

together in conference, all in communion with each other, surely it is not too much to say that while there has been free and friendly discussion, there has been substantial unity. No article of the faith has been denied, no venerable creed has been surrendered, no word of the living God has been thrust aside. Every Bishop has desired to build upon the old primitive foundations of the Catholic and undivided Church. Surely this Conference, if it did no more, would be a sufficient answer to those who unworthily represent us as one of many discordant sects, as a body rent by endless divisions, without foundation, without coherence, without orders, without sacraments, without unity in itself. Whereas by our marvellous increase throughout the world, and our union in all the verities of the Christian faith, we are "compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part," and, we are (we trust) "growing unto a holy temple in the Lord."

*"Growing."* Not till one hundred and fifty years after the Reformation did England begin to realise the blessing of growth. The "plantations" (so called) were feeble struggling communities, without a native episcopacy, divided in religious belief, and unconscious of their destiny. Now we behold a Church, vast in extent, considerable in numbers, with sixty Bishops, some of them Missionary Bishops, with more than four thousand clergy, with multitudes of highly educated men who have pressed into her fold, converts from all sides, a church thoroughly organised and synodically compacted. Rent from us by a political revolution, in all the great foundations of the faith, in all man's highest interests and hopes, in love for England's Church, the Episcopal Church of the United States is entirely one with our own in Great Britain and her colonies.