

it promotes the general good. The more, as Christians and as citizens, that we recognize our corporate capacity, that we are members of a Body, the more satisfactory will be the result as far as the general prosperity of the community is concerned. Let us all thank God that, amid differences of opinion on every subject, the necessary result of the boon of freedom, we can yet, on earth, by charity and kindness and sacred ties of patriotism, realise the hope of the great future, when we trust that all these differences will cease, and that the various ties which bind us together here, which are most useful and much to be revered, will be all merged into the vast brotherhood of a universal family, of which the Head and Father is God himself. Meanwhile, let us help towards this great end by reverencing practically the claims of such a society as the one whose cause I plead to-night, and which recalls to our thoughts that, from the beginning, God created certain centres of affection and interest, to prepare mankind for the time, when all shall be one in Him, and all minor bonds of union will give way to the recognition of the universal and numberless human family, who, whatever their differences now, will then be one for ever in Heaven.

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