

So much for secession on the plea of Romanizing tendencies in the Church. On the other hand, the appointment of Dr. Stanley, Dean of Westminster, to a select preachship in Oxford, has led to the withdrawal of Dr. Goulburn, Dean of Norwich, from the list of such preachers, on the ground that Dr. Stanley had no definite belief on any of the Doctrines of the Church of England, and that Christianity itself was in his hands reduced to a mere pulpy mass of sentimental moralities. It is a somewhat curious fact that Dean Stanley's election was opposed by the Ritualistic party.

These occurrences may be regarded as trivial in themselves; but they are straws upon the surface of the Ecclesiastical current, showing the direction of the drift; and looking at these "signs of the times," we no longer wonder to hear an English religious periodical concluding an article on the subject in these words:—"In the meantime, as Reformation in a godly direction seems not dreamed of—as legal prosecutions for erroneous doctrines have become a costly farce, and are, therefore, abandoned for the future—as Romanizers and extreme Rationalists have respectively made good their foothold, and as neither the "Orthodox" nor the "Evangelical" element appears disposed to secede, the spectacle presented to our view is one that outgoes all past experience, and precludes safe vaticination. Curious men may speculate as to how far internal disorganization can proceed without coming to dissolution. Sarcastic men may suggest that the Orthodox should go out at one door and the Evangelicals at another. Gallios or Sadducees, on the one hand, may exult at the realization of a national, non-dogmatic Pan Ecclesia; but good men cannot help sighing in secret at the dishonor done to truth, to love, and to Christ, and with tears exclaim, O GOD! HOW LONG?

FROM the contemplation of such a spectacle, we gladly turn to a more hopeful and pleasing one. Recently, a day was set apart by the Episcopal Church as a time of intercession for an increased supply of missionaries. The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishops of London and Winchester, with other dignitaries of the Church, gave the movement their heartiest support, and on the day named early services were held in vast numbers of the Churches throughout the country. In this action of the Church of England we have a dignified answer to the vaporing challenge of Tyndal and his

Pantheistic friends, concerning the efficacy of prayer.

FROM many parts of our widely-extended work we hear cheering tidings of revival. Would to God the work might become general, and the whole Connexion be set on a blaze. The labors of Dr. and Mrs. Palmer have been greatly blessed in two of the Churches of this city. At Queen Street, as the result of some two weeks' services, over one hundred persons professed conversion, while many entered into the possession of the "perfect love" which "casteth out fear." At Berkely Street, meetings have been in progress for several weeks, and have resulted in much good.

DOES ROMANISM EVER CHANGE?—Those who would answer this question in the affirmative, would do well to ponder the following from a French religious journal, referring to a festival at Lyons in honor of the anniversary of the proclamation of the Immaculate Conception:—"Festival of the Immaculate Conception of the most holy, most great, and most loved Virgin Mary, Mother of God and Queen of France. This is the mystery of Lourdes, the treasure of the Sanctuary of Notre Dame des Victoires; this the virtue of the miraculous medal on which the Holy Virgin is represented, such as she appeared in 1825, in Paris, to a nun, crushing the Serpent's head. . . . The mystery of the Immaculate Conception is a mystery of triumph. May the Celestial Queen of France shed the grace of it upon her poor and loved kingdom, in order to destroy the capital sin of the country—viz., the Revolution—in all its forms." Truly, when such are the teachings and hopes of the clergy, France may well call for schools and Bibles.

#### REQUESTS FOR PRAYER.

A PASTOR requests the prayers of God's people for an outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon his congregation, wherein are many young people yet unconverted.

ONE who earnestly desires the blessing of a clean heart, that he may soon find the "pearl of great price."

FOR a brother who is not only unconverted, but intemperate, that he may be saved from his besetting sin, and savingly converted to God.