

pleasuring on Sunday. Human nature will say that work is as good as play, if the day is not too sacred for throwing away money; it is not too sacred for gathering it. If some must work or be cast out of bread, others will work for love of gain. Hence, when exhibitions are open on Sundays, or are shops. To the masters it may be choice; but what is it to the servants? Those who have seen Europe must know that where Sunday is turned to pleasure, labor comes heavily, not only on workmen, but shopkeepers; that the retirement of country parishes is no protection to the farm-servant, nor the heavy toils of a city mason any excuse against Sunday drudgery. When men who have seen this with their own eyes come and talk of breaking down our Sabbath for the benefit of the working classes, we declare it a barefaced imposture."

#### KINDRED ONLY IN NAME.

It is now five years since a plain and industrious but worthy family, fairly intelligent and just comfortably off, took a moderate-priced but respectable pew in the "first church" in X. The names of the different members of the family, father, mother, sons and daughter, were read before the congregation from their certificates, and another son and daughter soon after united on profession of their faith. It is said that this public reading of their names is pretty much all the introduction they have had to any of the members during the five years since they brought their certificates. Families of excellent Christian church-members occupy the pews in front and on both sides of them, and often they think how delightful it would be, if these good, kind-hearted people, long-time members of the church and residents of the place, would take pains to speak, to call, to give them a Christian welcome. They know that it must be all right some way, so they take it by faith and do not complain. One of the favorite hymns in that church, one which they sing a great deal, and sing with much taste and expression, is the well-known hymn on the benefits and delights of church-fellowship, in which occurs the familiar line,

"Here my best friends, my kindred, dwell."

One of the most touching triumphs of faith, is the childlike simplicity and earnestness with which these worthy strangers continue year after year to join the congregation in singing that hymn.—*Christian Weekly.*

A CONDENSED SERMON.—We find this oddity in the *Edinburgh Fugitive Pieces*, by W. Greec, F.R.S.—"Abridgement of a sermon, from these words: 'Man is born to trouble.' My Friends: The subject falls naturally to be divided into four heads. 1. Man's entrance into the world; 2. His progress through the world; 3. His exit from the world; and 4. Practical reflections from what may be said. First then: 1. Man came into the world naked and bare. 2. His progress through it is trouble and care. 3. His exit from it—none can tell where. 4. But if he does well here, he'll be well there. Now I can say no more, my brethren dear, should I preach on this subject from this time to next year. Amen."

### Religious Intelligence.

E. Lanelave, the eminent Belgian, has announced his withdrawal from the Roman Catholic Church. He says that many Belgians have become disaffected toward Romanism, and are ready to follow him into the Protestant fold.

Major Whittle, the evangelist, who was coupled with the late P. P. Bliss, has been holding revival meetings in Toledo, Ohio. Several hundred conversions are reported.

The British Council of the Evangelical Alliance has decided against the proposal to hold the next General Council in Berlin, and has voted in favour of Basle, Switzerland, where the conference will be held in 1878, if the American branch approves.

The General Council of the United Brethren, German Baptists, or Dunkards, was held in an obscure place in Pennsylvania recently. The Council decided to revise the Danish Mission, and made a collection for it, and much time was spent in discussing the subject of feet washing.

The Jews have 152 synagogues in the U.S., of which New York has 33, and Maine the next largest number, 23. In Pennsylvania there are 14, in Illinois 9, and 7 each in California, Ohio, and Vermont.

The Board of Jewish Delegates reports that it has received statistical returns from 174 congregations and 99 societies, from which partial data it has ascertained that there is a Jewish population in the United States of 189,576. The total Jewish population in the country the board estimates at 250,000, of whom 60,000 are in New York City. There are in all 341 congregations, with property valued at \$5,897,400.

The Moravian Church is divided into three provinces—the German, the British, and the American. The seat of the governing commission called the Unity Elders' Conference, is at Bethelberg, Germany. The statistics for the whole Church, just announced, show that excluding the mission provinces and the Diaspora, there are 30,000 members. Of this number the German Province has 7,791, with 25 churches; the British, 5,712, with 40 churches, and the American, 16,000 with 75 churches. The Moravians now have 201 members in Bohemia, where the Austrian Government has just given them permission to freely hold public worship.

Rev. C. Chiniqny, the converted Roman Catholic priest, who is working under the auspices of the American Church in Canada for the evangelization of the French-Canadian Catholics, reports that he is having great success, already numbering his converts by the thousand. "Since the opening of the new French-Canadian Church in Montreal recently," says Mr. Chiniqny, "not less than 1,000 Roman Catholics have come to hear the word of God, of whom 700 have publicly given up the errors of Popery."

There are in Damascus, the most positive Mohammedan city in Syria, a Presbyterian Mission, where worship is conducted twice every Sunday in Arabic, and a Mission of the London Society for the conversion of the Jews. One of the attendants at the English service of the mission is Lady Ellinborough, who has married as her fourth husband a Belouin Sheikh, and has lived happily with him for 2 years. She used to live in the desert, but now has a fine house and garden in the city.

The *Jewish Record* for May, 1877, says:—"In Russia just now old Talmudical Messianic thoughts have taken possession of many Jewish minds in a very remarkable degree. In Southern Russia a great many Jews are convinced that, with the Oriental troubles and the threatening

war of Russia, the moment has arrived when the Messiah is coming in order to take His people to Canaan. God grant that the hopes of these Jews may prove a means to open the eyes of many of them to look to Christ, the true Messiah."

A remittance of 166. 67, was lately received at the London Church Missionary House, the produce of a missionary box at the mission room of the Girls' Mission, Leyton Road, Stratford. An accompanying note states that the number of separate coins in the box was 201, "which, it is added, 'may be considered as perfectly free-will offerings, no pressure of any kind having been used. The girls are all employed in factories, and are mostly very poor, so much so that several could not go to the annual excursion in the summer for lack of boots.' We doubt not that the Lord's eye has marked with gracious approval many of the gifts of these poor girls to His holy cause."

The fourth Old Catholic Synod has just ended its session at Bonn. The statistics show that Old Catholicism is gradually making headway in the country, and being its accession by Dr. Dollinger.

The report of last year showed that there were in Prussia, 35 congregations with 6,570 members; in Baden, 34 congregations with 5,760 members; in Bavaria, 34 congregations with a membership of 3,716; in Oldenburg, 2 congregations with 104 members; in Hesse, 5 congregations with 373 communicants; and in Wurttemberg, 1 congregation with 94 members. Everywhere a greater or less increase was shown, except in Bavaria, where, owing to peculiar reasons, there was a slight falling off. Altogether there are fifty-six clergymen. A proposition that the German language should be used in the celebration of mass brought out a great deal of discussion, but hardly any practical result. The debate on the question of celibacy called out addresses from Dr. Petri, Professor Henrich, Prof. Michaelis, Professor Weber, Professor Huber, and others, and finally it was agreed that the question should be left over till next year, when it should be determined what hindrances, if any, there were to the practical discontinuance of the celibacy of the clergy. A proposition to confer on congregations the choice of non-resident Old Catholics as delegates to the Synod was voted down, as was also another to modify the rules for the election of members of the Synod. After transacting some further, but not very important business, the Synod was closed by Bishop Reinkens, who had presided throughout the session.

There is a Scripture Readers' society in Ireland, whose income is \$15,000 a year, and which supports 50 readers.

The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary formerly at Greenville, S. C., will open its next term at Louisville, Ky., the removal having been provided for during the Summer vacation.

A large proportion of the population of the Southern States is connected with churches. There are about 1,500,000 Methodists, 1,200,000 Baptists, and hundreds of thousands of Presbyterians, Episcopalians, and Catholics.

Rev. Dr. H. J. Van Dyke, of the Clinton-Street Presbyterian Church, Brooklyn, has declined an invitation to succeed Dr. A. A. Hodge as Professor of Theology in the Western Theological Seminary at Allegheny City, Penn.

Of the Protestant churches in Michigan, the Methodist Episcopal leads with 57,500 members, the Baptists have 24,278, the Presbyterians 14,560, the Congregationalists 13,935, the Episcopalians 8,800, and the United Presbyterians 1,200, making a total of 120,810.

Rev. Emanuel Van Orden, formerly a missionary in Brazil, of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, is about to open an independent mission at Rio Grande de Sul, a Brazilian seaport 600 miles