

sion of our opinion, of which we cordially beg your acceptance.

"Signed on behalf of the congregation of St. Andrew's Church,  
 "ELIZABETH RITCHIE, WILLIAM WESTCOTT,  
 MARG'T. GILLESPIE, WILLIAM TURNER,  
 ANN WALLS, PETER WALLS,  
 MARY HAMILTON, JAMES WADDELL,  
 CHARLES GALLOWAY, WILLIAM RITCHIE."

After the presentation made by Mrs. Hamilton, the Rev. Dr. Watson, in replying to the address at some length, among other things referred to, stated that he thankfully received the offered present, which was both costly and handsome; and the remembrance of this suitable gift, together with the warm expressions of consideration and regard set forth in the address, would, he hoped, have a very salutary effect on both the givers and the receiver, teaching them from this evening forward to bear more lovingly each other's burdens, to manifest an ever-increasing interest in each other's welfare, and still greater zeal and unanimity in promoting the highest interests committed to their charge as a church and congregation.

As regards the degree of D. D. conferred upon him, it would be his earnest wish to walk in some measure worthy of it, and by so doing he hoped that it would be of some benefit to the congregation.

[We are delighted to see this manifestation of love and loyalty to a most devoted and indefatigable laborer in the LORD's work, who has endured the severest trials with heroic fortitude, and who certainly deserves well of his Church and his Country, as well as his highly privileged parishioners.—Ed.]

#### PROFESSOR SMYTH AND ANDOVER.

**I**N the Andover trial, by far the most impressive speech was that by Dr. Egbert C. Smyth in his own defence. It lasted over four hours. In the course of it, he said:—

"I appear before you of necessity to make personal answer to charges most of which are utterly false, charges some of which, if true, would justly expose me to the accusation of heresy under the standards of a catholic orthodoxy; but I have a larger contention and a deeper interest. I desire to secure by your decision, for those who may come after me, the right of a reverend scholarship in the study of God's word; the liberties of thought and life which are necessary to fruitful biblical study; the opportunity for that spontaneity and free-

dom in the discovery and acquisition of the sacred truth, without which the articles of any creed, however excellent, can never become the reality of present personal convictions and the living springs of knowledge, but must always remain the dry and barren deposit of a dead past."

"To whatever criticism it is fairly exposed, I hold, maintain and inculcate," Mr. President, that the creed of the seminary does not bind the seminary to an antiquated phase of belief, or to the 'warts and wens' which a living theology knows how to get rid of; but, on the contrary, that it logically leads to those adjustments of orthodox thought and belief which are now necessary, and in general leaves an open path for such as the future may require."

"I claim the right under the creed to hold in this matter whatever a true interpretation of Scripture and the revelation which God makes of Himself in providence and creation shows me to be true. I do not think I shall commit any sin against reason or violate any obligation under the creed if I allow myself to follow with a perfect trust wherever, with the heart and with the head, I can discover any traces of God's holy and reconciling love."

It would be a thousand pities to condemn Professor EGEBERT C. SMYTH. The careful and thorough-going student can easily see that, in most charges, the prosecutors are far more heretical than the Andover Faculty.

Prof. Harris, D. D. said: "It is evident that we are accused not because our opinions differ from the creed, but because they differ from those of our accusers, a difference which we do not for a moment deny." Prof. Harris was followed by Professors Hincks and Churchill. When the six additional respondents had been heard President Seeley, chairman of the board of visitors, declared the hearing adjourned without date.

#### NATIONAL CHRISTIAN UNITY.

**B**ISHOP COXE, in the *New York Independent*, has put the recent action of the Bishops at Chicago in a new light, which will cause some surprise and probably some discussion in his own body. The Bishops did not concur in the resolution of Dr. Brooks sending greeting to the Congregationalists then in session, but we are now told that this was because they knew a better way of accomplishing the same end. Having explained this, Dr. Coxé goes on to say:—