

It is believed that the Columbian Exposition, in providing a series of world's conventions, is meeting a general demand on the part of eager-minded and intelligent men and women. The Chairman judges from his own immense correspondence, from the more than three thousand letters received in the last three months, that the religious congresses and they alone will furnish the attraction sufficient to draw many busy men to the city of Chicago. No one can fail to be enthusiastic over the artistic and industrial splendors of the Exposition, but the eye becomes tired of *seeing* things. The powers of intelligent vision are exhausted after five or six hours of intense seeing. Multitudes will be eager to *hear* the representative leaders of human thought, and to meet the experts, the famous teachers and preachers, whose words may have been a part of their nobler lives. It is believed that these conventions and the world-wide fraternities of scholars, historians, physicians, reformers and divines which will be formed, are sure to give an enduring lustre to the Columbian anniversary and to this golden year.

"It remained for the United States of America to link with the greatest exposition of the industry of all nations a parliament of all the religions. The earnest prayers of Christian people will implore the blessing of God to rest upon every effort to carry out this unique conception. The Christian Church, with her world-wide sympathy, will have a glorious opportunity of recognizing in the representatives of other religions the brotherhood of man. I cherish the hope that, among other results, the contemplated Parliament will have a blessed effect upon the peace of the world." Thus writes the Rev. George Sargeant, formerly President of the General Methodist Conference of the West Indies. One correspondent, Rev. George T. Lemmon, of Schaghticoke, N. Y., writes that the Parliament "is the necessity of the age. Europe's Eastern question, Asiatic aggrandizement and African colonization have brought together, in friendly conference, the representatives of rival nations and rival races to divide the spoils of war and plan more destruction than righteous construction. America has held her Pan-American Congress, seeking the commercial advantage of each conferring State." And he deems it the natural outcome of the spirit of the Prince of Peace, that His followers should seek to bring men together in a wider brotherhood than has been achieved by diplomacy, commerce, or national selfishness.

The committee having in charge this Parliament have sometimes been almost overwhelmed by the eager, enthusiastic expectations of those who are looking forward to this meeting. Governor Chase of Indiana writes: "I cannot think of anything more inspiring on this side of heaven than such a congress." Professor Isaac T. Headland, of the Imperial University at Peking, writes: "Of all the features of the World's Fair none will be so attractive to me as this, none so interesting, and none, I believe, could be made more beneficial." Professor Samuel Ives Curtiss, of the Chicago Theological Seminary, writes of the proposed Parliament: "It is needless