

beginning than to go to more particulars; if on such a foundation we could once agree the rest would the more easily be built upon it."

It does seem to me that it is in that way that it might be probable, if at all, that union might be brought about—not by seeking union with those who here in England usurp the place of our own Bishops, and even violate the laws of the country by assuming to themselves titles which the laws of the country do not give them, but by prevailing, if we can, with national Churches elsewhere to recognise and vindicate to themselves—*revendiquer* is a favourite term just now with the French—their national independence as a national Church. If that were done, those who oppose us here at home would soon find themselves reduced to the position of a very insignificant sect. And now, having thus ventured very imperfectly to sketch the manner in which it seems to be possible that a way may perhaps be opened in the good providence of God, if He should be pleased to stir up in all our hearts—the hearts of the members of this Church and the hearts of those who at present are in separation from the Church—a desire for union, it only remains for me to point out the way in which I think we ought, in the first instance, to undertake the subject. We have in our Prayer-book that exquisite prayer for unity in the service for the Queen's Accession. I was delighted to hear Mr. Seymour give notice yesterday of a motion calculated to bring that service into more common use, by making that day a national holiday, for this among other reasons—because, if it were so made, then at least one day in the year we should all together join in praying that prayer.

What a blessed happy thing it would be if we could see the members of our congregations, when they take their seats, instead of spending their time until the service begins in looking around them and waiting to see what goes on, spend their time in silent prayer before the throne of God for this great blessing to their Church and their country. I think they would gladly do so if the suggestion were but made to them. And then, as to the Queen's accession service, I sincerely trust that my Rev. friend's motion will soon come on, and that we shall unanimously adopt it. But if we shall have that happiness there is one thing I venture to mention. We could not recommend it, but I think our congregations should not be forbidden to do it, because I once had experience of the remarkable effect of suggesting to my small rural flock, when we met to celebrate the Queen's Coronation, that they should when we went to church, as we did before our little rural festival, of their own accord break out with their own voices and join aloud in saying the Prayer for the Queen. I assure the effect was beyond almost words to tell. It was so great that I could hardly go on with the service, it was so touching and was infinitely beyond any sermon that could have been given. In fact, I did not think it necessary, and there are many occasions when I think it is not necessary to add any words of our own. The same kind of involuntary outburst of feeling on such an occasion might well be used, and used with good effect, in reference to the Prayer for Unity. Probably that would be all that could be attempted at the present time, but if it should be found that such an effort as this was crowned with any degree of success—if it should be found that God had so far answered our prayer as to revive not only in our own minds but in the hearts of others the stretching forth of their minds towards the desire for the blessed gift of unity, then I think it might be possible to ask for and obtain an authorisation of a day of public humiliation and fast to be held, it may be once in every year, to deplore before the throne of God our unhappy divisions and to implore of him who alone can put such things into our minds, that He would be pleased in His mercy to restore to us that which we have lost. Then I should be confident of the result, and I think it ought to be so completely and absolutely a matter of faith that my apprehension would almost be lest we should be too eager in