit, a keen sense and relish of beauty, a quick eye for all natural objects, a correct and capacious memory, a power of exact thought and arrangement, a fluency of beautiful speech, and a ready pen not often excelled. He had cultivated these tastes by untiring study from early youth, and continued so to cultivate them to the last. He threw around all a bright pictorial imagination, and could draw illustrations from all the realms of nature and well-nigh all the sciences of life.—Need I speak of his manly disposition, his large-heartedness, his unostentatious generosity, of that ardent zeal and that elevated type and tone of charity which won the admiration and esteem of every one? He was a man beloved of God, and he repaid with usury all the love he won. I must have done with his personal character, nor can I dwell on his services to the church. They are well known, and in due time will be chronicled. He was one of the busiest of men, yet always at leisure. I offered myself for this duty, knowing that it would be very trying, but not able to resist the impulse moving me to pay this tribute to my brother in the Lord. I knew him, if not from his boyhood, at least from his ripening youth. I watched his college career with sanguine anticipation of his fame. I chose him to be my fellow-labourer in my parochial mission-house, and the beginning of his ministry was with me. I was the chief in introducing him to London to your notice, and in persuading him to accept your call. Our relations since have been of the choicest kind.—When the exciting crisis of the ten years' conflict compelled my prolonged residence here, our pastoral fellowship, like our personal friendship, continued unabated. I part with him, and call on you to part with him, in words of his own, translated from a song of the land of Luther. Dr. Candlish then recited the lines, "Gone to a home of sweet repose," and with some words of parting consolation to Dr. Hamilton's mourning friends brought his affecting and solemn address to a close.

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#### ITEMS OF GENERAL RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCE,

**RITUALISM.**—The ritualistic questions are still largely engaging public attention in England. At a recent meeting of the Evangelical party it was agreed to make an appeal to the courts of law, and to raise a guarantee fund of not less than £50,000 to enable the council to assist parishioners who may apply for advice and expenses.

**NATAL.**—The committee appointed by the Lambeth conference have recommended that a new bishop should be at once elected for Natal. The Bishop of London is of opinion that no election should take place, until Bishop Colenso has been lawfully deposed.