

lish immigrants are Wesleyan Methodists. He is also magnanimous enough to say that it is not to be ascribed to the fact that Episcopalianism is an "easy religion," not requiring conversion and godly life (1). He is convinced that the true explanation of this growth is to be found in the confidence, assurance, and courage of the Episcopalian leaders. "They believe that theirs is 'the Church,' and are not slow to assert their belief. That very assurance and the exclusiveness which comes from it, is the tower of their strength. They are not ashamed of their belief; they have the courage of their convictions, and a large part of the world takes them at their own estimate. Here is the secret of their power." This is a clear headed and, we believe, substantially a true judgment. It goes to prove two things: first, that many thinking people are in search of 'the Church'; second, that those are hardly true sons of the Church who seek to take away this bulwark by decrying or minimizing her Catholic claims or by entering into entangling alliances which would remove the exclusiveness which legitimately results from such claims.—*Living Church* (Chicago.)

THE TESTIMONY of a Lutheran minister, given below, is worth heeding. He has lately changed his field of labour and writes: "As opportunity offers I intend to press the claims of our church literature on these good people. I believe one of my greatest mistakes in the congregation was the failure to press this subject with an unyielding persistency. Were every family to take and read our church literature, I believe our church work in every department would move on harmoniously."

UNITY.—"I have ever wished and heartily prayed for, the unity of the whole Church of Christ and the peace and reconciliation of torn and divided Christendom. But I did never desire a reconciliation but such as might stand with truth and preserve all the foundations of religion entire. Were this done, God forbid but I should labour for a reconciliation, if some tenets of the Roman party on one side, and some deep and embittered disaffections on the other, have not made it impossible, as I much doubt they have."

Archbishop Laud is right. Extreme men are often strong men, with loud voices and firm resolves. They do many things, some good and some bad, and they hinder those who "follow after the things that make for peace."

#### "ROCK OF AGES."

"Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Thoughtlessly the maiden sung;  
Fell the words unconsciously  
From her girlish, gleeful tongue;  
Sang as little children sing;  
Sang as sing the birds in June;  
Fell the words like light leaves down  
On the current of the tune.  
'Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee.'

"Rock of Ages, cleft for me;  
'Twas a woman sung them now,  
Pleadingly and prayerfully;  
Every word her heart did know—  
Rose the song as storm-tossed bird  
Beats with weary wing the air,  
Every note with sorrow stirred,  
Every syllable a prayer—  
'Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee.'

"Rock of Ages, cleft for me;  
Lips grown with age sung the hymn,  
Trustingly and tenderly,  
Voice grown weak, and eyes grown dim—  
'Let me hide myself in Thee.'  
Trembling, though, the voice, and low  
Ran the sweet strain peacefully,  
Like a river in its flow:  
Sang as only they can sing  
Who behold the promised rest—  
'Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee.'"  
—*The Rock.*