

most of whom began their professorships with great unpopularity in their universities, on account of their opposition to rationalistic views, are now particularly honoured on that very account.

"4. That every prominent German University, except Heidelberg, is now under predominant evangelical influences, and that Heidelberg is nearly empty of theological students.

"5. That the attitude of the general government at Berlin has destroyed the force of many of the political causes of disaffection with the State Church.

"6. That the victory at Sedan and the achievement of German unity diminish the chances of demoralization from European wars, and by contagion from France,

"7. That in the field of exegetical research, while Rationalism has caused the discovery of many new facts, and the adoption of a new method, the naturalistic theory by Paulus, the mystical theory by Strauss, the tendency theory by Baur, and the legendary by Renan, have been so antagonistic to each other as to be successively outgrown both by Christian and by Rationalistic scholarship.—*Watchman and Reflector*.

#### DR. MOFFAT'S EIGHTIETH BIRTHDAY,

On Tuesday a deputation from the Congregational Board of Ministers in London, consisting of the Revs. R. Ashton, and J. V. Mummery, the secretaries of the Board, with the Revs. Dr. Kennedy, Dr. North, A. Hanney, J. Baldwin Brown, and J. G. Rogers, waited on Dr. Moffat, at his residence, and communicated to him the following resolution passed at the monthly meeting of the Board of Congregational Ministers in London, held on Dec. 14, 1875—the Rev. Dr. Stoughton in the chair:—"That this meeting is much gratified to know that the Rev. Dr.

Moffat will have completed the eightieth year of his age on the 21st of this month, and that a letter of congratulation be addressed to him with expressions of personal regard and sincere prayer that he may continue to enjoy to the end the presence and favour of the Lord whom he has so long served."

#### A DISTINCTION WITHOUT A DIFFERENCE.

The "leading official" advocate of the M. E. Church, published in New York city, contained an article recently, written by a "leading official" minister of the same Church, in which the following pious protest against boat-racing appeared: "Suppose the Methodist, Episcopalian, and Baptist ministers of New York city should select a crew to exhibit their power in a boat-race on the Hudson, accompanied by the side shows of a few foot races, jumping matches—not to mention greased pigs and other practices for which the world is not yet quite ripe—hundreds of thousands would meet to see the fun; boys and girls of all ages would wear the respective colors,—Baptist, Methodist, etc.,—on the boats; 'pools' would be formed; bets would be quoted in the sporting papers; the respective combatants, stripped to their skin, would be pourtrayed in the illustrated newspapers. But what would be thought of American civilization?"

Yes: and suppose "the Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopalian, and Baptist" Churches of our whole Christendom should institute church "*fairs*," at which each should vie with the other in turning a quantity of pennies that are not honest, and in filching under false pretences the money of comers and goers, thereby at once and the same time increasing the Church revenues and decreasing the Church honour and honesty, what then "would