

and with fervor of spirit, to the holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts!

And, dear reader, in these sacred services we may all unite with heart and voice, weekly, nay daily, if we choose.—*Churchman.*

MISSIONS.

LET us never forget that if we are faithful to duty we must not, while discharging our obligation to the parish to which we belong, lose sight of other obligations of great importance also, which extend beyond the limits of that parish. We must not only shun personal selfishness, but we must be on our guard against parish selfishness, an evil which is, unhappily, not uncommon. Our mother the Church calls us from time to time to engage in works which have their root, as we may say, in every parish, yet stretch out their branches far beyond its limits. To every such call from our spiritual mother we should lend a listening ear, yield a hearty assent. It has frequently been observed that the parish which is most generous in feeling and action towards the calls of the Church at large is usually most richly blessed in spiritual gifts to her own children.

CONFIRMATION.

IN view of the solemnities which gather round a confirmation service and the lasting consequences which result from it, too much care cannot be bestowed by pastor and parents upon the proper training of those who are thus to become members of the Church by their own act and profession. No friend of the young would willingly hold them

back from any spiritual benefits—and certainly confirmation, when rightfully received, brings many benefits and blessings—nor would such a friend be a party to hurrying them on unprepared to understand and meet the responsibilities thus assumed. Nothing can do a deeper injury to the individual than to be pressed on to make a public profession of what he does not know and feel; and nothing so weakens the Church of Christ as the increase of its membership by inexperienced and worldly persons. They become stumbling blocks in the way of others, and bring dishonor upon the Church. One reason, no doubt, why skepticism and indifference are so prevalent is to be found in the fact that so many who make profession of religion do not fulfil their baptismal vows by “renouncing the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and all carnal desires of the flesh, so that that they will not follow nor be led by them.” No, they do not; and hence the weakness of the Church.—*Parish Register.*

CHRISTIAN PROGRESS.

A GENERAL survey of Christian history shows that in every country there has been a steady forward movement of Christ's kingdom, but in none so wonderful an advance as ours. Careful estimates indicate that in the first century 500,000 converts were rallied about the standard of the Nazarene. By the close of the third century they were 5,000,000; by the fourth century they had grown to 50,000,000. In 1500 the number had doubled, and