

preaching to be successful must be "intelligible, forcible, natural, earnest, practical, evangelical, and pictorial. Christ crucified must be preached, not a formal threadbare repetition of doctrinal statements, but a living Christ." Mr. Ed. Baines, of Leeds, in thanking Mr. Hall for his paper, spoke disparagingly of the reading of sermons. For years he had felt it to be an exceeding great drag on the Church. He would not say that it should never be practised, but he would say it was deteriorating in its influence. No man who assumed to produce an effect read his sermons. Mr. James said that for the first fifty years of his Ministry he had not read a sermon. He implored ministers to guard against the habit which was creeping over the denomination. We can only further note the interesting statement made by the Rev. Dr. Brown of Cheltenham regarding the death of the late Lord Fitzhardinge,—“Ultimately,” said he, “God gave me to hear this confession from his lips, ‘My life has been a lost life; I thought religion was a melancholy thing; I find it is the only thing worth having. Here I am, dying a poor penitent, clinging to the cross of Christ.’”

THE GERMAN KIRCHENTAG.—This general Assembly of the United Lutheran and Reformed Churches of Germany, was held in October last in the ancient city of Stuttgart. 1410 members gave in their names. The great majority were clergymen or University teachers, yet there was no want of laymen. The people attended the meetings in large numbers, and the evening services, held in three of the city churches were always crowded. The subjects considered by the several speakers were: the Spiritual character of the Church in opposition to high church and Latitudinarian principles; and the condition of the Protestant churches in Austria, to whom a letter of sympathy and an admonition to faithfulness was sent. The subject of Foreign Missions was discussed at much length; finally, an Annual Missionary festival on the 6th January; also, individual and Church prayers for Missions, and the appointment of invalid missionaries to Churches at home were recommended. A very delicate theme, and one dangerous to the peace of the assembly was introduced, namely, “Protestant Catholicity.” Stahl, a High Church Lutheran, made notorious by Bunsen’s late work on the “Signs of the Times,” occupied the chair. The subject had reference to the Evangelical Alliance, yet, for the sake of peace, its name was not once referred to, and only a few practical points were mentioned in which Protestant Germans ought to realize the feeling of their spiritual unity, but even this prudent cautiousness provoked Stahl fully to explain his own views with that keenness and dialectical skill and vivacity in which he has scarcely his match. For this abuse of his position as chairman, he was interrupted, but he cut every one short by stating that he was chairman, and that no one had a right to speak without his permission. A stormy scene ensued, and a general feeling pervaded the assembly, that ere long the high Lutheran party must separate itself from the Kirchentag. In the discussions on the Home or Inner Mission, sad pictures were drawn of the irreligion and immorality of the rural population in many parts of Germany,—public houses were multiplied and well supported—rationalism and atheism had numerous emissaries among the people—and the prevalence of tobacco smoking was noted as an enemy to the moral welfare of the nation. At a separate conference, resolutions were adopted by a large assembly, appealing to governments and people on the duty of Sabbath observance. The meetings were closed with prayer, and a solemn hymn. Next year the assembly is to meet at Hamburg. ✕

LITERARY.

NEW ENGLISH DICTIONARY.—The Philological Society of England have issued proposals for a complete Dictionary of the English Language, under the supervision of R. Chevenix Trench, R. T. Furnivale, and Herbert Coleridge. Special committees are formed for the purpose of looking up unregistered words. A series of rules has been drawn up for the guidance of collectors, such as, that the words are to be such as are not found either in the latest edition of Todd, Johnson, or Richardson; or, such as these dictionaries adduce no authority for, or only late authorities; or such as are used in a different sense. Obsolete words, and words in older writers, then imperfectly naturalized, are also to be received. The dictionary is also to include all idiomatic phrases and constructions passed over in the above dictionaries. Among the authors to be consulted are named Bishop Andrews, Roger Ascham, Barrow, Bacon, Burton, Fuller, Fenton, Holland, Henry More, Hackluyt, &c.

ROMAN CATHOLIC AMENDED VERSION OF THE BIBLE.—The *Weekly Register*, a Roman Catholic journal, makes the following announcement:—“We are authorized to state, that, in accordance with the decrees of the last Synod of Westminster, which have lately been returned from Rome with the approbation of the Holy See, the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster has entrusted the preparation of a corrected version, in English, of Holy Scripture, to the care of Dr. Newman. ✕