

was sounded in the ears of England—and what extraordinary results we see!

Surely, never was there a time of greater energy, devotion, and hard work!

The Bride is indeed putting on her beautiful garments to go forth to meet the Bridegroom.—*Banner of Faith.*

COMMERCIAL RELIGION.

At the Conference of Episcopal clergymen and laymen, held at New York, a letter was read from the Rt. Rev. F. D. Huntington, Bishop of Central New York, in which this passage attracted wide attention:

"The commercial tendency of the age is obvious in the pew renting system. The rich occupy the choice places, while the poor must sit in the obscure, out of the way corners. The church becomes a club house, and this amounts to an exclusion of the poor. If the church was to be merely a means of providing comfortable incomes for Sunday orators, and cosy seats for wealthy listeners, the pew renting system might be a success. But as the church is for a common salvation of rich and poor alike, no system that shuts out the poor or puts the rich in a fashionable house with a saint's name at one end of the town, and the poor into a bare chapel by themselves at the other end, can ever be a system that God will prosper. There is all that class of persons who in this generation are servants and labourers, but whose children in the next generation will be lords and ladies of the land, all of whom under the pew system, are just as completely and effectually excluded from the house of God as though it were written upon the door 'No

admittance for servants and labourers here.' The system virtually cuts off from the Gospel and from all heavenly helps of the Church a portion of every population. It is well nigh impossible, with the commercial influence to the front, with property as the controlling element, that the spiritual interest should not suffer. The question how costly a pew or how high a tax the parishioner can afford will obscure very often those merits of a meek and lowly heart. If it could be known openly in how many parishes at this moment some influential and managing men are secretly discussing the question of how they shall contrive to get rid of the minister they have, because he is not paying well in pew rents, or how they shall find one that will do that an appeal of alarm would arise to the ear of God.—*Southern Churchman.*

From a statement of the receipts of the Hospital Sunday in London, it appears that out of a total of £37,325 the Church of England contributed £29,669. Next come the Congregationalists with £1,892, the Wesleyans with £1,066, the Baptists with £990, the Jews with £901, the Presbyterians with £894, and the Roman Catholics with £528. The receipts from congregations are the largest by over £800 since the fund was established. St. Jude's, South Kensington, heads the list of single congregations, by the contribution of £1,164; St. Michael's, Chester Square, comes next with £1,002.

If some one says ill of you, do not ask who it was; so you can mend yourself and not be tempted to commit a new fault.