

one or two which may be pointed out. Leaders of thought in the Church ought to be alive to the weight of responsibility attached to their position. Their words ought to be studied with the greatest possible care. A hastily prepared lecture, or one not clearly expressed, may lead to trouble. Had Professor Campbell not been in too great a hurry, his words might probably have been so guarded as to have been rightly understood by those who first heard and read them. Then, the Church might do well to consider whether her recognized attitude to cases such as Professor Campbell's is sufficiently well-defined. There is no doubt at present an unsatisfactory state of things exists, which demands a martyr or the sacrifice of principle.

#### The Church and Her Young Men.

The Committee on the State of Religion, at the recent meeting of the Synod of Toronto and Kingston, reported that nearly ninety-five per cent. of the membership of Young Peoples' Societies were composed of women and girls. This is tantamount to saying that the young men of our congregations are not reached and won for Christian work. Nor can the truth of this be gainsaid, for the Committee's results are derived from data furnished by Sessions and Presbyteries. Here then is a very serious condition of things, which demands the instant and earnest consideration, not so much of Church courts, as of ministers and sessions of individual churches. What is the cause? And what the remedy?

Some months since we devoted much space to this matter, and many excellent papers appeared in our columns, making practical suggestions as to how our young men may be retained in active sympathy with Church ordinances, and Christian work. We humbly think that in the light of the above figures, a re-perusal of these papers by the office-bearers of our churches would do good. Certain it is that if we do not succeed in holding our young men, our Church must suffer, and our Zion must be shorn of her strength.

#### Reunion of the Latin and Greek Churches.

Pope Leo XIII., it would appear, is about to make overtures to the Greek Church, with a view to the reunion of the two great historical Churches. We have formed a high estimate of the Pope's abilities, but we have not the slightest faith that he will succeed.

It is now more than 1000 years since the Patriarch of Constantinople and the Pope of Rome excommunicated each other most heartily. True, there were thereafter, during the next 500 or 600 years, attempts made to heal the schism, but without result. Nothing has interified it more, in recent years, than the declaration of papal infallibility as an article of faith. From this, the Roman Catholic Church will not recede, for it knows no compromise. And to it, the Greek Church will never accede, for they hold the equality of the several Patriarchs, the rejection of the papacy, as an usurpation and an innovation, the right of priests and deacons to marry once, the Communion in both kinds, bread and wine, triune immersion as the only valid form of baptism, worship in the language of the people, etc., etc. Our most earnest desire is that the Spirit of God would open the eyes of both priest and people, to believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Saviour of the world. Union in their present spiritual condition would not, we humbly think, help either the Roman or Greek

Churches, or the world. But the outpouring of the Spirit would make the desert to rejoice and blossom as the rose.

#### The Reward Sure.

An exchange gives the following counsel:—Christians have need more and more to heed the injunction, "And let us not be weary in well doing; for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not." "If" is a little word, but it covers a large area of fact. It embodies a great deal of personal experience. Christian workers of all kinds meet with discouragements. Almost every one thinks his lot is a peculiar one, and that its embarrassing features distinguish it from all similar spheres of Christian service. Well, every sphere of Christian effort is very much alike in all essential respects. Human nature is substantially the same thing everywhere. Its hatred of the gospel is its universal and pronounced characteristic. No sphere of Christian work offers easy employment. It describes work, and generally the hardest, and seemingly the most unprofitable, kind of work. Its discouraging aspects are met with everywhere. People are not ready like ripe apples to drop into our hands. Many years ago a teacher in a Sabbath-school interested herself in a ragged boy whom she met upon the street. Offering him a present of a suit of clothes, she induced him to join her class. He came to the school, got the new suit, and when the next Sabbath came he was absent. The teacher sought him and induced him to return. He was not an easy boy to deal with, but in time the Spirit moved upon his heart and led him to Christ. He prepared himself for the ministry and became a missionary to China. His name is a household word in Christendom. He was Morrison, the great missionary, the man who did so much, amid many trials and great perils, to lay the foundations of missionary work in the celestial empire. His boyhood was not unlike that of thousands of others in our Sabbath schools. Who knows how many Morrisons there may be in these nurseries of the Church? Whether there be many or few, or indeed any at all, the obligation is imperative to do duty in the sphere in which God has placed us.

#### Talmage's Tabernacle.

For the third time the Tabernacle in Brooklyn, occupied by Rev. Dr. Talmage has been destroyed by fire. The catastrophe occurred on Sunday morning, the pastor and several members having assembled. The Tabernacle was insured and re-built.

**One Hundred and Six.** The one hundred and sixth General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., will meet in the First Presbyterian Church, Saratoga, N.Y., Thursday, May 17th, 1894, and will be opened with a sermon by the retiring Moderator, Rev. Willis G. Craig, D.D., LL.D.

**Reception to Gen. Neal Dow.** The programme of the reception to Gen. Neal Dow and International Temperance Congress which has just been issued shows that the arrangements are on a huge scale and that many notables in temperance work will take part. The dates are June 3rd to 5th.

**Bringing it Home.** "If Christ came to Halifax" asks the Editor of the *Witness* of that city, what would He find? This is bringing the question suggested in the title of Mr. Stead's book on Chicago close home. But not so close as the Editor of the *Christian Commonwealth* who asks how the versatile journalist would justify the publication of such a book "If Christ came to Mr. W. T. Stead."