

Sunday Exercises in Beecher's Church.

The Providence Post tells the following story:—"Parson Beecher played a good joke on his congregation a few Sundays ago. He paraded a colored lady in his pulpit, and told the people she was an unmarried slave, who had been sent there from Washington, on her parole of honor, to raise a balance of five hundred dollars as a means of redeeming her from bondage. The parson plead her cause with much eloquence, and enforced the necessity of prompt action by saying that, if she was not immediately purchased, she would be sold into a life of infamy.—The bait took. The pure and innocent-looking girl faced the audience, and the boxes were started. Nothing but gold and bank-notes were contributed, and the result was—not five, but *eight* hundred dollars! The money having been counted and the amount announced, the parson coolly informed the congregation that the three hundred dollars surplus should be used in purchasing the young lady's *child*! Of course, this caused a fluttering of the sanctimonious flounces, but it was too late to mend matters."