

THE eloquent Dr. Pentecost, writing in a current periodical, calls the Week of Prayer a "moribund institution" and says it ought to be abolished. He says the programme of the Alliance Committee is a sort of "spiritual bill of fare;" according to his view, the longer observance of the custom is worse than useless. So it is with all modern make-shifts to compensate for the loss of the Christian year. The novelty of the thing wears off, it ceases to excite the feelings and the imagination, and something new must be found to quicken the flagging interest. Let all the denominations come back to the observance of the Church seasons of their fathers. Keep Advent and Lent, as well as Christmas, and there will be no need of startling novelties every few years. These have been kept as seasons of prayer and fasting for eighteen hundred years and there are no moribund signs about them yet. They grow dearer, more attractive, more profitable, to the devout Churchman, year by year. There is nothing sensational or sentimental about them. They are the old ways of the Catholic Church which are always new. The wayfaring man does not err therein, and the wisest therein takes delight.

Dr. Pentecost says of the Week of Prayer:

"We have done with the Week of Prayer what we have practically done with the Lord's day, which we have made the one day of the week in which we will preach the gospel. Instead of making it an especial day for extraordinary activity in worship and service we have made it the sole and solitary day. All other days we keep the churches hermetically sealed, and not one preacher of the

gospel out of a hundred ever preaches the Word to sinners except on that day. Having yielded six days in the week to inactivity, we are now in danger of yielding fifty-one weeks in the year to spiritual idleness.

OUR SUNDAYS.

ON the Sunday before George Herbert's departure, he rose suddenly from his bed, called for a musical instrument and played and sang as follows:—

The Sundays of man's life,
Threaded together on time's string,
Make bracelets to adorn the wife
Of the eternal glorious King;
On Sundays heaven's door stands ope,
Blessings are plentiful and rife,
More plentiful 'han hope.

FATHER O'CONNOR, of New York, has the following item in the *Jan. Converted Catholic*:—

"During our visit to Iowa, last September, Rev. Dr. Law, of Des Moines, informed us that more than two hundred Roman Catholics have made application to be received into the Protestant Episcopal Church during the ten years of Bishop Perry's Episcopate of Iowa. We desire to hear from some of those friends who have found peace for their souls out of Rome."

THE Rev. P. B. Morgan, now rector of Trinity Church, Connorsville, Ind., who left the Church at the time of the Cummins schism, but subsequently returned, makes an appeal in the last *Church Union* to the "Reformed" to come back to the old Mother Church.