

the gospel. The communion of the saints was a vital doctrine with him, and his heart over-leapt all boundaries of creed and nationality, in its cordial embrace of all the members of "the General Assembly and Church of the First-Born, whose names are written in heaven."

It was a treat to meet him socially, especially in his own house. Vivacious in conversation, full of information, ready with apt anecdotes to illustrate his points, self-forgetful in his care for the ease and pleasure of his guests, he drew the hearts of the students to him, as to a father, around his family hearth. The same kindly, brotherly manner, followed him in his private intercourse with his students, wherever he met them, and did not a little to teach them in practice one of the secrets of pastoral success. His society helped to mould for good, and to refine the manners of the young ministers of his time.

In the Church courts he was a broad minded and very accurate ecclesiastical lawyer. His thorough acquaintance with the principles and practices of the Scottish church, gained from his active part taken in the exciting debates of the ten years' conflict, made him a master in the explication of all knotty church questions. It was a pleasure to listen to his exposition of church law, and must have helped his students to form correct views of the government of the church. No doubt his conservative nature made him a little too unwilling to admit of new applications of old principles to the peculiar circumstances of our new world life, but at the same time he could give a wonderfully good reason for following the old course, which he thought best.

In the pulpit he seldom appeared in our day, but when he did he edified his hearers with sound, clear exegesis, with wholesome, plain doctrine, and with practical applications of the truth to their daily life. He attempted no flights of oratory, and commanded the rapt attention of his hearers by the dish of truth which he served them, as one put in trust with the word of the living God. As a hearer himself, he was peculiar. He sat with his head upon his hands, which were supported by his cane; and, whilst not observing the messenger, drank in every word of the message. He was an accurate, yet lenient critic; and failed not to give his students hints, after having heard them preach, that were calculated to correct many of their faults.