

were wanting, its progress alone would be the earnest of its ultimate success. The estimate we give is from the Pulpit Treasury :

In the first 1,500 years of the history of Christianity it gained 100,000,000 of adherents ; in the next 300 years, 100,000,000 more ; but in the last 100 years it has gained 210,000,000 more. Please make these facts vivid. Here is a staff. Let it represent the course of Christian history. Let my hand represent 500 years. I measure off 500, 1,000, 1,500 years. In that length of time how many adherents did Christianity gain? 100,000,000. I add three finger-breadths more. In that length of time how many adherents did Christianity gain? 100,000,000. In the 300 years succeeding the Reformation, Christianity gained as many adherents as in the 1,500 years preceding ; but now I add a single finger's-breadth to represent one century. How many adherents has Christianity gained in that length of time? 210,000,000 more. Such has been the marvellous growth of the Christian nations in our century, that in the last 83 years Christianity has gained more adherents than in the previous 18 centuries. These are facts of colossal significance, and they cannot be dwelt on too graphically or too often. By adherents of Christianity I mean nominal Christians—that is, all who are not Pagans, Mohammedans, or Jews. At the present rate of progress, it is supposed there will be 1,200,000,000 of nominal Christians in the world in the year 2000.

THE Rev. Dr. Dix used these forcible words to characterize the course of many Churchmen toward

outside interests : "Shut up selfishly in our own parishes, a set of pure Congregationalists, we turn a deaf ear to what is going on outside, and care not whether the general institutions thrive or die."

THE PASTOR TO HIS PEOPLE.

The following circular has been addressed by one of our pastors to his parishioners, as an aid in self-examination and as a preparation for pastoral visits :

Is it your *rule* to attend Service on Sunday ; and to receive the Holy Communion regularly ?

Do you realize that it is sinful to absent yourself from church on Sunday, and from the Holy Communion without good reason for doing so ?

Do you try to attend the week-day Services, and do you realize the benefit of a Service without a sermon ?

Do you conscientiously and in the sight of GOD weigh your excuses for not performing religious duties ?

Do you inform yourself about your faith and your Church ? Are your children baptized ?

Do you instruct your children about the Bible and the Church, and do you prepare their minds for Confirmation ?

Do you encourage and *require* your children to be regular and punctual in attending Sunday School ?

Are you and your children regular in your private devotions ?

Do you say grace at meals, and have Family Prayers ?

What is your *rule* for giving of your substance to the Lord ?