

In view of late developments in relation to the Sabbath question in this city, we commend to the sober reflection of all good people the following paragraph, selected from the report of a Committee of the Wesleyan Conference lately held in England. They say:—

"We cannot shut our eyes to the fact that our Sabbath is threatened, formidably and resolutely threatened. It may be that the struggle upon which we have already entered will determine whether in this Protestant land we are to have a Continental Sunday: a Popish Sunday, frittered away in unhallowed frivolities and desecrated by secular trafficking and amusement; or whether we are to retain and transmit to coming generations that calm and quiet Sabbath, that hallowed and blessed Sabbath which we have inherited from our forefathers and to the devout observance of which we owe so much of our sober force and tranquil perseverance."

Perhaps, after all, the most effective testimony in support of the Divine authorship of the Bible is to be found in the depths of Christian consciousness and experience. Its truths ever commend themselves to the renewed reason and judgment, while the book itself adequately meets human need, whether in the palace or the cottage, and is read with as much satisfaction and delight by the venerable sage as by the little child of the tenderest years. These thoughts are suggested by the following, which we select from the Autobiography of one of Germany's greatest poets and philosophers. He says:—"I had put too much of my best soul into this book to be able ever afterward to dispense with it as part of my spiritual nourishment. This enlistment of my best feelings on the side of the book made me proof through life against whatever sneers or railery I might find directed against it: for the spiritual good of which I had been partaker from the book had convinced me experimentally of the dishonesty of all such irreverent assaults."

African, or colored Christianity is fast assuming proportions of great magnitude. From late statistics at hand, and which seem to be perfectly reliable, it appears that the whole number of members in the various evangelical churches approaches the round sum of $\approx 300,000$, of which a very large majority is found in the United States. In Africa the number returned by the different missions is 115,000 members, while the West Indies and Guiana report 105,000, of these about two-thirds are colored. When the time comes for Central Africa to be opened up to civilization, there will be a mighty army as admirably fitted by nature as by grace to carry the light of the glorious gospel to its benighted inhabitants.

Affairs in Ireland continue troubled; indeed the Land Bill accepted by fair minded men, and even by the Roman Catholic Hierarchy as a boon to the entire country seems to be powerless of results, owing to the strange perversity and frenzied madness of the people, or perhaps more properly of the leaders of the Land League. How long this state of matters may continue, at present seems doubtful; but all right-hearted men must devoutly wish the efforts of the British government to prevent the continuance of such lawlessness may be crowned with success.