

### DISSENTERS FLOCKING BACK TO THE CHURCH.

WE insert the following at the request of a correspondent :—" We mentioned that Mr. Cowell, Baptist Minister, of Taunton, and others, were leaving Dissent and joining the Church. [Mr. Cowell has since received valid Orders at the hands of the Bishop of Worcester.] Mr. Cowell was converted through reading Mr. Spurgeon's Sermon on 'Regeneration,' and the crushing *replies* to it by "Churchman." A distinguished Baptist at Hull, Mr. Bailey, has also published an able pamphlet declaring that he has been misled; recent discussions set him reading, and turned him into a Church advocate. He says *hundreds* would, if honest, speak out and do as he has done. But, while the Baptists are losing some of their best Ministers, it seems Wesleyans are doing the same thing on a larger scale. Their own paper, the *Wesleyan Times*, says—" We are informed that Mr. S. H. Ireson, formerly a Wesleyan Minister, has recently been ordained by the Bishop of Chester (after two years' residence at St. Aidan's College); we are also surprised to hear that nearly fifty itinerant and local preachers have gone to the *same* College during the last eighteen months, whilst *hundreds of others* are contemplating the same steps. The late Bishop of Chester was applied to by more than *eighty* Wesleyan Ministers in the course of a few years, for information as to the mode of admission into the Ministry of the Church.' We trust this good disposition shewn by the Wesleyans may result in the return of the whole body; they have never been hostile to the Church, and their founder John Wesley, never contemplated *separation* from it. 'Avoid whatever has a tendency to *separate* men from the Church; let all in our meetings go to Church *once* on Sunday at least, and exhort *all* to keep close to the Church and Sacraments.' (*Minutes of Conference, 1770*); such was the language of Wesley and his times."—*South Tawton, Devonshire, Magazine*.

THE NORTH POLE.—Two French gentlemen recently explored the island of Spitzbergen in a manner never before done. They have measured the mountains, mapped the whole coast, examined the vegetable products, the geological compositions, &c., of the island. They found that the long day, extending over several months, during which the sun never sets, became intensely hot after a month, by the unceasing heat from the sun. In this period vegetation springs up in great luxuriance and abundance. The North Pole is only a matter of 600 miles from the island, and is thought by the two explorers, as by many others, that the Pole itself, and the sea which is supposed to surround it, could be reached from Spitzbergen without any great difficulties being encountered. A singular fact noticed by the explorers in connection with this island is the enormous quantities of floating timber which literally cover the water of the bays and creeks. A careful examination of the character, condition, and kind of those floating logs would no doubt lead to a conclusion as to whence and how they came, and probably suggest new theories for the solution of geographical problems connected with the Arctic Seas.—*London paper*.

WARMTH OF SNOW.—Much controversy existed as to the warmth imparted to the earth by a covering of snow, until M. Bussingault, during the winter of 1861–2 found that a thermometer plunged in snow to the depth of four inches sometimes marked *nine* degrees of heat greater than at the surface.