

part of its efforts has been in the direction of the evangelization of the "chosen people." The present status of that people in Christian lands is due to the liberalizing influences of that religion which has been the object of their derision and antagonism through the centuries. The highest expressions of regard for them has come from Christian lips and pens. He who prayed for those who clamored for His crucifixion, passing by His cross with taunts and assenting to the visitation of His blood upon them and their children, bequeathed His spirit to His followers. That there have been times when Christians have persecuted Jews, as there have been times when Christians have persecuted Christians, cannot be gainsaid. But such persecution was expressive of the times and not of the faith or true spirit of Christ. The attitude of the Jews to-day in the matter of intermarriage with Christians, for example, betokens that the spirit of exclusiveness cannot be charged against one more than against another. We deplore the existence of any prejudice between various classes of men as contrary to the mind of Christ; but we cannot fail to find the secret of such prejudice in the action and attitude of the great majority of those against whom it may exist. We believe in the brotherhood of men as we believe in the Fatherhood of God, and are persuaded that when the truth as it is in Christ Jesus shall prevail, the manifestation of the brotherly spirit will obtain universally.

#### The Abolition of Capital Punishment.

*Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed.*—Gen. ix. 6.

THAT what is known as capital punishment has a scriptural warrant admits of no question. While it is true that there have been those professing to be controlled by the principles of the Divine Word who hold that under the new dispensation this method of dealing with capital crimes has been set aside is true,

but we believe their position grounded upon a mistaken exegesis. This belief is confirmed by the experience of communities that have attempted to do away with the death penalty. The most recent confirmation is that of the canton Schaffhausen, Switzerland. In 1874 the Swiss Confederation abolished capital punishment. As a consequence, by 1879 crimes against life had so increased that the article of abolition was removed from the constitution, the cantons being thereby given the liberty to act for themselves in the matter. As a result, the original cantons, Oberwalden, Uri, Appenzell, Valais, Zug, St. Gallen, Luzerne, and Schwyz, all of them Catholic cantons, restored capital punishment. And now Schaffhausen has done likewise, and the indications are that ere long every portion of the land will return to the method in vogue previous to 1874. We call the attention of those who have been agitating for the abolition of the death penalty in our land to these striking facts without further comment.

#### Sunday Opening of the Exposition.

It is a source of gratification to all who are in sympathy with the Christian sentiment of the land that the official managers of the World's Fair have seen fit to recognize the power of that sentiment and be guided by it. The first Sunday after the opening has seen the gates closed tightly to the public. This decision, however, has not been reached without strenuous opposition on the part of those who profess to pose as the friend of the laborer. That every effort will be made to upset the decision is indicated by the fact that the matter has been carried into the courts by one of the stockholders, who proposes to "fight the matter to the bitter end," as the saying is. We believe that his claim, which is partly based upon considerations of a pecuniary nature, involving his interests as a stockholder, will find no support in the tribunal to which he has carried it.

One thing has been attested by what