

Emperor. In America, Canada, and other parts of the world, the general government is by Conferences, Synods and Councils.

The Lutheran Church was first planted in America, by Admiral Coligni, in June, 1564. These first American Lutherans were Frenchmen. Scarcely were they settled in their new home on the bank of the St. John river in Florida, until they were hailed by a squadron which had pursued them from Spain. "What are you doing in the territories of King Philip?" was the query of the Spaniards. "Begone!" Then came the question; "Are you Catholics or Lutherans?" "Lutherans of the new religion," was the reply. The horrible announcement was then made: "I am Pedro Melendez, commander of this armament, which belongs to the King of Spain, Don Philip the Second. I have come hither to hang and destroy all the Lutherans whom I shall find either on land or sea, according to my orders received from the king, which are so precise as to deprive me of the power of saving any one whatever; and these orders I shall execute to the letter; but if I meet with any Catholic, he shall receive good treatment. As for the heretics, they shall die." The dreadful threat was awfully fulfilled.

Landing his soldiers, Melendez marched upon the