

Annual Sermon.

(*From The Globe, November 30, 1896.*)

It was with difficulty that the ushers found seats for all those who went to Old St. Andrew's Church last night to hear Rev. Dr. Milligan preach the annual sermon to the St. Andrew's Society. The large congregation had the privilege of listening to an interesting and scholarly discourse peculiarly appropriate to the occasion.

The text was Isaiah, ii., 5: "O house of Jacob, come ye and let us walk in the light of the Lord." Amongst other things Dr. Milligan said:

Religious ideals and the acquisitions of human skill and enterprise are not toys for men to play with. The former are the war-cries and the latter the weapons of Jehovah's soldiers, who fight to make the wars of lust and greed and injustice cease unto the ends of the earth, and to bring in God's reign of purity and righteousness and peace so that His will may be done on earth as it is in heaven.

To the fulfilment of this high aim Isaiah summons his nation. In his summons the text teaches us a nation's true ideal. God is the God of nations. He appoints them their destiny. By Him they are informed of their chief end, in fulfilling which all subordinate ends are best secured. In seeking the Kingdom of God and His righteousness all material results are best reached. Nation-builders build large and strong in the degree they keep close to the heavenly pattern given them for their guidance. Divine standards and aims only can make commonwealths worthy of the name, because only where the common weal or welfare is realized is there truly a nation. The essence or life