

result of mutual forbearance and sacrifice on the part of individuals. We are not to expect, then, that He will unite the churches by any miraculous interference. We *are* to expect that He will show us the way to unity; that He will arrange circumstances and seasons, so that our endeavours in that direction may be aided by Him, guided by Him; that, if we are only in earnest, out of the darkness and dangers that beset our path, He will bring us into light and peace. And that God is even now guiding us in the direction of unity will appear, I think, to any Christian who thoughtfully considers the signs of our times. The Protestant churches in our own country, and in the United States, are more favorably situated, as regards union, than those in the old world. Look for instance at our own community. The Church of England in the Mother land is hampered in her movements by the bonds by which she is bound to the State of England. She has not the freedom of government which we possess, inasmuch as her Convocations are practically rendered inactive, depending as they do for the legality of their measures upon the consent and ratification of Parliament. Her laity have not that representation in Church matters which you, my lay brethren, are privileged to have. Her bishops are so associated with the aristocracy and peerage, that their ecclesiastical position is confused with their temporal rank and power, and their con-