

to give a list of its preachers. Its congregation comprises about one-fourth of the people, some of whom are among the most worthy and progressive citizens of the community.

may charitably be presumed that the former dislike of the orthodox Swiss to those of their people who changed their faith had its origin in the conservative veneration for things as they are in Switzerland, rather than in any spirit of blind persecution.

In the Reformed church, this veneration for what is customary at home causes strict adherence to the ancient forms of worship. The New Glarus congregation is nominally in connection with the synod of eastern Switzerland, but the relation is of no practical benefit to either. The hymn and prayer books, and catechisms, are imported as needed, none of this kind being printed or used in the United States. The necessary expenses in support of the Reformed church are defrayed by levying yearly a tax equally on the heads of families, rich and poor. The amount is determined at the annual meeting, at which only the male members attend or vote. The meeting also makes or alters the rules for the good of the congregation. Repeated efforts have been made by kindred synods in the United States to cause this church at New Glarus to join them, but all attempts in that direction have failed on account of an independent spirit which will not brook even the semblance of control. The members say that in the days of their early struggles and poverty, no helping hand was extended to them from any synod, and they will have none of their connection now.¹

Education.

As I have already stated, the matter of common schools received some attention soon after the colony was founded. Little, however, has even yet been done towards a higher education. A limited number of young men have with commendable energy gone to other places, and acquired such ad-

¹ Mr. Luchsinger's article in *Wis. Hist. Coll.*, viii., gives at pp. 429-431, an interesting description of the curious church services and customs at New Glarus.— ED.