

abound in these, and so glorify their Father in Heaven. By our fruits men judge us, and if they see in us love, joy, &c., they are led to honor Christ from whom they all proceed.

#### LESSONS.

(1.) The richest products of earth are chosen to symbolise to us the richness and fulness of Christ.

(2.) Believers are one with Christ. They are not without Him, nor He without them.

(3.) Because one with Him or because one in Him they should be fruitful in every good word and work.

(4.) Mere nominal connection with Christ will not benefit any one. Terrible is the end of such as have a name to live while they are dead.

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## News of the Church.

### Distinguished Visitors.

#### I. IN HALIFAX.

Rev. Robert H. Muir, Dalmeny, and Rev. David Playfair, Abercorn, are at present on what may be termed a "flying" visit to the Dominion. Mr. Muir is the venerated and sagacious Convener of the Colonial Committee of the Church of Scotland, and Mr. Playfair is a member of the Committee. They are here unofficially, but of course they are anxious to learn everything they can about our Churches in the present interesting crisis. They arrived in this city on Thursday morning. In the evening they were met at Rev. G. M. Grant's residence by such of the ministers of the city and Dartmouth as are at home, and by a number of prominent laymen. A very delightful evening was passed in interchange of views and expressions of confidence and affection. Rev. Principal Ross led the conversation, by cordially welcoming the visitors. Mr. Muir stated that while his associate and himself were not formally commissioned by the Colonial Committee they were desirous of meeting the brethren here and gathering all the information they could so as to guide the Committee in their future operations. They had heard of the glorious times of refreshing and revival enjoyed in many sections of Nova Scotia and other Provinces, and they hoped to

be refreshed by what they would see and hear. The Church of Scotland continues to pursue her friendly policy of aid whatever aid is likely to be useful. The Committee desire to know what is the best form their aid could assume. In response to this inquiry, Rev. Mr. Grant, Professor Pollok, Rev. P.G. McGregor, Professor MacKnight and others pointed out the value of aid to the Theological Hall, and also temporary aid to mission stations. Mr. Muir explained that the impression had gone abroad in Scotland that the Church, being now so strong in numbers, would not need continued aid. He was anxious to be put in a position to remove this impression. It was explained by Mr. McGregor and others that while the church would earnestly strive to be in all things self-sustaining, yet temporary aid towards some departments of our work would be invaluable.

Mr. Muir spoke of the union that had taken place in Australia, and how the United Church there determined at first to hold no official correspondence with any of the parent Churches. This resolution had to be fallen from, and the Australian Church is now in friendly correspondence with all the parent churches. He inquired as to the relations which the united Church would desire to hold with the Church of Scotland. It was explained by Professor MacKnight and others, that practically as well as expressly, the united Church has just stepped into the place hitherto occupied by the "Synod of the Maritime Provinces." We are heirs to all their rights, privileges, responsibilities and relationships. The Church will hold intimate friendly fraternal relations with the Church of Scotland, the Free Church, the United Presbyterian Church, and the Irish Presbyterian Church. A gentleman in this city who had earnestly opposed Union during the earlier stages of the discussion, spoke admirably of the necessity of making *the union the greatest possible success now that we have it*. He spoke of his love to the Church of Scotland, and how he and would like to maintain the old relations pure and simple; but the action of the Church in the Upper Provinces, in New Brunswick, in P. E. Island, and in this Province outside of Pictou had convinced him that union