

METHODIST RALLY AT PLYMOUTH.

The joint commission entrusted with the preparation of a common hymnal for the Methodist Episcopal Church, and for the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, chose the old historic town of Plymouth as the rallying-place of its second session. The first session was held at Nashville, Tenn., last January. It is fitting that the place where first the Pilgrim Fathers sent forth their hymns of praise should be the field chosen for the preparation of the official hymn-book of no less than fifteen millions of the American people. It is believed that from a joint hymnology it will only be a step to combined missionary forces, and thence to the obliteration of the line that has divided the two Methodist bodies since they differed on the slavery question in 1876.

PROGRESS OF THE LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The financial cloud that has darkened the sky of the London Missionary Society for some years seems to have lifted. In place of a debt a year ago of over \$100,000, there was a deficiency at the end of this fiscal year of less than \$8,000. Not only were the legacies unusually large for the past year, but there was an increase in the general contributions of over \$40,000. The work abroad is growing. Fourteen new missionaries have been sent out during the past year, seven to Central Africa, two to the South Seas, four to India, and one to China. The Society has now 210 men and 65 women on the field. That the home field may be quickened and cultivated the secretarial force has been increased. The Rev. Dr. Wardlaw



COMMERCIALISM VS. CHRISTIANITY.

An enterprising concern in the United States is doing a brisk business manufacturing and exporting pagan idols to heathen countries.—*Ram's Horn*.

The greed for gain which is a conspicuous note of the age will stop at nothing, if only money is to be made. The *Ram's Horn* hits off the wickedness of some of these methods in the accompanying cartoon. But selling idols to the heathen is not, in our judgment, a whit worse than selling liquor, or tobacco either, for that matter, to the people in our own land. The one demoralizes and debauches both body and soul not less than the other.

Thompson will henceforward have the assistance of the Rev. A. M. Gardner. A number of members of the official board have also volunteered to do campaign work, to arouse the Church along missionary lines.

RETIREMENT OF THE REV. DR. MACLAREN.

The Rev. Dr. Alexander Maclaren, who recently resigned activities in