

theon. On the contrary, is there the trace of a building that was a church in the Apostolic age ? The cathedrals were an upshot from the revival of heathen civilization. Taste is one thing, exorbitant crushing expense and ecclesiastical pride are not so praiseworthy. Still, it must be a consolation to any church overwhelmed with debts that the Reformation was brought about by the effort to raise money for the completion of St. Peter's !

For the sake of any who think that fine churches and " beautiful " services have much to do with true religion, it may be well to recall the fact that the fatal decay of Israel began in the life-time of the man who built the Temple, and was started by himself ; also that degeneracy in Christian times progressed with quickened steps during the centuries the great cathedrals were in process of construction ; so that at the close of the period Reformation became a necessity. Religion is a humble plant, a lily of the valley. It is