

regretted, it may serve a good purpose if taken to illustrate a condition very common in the case of weak congregations and poorly paid ministers, but of whose heart-burnings and sad experiences, a busy and indifferent world takes little or no notice. Yet dissatisfaction in congregations is a serious hindrance to the Christian life and to the usefulness of many true hearted and devoted ministers. A despatch to the *Chicago Standard* reveals the conditions which brought about Dr. Hall's resignation, with greater frankness than any other account of the case we have hitherto seen. There had been tremendous excitement in Dr. Hall's church concerning the trial of Herman Warszawiak, a Hebrew, who had been carrying on an independent mission. He was tried by the session of the church, and found to be guilty of gambling and other things. Dr. Hall warmly espoused his cause. This experience was the occasion, and partly the cause of this resignation. It is said that the session of his church asked for his resignation, received it and accepted it before informing the congregation, and it is noticed that the resolutions passed by the session, concerning his resignation, contained not a single word of regret. Such action as this, in view of thirty years of faithful life, makes every pastor in New York City feel sick at heart."

MORMONISM IN ONTARIO.

OUR brief article last week has justly stirred a serious subject not any too soon. Further investigation but confirms the statement we then published. It seems to be an established fact that Mormon emissaries have been exploiting in certain rural districts of this Province and that their efforts have been successful, beyond what can be easily credited by the average reader. The modus operandi seems to have been carefully planned. In sections where the churches are quietly pursuing the even tenor of their way, meetings have been held at which the most objectionable features of Mormonism have been kept in the background, and the specious allurements spread out before the people. Our reports are to the effect that many have been caught by the wiles of the missionaries and that the meetings have been placed on a permanent arrangement. The only explanation we have been able to obtain of the impression thus made, has been that the people have been neglected, that the churches have not been active in the care of the people who as a result have become an easy prey to the Mormon propagandist. Many people are but too ready to listen to any new fad that comes along, if plausibly unfolded to them, and so it has evidently been in those parts of Western and North Western Ontario where the Latter Day Saints are operating. We stated last week that within twelve months 100,000, or more, will openly avow Mormonism in Ontario. We have been assured by our correspondents that this estimate is within the mark. If so, it is high time action were taken. The Presbyteries of Bruce, Maitland and Saugeen and others should lose no time in ascertaining what is taking place within their bounds, and in taking steps to counteract the evil. And the church as a whole has an important duty to face in the premises.

THE REVISED VERSION.

THE copy right held by the two great English Universities for the publication of the Revised Version of the Bible will expire next year, when it is expected that its circulation will receive a great impulse from the cheapening of the price at which editions may be sold.

In anticipation of this the American Company of Revisers, now considerably diminished in number through death, have completed arrangements for issuing an edition embodying the suggestions made by them, now printed in an appendix. It is hinted that they may also make further modifications with a view to removing some of the chief objections to the Revised Version as it stands. There is no doubt that taken as a whole it is an immense improvement on the authorized version for religious purposes. But the changes made in some of the most familiar passages of the New Testament especially are distasteful to very many readers and to the thinking of many scholars unnecessary. Something may be said in favour of them, but the loss is greater than the gain. If some of these passages were restored to something like the previous form it would go a long way towards removing the hesitancy about its systematic use for public services as well as for private reading. The contract for the publication of the new edition has been given to the firm of Thomas Nelson and Son who will certainly issue it in a worthy style. We regret to notice that it too is to be copyrighted, but we would fain hope that the conditions are not such as will prevent the price from being lowered so as to put it on something like an equality as regards cost with the current editions of the authorized version. Experience shows that there is no such demand for the Revised Version as will enable it to make way in face of artificial obstacles such as a marked disparity in price between it and the other version. It will not be generally adopted until these are removed out of the way, and perhaps not speedily even then.

NOTABLE CELEBRATIONS.

SCARCELY have the echoes of the Westminster Confession celebration passed away when from France comes news of the proposed celebration of the Tricentenary of the Edict of Nantes, an event in which the protestant world must feel a deep interest. To France the Edict has been a notable document, the provisions of which underlay their religious liberties. The Edict was prepared and promulgated by Henry of Navarre in 1598 as an attempt to restore peace between the Huguenots and the Roman Catholics. Certain rights were secured to both parties in the pursuit of their religious ordinances. To the Reformed church "it secured the public exercise of their religion in all places in which such had been observed in 1507, and also in the suburbs of cities, noblemen might have private chaplains and services within their own houses; Protestants should be eligible for public appointments; their children should be admitted to the public schools their sick to the hospitals, and their poor to the beneficiary asylums; liberty was granted then to print their books in certain specified towns; a certain proportion of seats in the parliaments was given them; four academies or institutions affiliated to the National Universities were erected for their benefit; liberty to hold synodical meetings in accordance with the constitution of their Church, a liberty since taken from them—was promised; while, as pledges from the crown, certain cities were put under their care. To the Huguenots, the prospect of peaceable existence which this Edict gave was worth much more, perhaps, than its detailed concessions, and though revoked in 1685 by Louis XIV., yet, for many a day, the Reformed Church prospered under its provisions. As might be expected, the Romanist party, notwithstanding the advantages secured to it, raged at the concessions granted to the Protestants. The priests were furious,