

lete expressions but occasionally allowing archaisms to remain and preserving well the spirit of the old version. The New Testament, which was published separately in 1870, has already gone through fifty-nine editions. There has been no desire of supplanting Luther's Bible. A revision was necessary on account of the disadvantages under which the translation was made, but for most of the people there will always be only one German Bible.—*N. Y. Independent.*

GLADSTONE ON SERMONS.—Mr. W. T. Stead, in the *Review of Reviews*, tells of a conversation with Mr. Gladstone which is pertinent just now, when so much diversity of opinion exists as to the kind of preaching needed to enable the pulpit to fulfill its mission. Says Mr. Gladstone:

The class of sermons which I think are most needed are of the class, one of which so offended Lord Melbourne long ago. Lord Melbourne was one day seen coming from church in the country in a mighty fume. Finding a friend, he exclaimed: "It is too bad! I have always been a supporter of the church, and I have always upheld the clergy, but it is really too bad to have to listen to a sermon like that we have had this morning. Why, the preacher actually insisted upon applying religion to a man's private life!" But that is the kind of preaching which I like best, the kind of preaching which men need most, but it is also the kind of which they get the least.

VERY SATISFYING!—A month ago, at the National Convention of Theosophists at Chicago, an essayist stated the following:—

Theosophy holds that in the beginning all matter, mind and force existed in one central, undifferentiated cosmic unity. The evolution from subjectivity to objectivity of this undifferentiated unity is evidently to effect perfection by experience, because infinite spirit in a state of being, if not projected into a state called existence, would remain inoperative—potential, not kinetic. When these great changes are fully accomplished on all the planes of being and existence the cycle is complete, perfection is attained, the cosmic unity becomes homogeneous and once more all the processes of ideation and differentiation recommence and go on eons upon eons to eternity.

We checked the kinetics toward the waste basket, to give our readers one more opportunity to thank God for believing in something "understandable" (as the Thirty-nine Articles say,) "of the people."

THE NONCONFORMIST PULPIT in London has lost another one of the most prominent representatives, Dr. Henry Allon, for a long time the pastor of Union Chapel, Islington.

The circumstances were not unlike those attending the death of his intimate friend, Dr. Donald Fraser, inasmuch as he had preached to his own people on the previous Sunday, and had been announced to preach again the following Sunday. Dr. Allon has been twice elected chairman of the Congregational Union, Chapel, and for more than a generation has been one of the prominent leaders of the Congregationalists in England. Holding firmly to the distinctively evangelical truths, he belonged to the broad school of Nonconformists, and his preaching was characterized by culture rather than intensity. He was an enthusiastically believer in church music, and was especially prominent for his interest and influence in furthering its use in public services.

HOUSE-CLEANING TIME.—For the last month or so has been the usual semi-annual "House-cleaning." In old days there was very little papering of rooms. All whitewashed. Paper was dear, and people had no money. We have seen paper stamped by hand in Joseph Bardeen's little mill at Georgetown; and we have seen a minister's parlor papered with *news-papers*, on which was a home-made stencilling of a little blue sprig—in what is now a town of 7,000 people. In those days it was a convenience to have the whitewashing all done at once, and be through with it. And so the whole house was turned "out of doors." Now that "the man of the house is found eating his dinner off a barrel head in the wood shed," it is not so. As there is no necessity for attacking the whole house at once, so the wiser sort now take one room at a time—and rest a day or two between, if necessary—and so get through easily and noiselessly a needed, but formerly very irritating process.

PRAY FOR YOUR MINISTER.—We never speak well of a person without feeling better disposed toward him; and we never pray for anyone without loving him more. And the success and happiness of many a minister and many a church, largely depend on the question whether the people pray for their pastor. "When I was first settled over them," said a faithful and laborious minister, "their prayers were constant and fervent for me, and my labors among them were abundantly prospered; Christians were manifestly growing