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they shall be mine, saith the Lord of hosts, in that day when I make up my jewels." If we are conscious, my believing friends, of not having sufficiently cultivated in time past the species of fellowship which this passage describes, let us resolve to cultivate it more in future.

4. If brotherly love prevailed as it ought to do, *it would put an end to wrangling and sinful debate in the deliberations of ecclesiastical bodies.*

The unnatural spectacle of such features in the meetings of bodies composed of professing Christians is too frequent. In Presbyteries and Synods, for example, who has not been pained by the party-spirit, the disputative temper, and the heat, at times manifested? by the unchristian language employed, the recriminations indulged in, and the want of a pervading holy harmony of spirit among the members? May I be permitted, with all humility, to suggest to my Fathers and Brethren, that we would be consulting the honour of Christ's name and the credit of religion, if we endeavoured to discuss all the matters that came before us in church courts with greater unity of mind and heart, and with less of the semblance of worldly controversy? * In like manner, when Kirk-sessions or Congregational Assemblies are convened for the transaction of the business that belongs to them, union and brotherly spirit are of unspeakable importance. Differences of opinion will, undoubtedly, in many cases, be honestly entertained; and it is only right that these should be frankly avowed. But church members should guard against violence and acrimony in stating their views, or in impugning those of

* Of course, this sentence was not in the discourse as originally preached to the author's congregation. But it has been introduced here, under the conviction that the suggestion is needed; and with the hope, both that the author will not be reckoned presumptuous in offering it, and that it may be favourably considered by those members of our Presbyteries and Synods under whose notice the volume may come.