



THE RIGHT HAND OF FELLOWSHIP.

By the Reverend Mr. *Daniel Shute,*
of *Hingham.*

ORDER and harmony give lustre and perfection to the works of God; nor are they more conducive to the well-being of the *natural* than of the *moral* world, for *here* God reigns as the God of *order* and *peace* as in all the churches of the Saints.

As a Vindication of his righteous government in dispensing pardon and grace to sinners, he sent his Son into the world to suffer and die—to destroy the works of the Devil, and to recover mankind to the original rectitude of their nature, preparatory to that happiness for which they were first formed.

To carry on the saving design, the Son, *as head of the church*, delegated to some a power to preach the gospel, and in his name to beseech sinners to be reconciled to God *here*, that they might live with him in happy life *hereafter*.

Well therefore might Angels, in raptures at the Redeemer's birth, proclaim *peace on earth and good will to men*: By whose *advent* the terms of peace were proposed, the way to happiness directed, and means the best adapted to this end provided; all the result of immerited goodness.

And as the ministers of Christ are engaged in the *same cause*, and are *fellow-labourers* in his vineyard, it is fit they should be united in affection to one another, and in ardent endeavours to promote his interest among men.

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