

and counteracted, they disappear. In the great American Revival of the last century it was found that bodily agitations prevailed almost exclusively in the congregations of those ministers who regarded them as signs of the Spirit's presence. Edwards discountenanced them, and consequently his church was exempted from the visitation; while his neighbours who favoured, or would not resist their manifestation, had them in abundance. In France, the only way in which their progress could be arrested was by fear. Death was threatened to the first man who went into convulsions, and the epidemic soon ran out. It gives the world a great handle against religion, when bodily agitations are made evidences of a work of grace.—*Biblical Repertory*.

PREACHING IN LONDON THEATRES.

A member of the House of Peers lately moved a resolution condemnatory of the practice of ministers of the Church of England preaching in these buildings as irregular, and calculated to injure the cause of religion and morality. The Archbishop of Canterbury, and the Bishops of Landaff and London opposed. The Earl of Shaftesbury, so distinguished for his active sympathy with all the benevolent movements of the day, in a speech of an hour and a half shewed how effectively this plan, of which he was one of the originators, was reaching the class they sought to benefit, the moral and religious condition of some of whom, according to the written testimony of a late Bishop, was inferior to that of the negro inhabitants of Sierra Leone in Africa. Scarcely two per cent. of the operatives of London ever enter a place of worship, while besides 3,000 professional thieves there are about 100,000 persons regarded as dangerous by the police, multitudes of whom spend the Sabbath in violating the laws of God. Owing to the roving habits of these people, their extreme poverty, and their great prejudice against churches, which they would not enter, it had been determined to invite them into the only place where they would go to hear of that Saviour who came to seek and save the lost. He stated that not less than 20,700 persons, chiefly "roughs," costermongers, and others, who never visited a house of prayer, had met in these places on a single Sabbath, and had listened with the most earnest attention to the words of everlasting life. In addressing the officers of government, he told them that what the people wanted was not patronage, but sympathy, and if rulers would show that sympathy, in its highest and most solemn form, the people might be led like a lamb in their hands. This earnest speech, one of the most remarkable ever delivered in that assembly, was listened to with profound attention.

A SCHISM AMONG THE MORMONS.

A reform movement in the Mormon church has been organized in Lee county, Illinois, by the ordination of Joseph Smith, son of the original prophet and originator of Mormonism, as head and high priest, together with twelve apostles, and presidents of seventies, in accordance with the system of the Latter Day Saints. The new prophet assumes his position both by hereditary right, and by the unanimous vote of a large section of the church. The new movement repudiates Brigham Young as having perverted the faith and introduced corrupt practices, particularly polygamy, which is denounced as a degrading abomination, directly at variance with the teachings of their sacred book. All the "faithful" in Utah and elsewhere are invited to rally to the standard of the new prophet.

THE SULTAN AND THE BIBLE.

Not only is the gospel making most encouraging progress among the followers of the false prophet, but the remarkable fact is stated by the missionaries at Constantinople, that the Sultan now constantly reads the Bible presented to him by the British and Foreign Bible Society. Whenever he goes away to stay even a couple of hours, it is carried after him packed in a splendid box, with an oriental reading-desk such as is used in reading the Koran. He recently went to see one of his officers of state, who had business ready for his attention. The Sultan called for his Bible, and after reading for two hours, left without examining the business. The pasha became very angry, and exclaimed, "The Sultan is poring over that book continually, and cares nothing more for the affairs of the state."