

### THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

The ferment in the Church of England continues. The law of the land, as interpreted by the highest tribunal, allows transubstantiation to be taught in the pulpits of the English Church. This fact has led to the secession of Mr. Capel Molyneux and other notable Evangelicals; but the secession has reached no alarming proportions. The rival parties had furious discussions and outbreaks at the recent Congress at Leeds.

From a recent Census taken in the large English cities it appears that the Dissenters have nearly double as much church accommodation, and nearly double as many attendants at worship as the Established Church; but the Establishment is very powerful in the rural districts.

The Baptists and Independents in England have been holding their anniversaries. Strange to say the only religious body in England that reports an actual increase in numbers during the year are the Presbyterians.

The Tercentenary of the Death of Knox and of the establishment of Presbytery in England has been observed with more or less publicity all over the Presbyterian world. Attention has been called in the press, in the pulpit and from the platform to the grand principles for which Knox and the Reformers contended, with such earnestness and success. The best way of commemorating Knox is by doing justice to the grand doctrines of the Reformation.

The contention between the German Government and the Ultramontanist continues. The R. C. Bishops held a Synod at Fulda, but they were greatly divided among themselves.

Merle D'Aubigne, the brilliant Historian, the great Preacher, the noble champion of truth, has finished his course and entered on his eternal rest. He retired to bed on Sabbath evening apparently in his usual health. He had joined in the Communion during the day, and conducted family worship before retiring to rest. On Monday morning he was found in bed as if peacefully asleep—God had taken him away. He was

78 years of age, but still wonderfully active and vigorous. Among the last efforts of his pen was a letter to the "Old Catholics" counselling peace and union.

The Synod of the United Presbyterian Church in England met recently and resolved with great unanimity to seek union with the Free Church in England with as little delay as possible. The Presbyteries of the Free Church are sanctioning the Mutual Eligibility Scheme with few exceptions. Dr. Begg and his coadjutors are still agitating against the Union.

The Waldensian Synod met lately at La Tour. The Synod has 37 ordained missionaries in Italy, and its work is advancing slowly.

From Missionary fields generally encouraging news reach us, but we have no space to particularize.

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### KEEP THE LIGHT BURNING.

One of our Presbyteries recently passed a resolution recommending vacant congregations to keep up regular meetings for public worship. There are all over the country, congregations and sections of congregations where ministers cannot preach every Lord's day. In all such cases, there should be no giving up of public worship—no quenching of the light. The people should still assemble. The word of God should be read; prayer and praise should be offered. Then some competent person should read a select sermon, a short, easy, plain discourse, which all may follow and understand. Very edifying meetings are often conducted in this way for years. We have known congregations where "Readings" have been kept up for twenty, forty, or fifty years in succession, and with valuable results. Souls have been converted. Saints have been built up in their faith. The fear of God has been kept alive. Congregations have been feasted on the choicest productions of Boston, the Erskines, Doddridge, Bunyan, Flavel, Rutherford, Guthrie, Hamilton, Jay, Burder, and other good and great men.

It would be well if men of some ability in speaking—men who are blessed with