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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

"ENQUIRER" writes: "Can you, sir, or any of your correspondents, let me know, through the columns of the CANADA PRESBYTERIAN, of any actual cases of drowning or of sickness through immersion of adults?"

THE British and Foreign Bible Society, always in the front rank, this year held its seventy-fifth annual meeting, and its report shows good work done. Its receipts were £213,800, and its expenditure £223,000.

DR. PATTON, of Chicago, who recently received an invitation to a professorship in England, has been requested by a unanimous vote of the American Presbyterian General Assembly not to accept the invitation and to remain in that country.

THE relations of Britain and Afghanistan are placed on a definite basis at last, and we suppose that the arrangement will continue for a while. Of course, Britain has not denied herself in the final result. She never will so long as the Beaconsfield party is in power. As to the South African war, a change may come now. Sir Garnet Wolseley has been selected for the chief command, and he may be able to succeed. It seems as if Lord Chelmsford was an utter failure.

THE new Zion Presbyterian church, Orangeville, will be opened (D.V.) on Sabbath, 22nd June. Rev. Principal McVicar, LL.D., Presbyterian College, Montreal, will preach morning and evening, and Rev. Prof. McLaren, Knox College, Toronto, in the afternoon. A festival will be given on Monday evening following (23rd), proceeds for the benefit of the building fund. Addresses and sacred song will also be a special feature in the proceedings of the evening. Inasmuch as great pains are being taken by the congregation to secure what is appropriate and superior in every particular, all attending may expect, by God's blessing, a most enjoyable and highly profitable season, both on Sabbath and Monday evening.

JOHN HENRY NEWMAN has been saying something. Indeed, he has been making quite a lengthy address in Rome, on the occasion of his elevation to the cardinalate. The most noteworthy part of his address is that which deals with what he calls "religious liberalism," which he defines as the assertion that "there is no positive truth in religion, but that one creed is as good as another." This liberalism, Cardinal Newman says, he has opposed for half a century. Well, we think that most of us are engaged in doing the same thing. If the Cardinal's definition is correct, we fancy

that we are all with him. But we can easily see what he means when we hear him say that in all he has written he has shown "an honest intention, an absence of private ends, a temper of obedience, a willingness to be corrected, a dread of error, a desire to serve the Holy Church." To Newman, there is an ecclesiastical authority, to which even his conscience and reason must bow themselves. At least, so he says. Query: Whether they do always bow to this authority?

FROM an announcement made by the Rev. R. J. Laidlaw, of St. Paul's Church, Hamilton, to his Bible class on Monday evening, we hope soon to have the pleasure of announcing the appearance of his work, entitled, "Our Religion, as it Was and as it Is," now in course of publication. It has been known to intimate friends of Mr. Laidlaw, both here and in the United States, that he has been engaged upon this work for some years, and the publication of the volume is looked for with much interest by those who are acquainted with the line of research the author has been pursuing. The book will contain thirteen chapters, the title of the first being, "Is our religion of today the religion of the Bible?" That of the last, "Do we need another Reformation?" The volume will be a crown octavo of 320 pages, printed on finely tinted paper, and neatly bound in cloth. A more extended notice of this interesting work will be given when the volume is before us.

A LETTER to the N.Y. "Observer" from Baltimore tells of a lady who had been skeptical, but who had received light by means of Mr. Moody's preaching. She and her husband had read Tyndall and Huxley and other infidel books, and had refused to believe the Scriptures, but now she is a full believer in the Word of God—and happy in a real Christian experience. Now, Mr. Moody is particularly free from the fault of preaching "science." He holds up the cross; he tells sinners they must be saved by the blood. In another church in the same city, a brilliant minister delivers elegant discourses, and "unanswerable" ones, in refuting the calumnies and sophistries of the philosophers, but there is chilliness rather than fervour among his people who admire the orator more than they feel his truth. It is preaching Jesus, simply, earnestly, affectionately, plainly, fully, that brings men to the acknowledgment of their sins and secures for them the joy of pardon.

WE pass on the following for the benefit of all croakers about missionary "failures." The "Northern Christian Advocate" gives this as a summary of missionary effort in the Sandwich Islands:—"These cannibals, who erewhile would cook and carve a merchant or a mariner, and discourse on the deliciousness of a cold slice of missionary—these semi-devils—have now \$250,000 worth of church property built with muscular Christianity and pious self-denial, which shame us out of all self-complacency. Think of it. 150 persons dragging each timber for a church for eight miles, diving for coral ten to twenty feet, reducing it to lime and carrying it on their shoulders seven miles, to cement stones carried one by one an eighth of a mile; women subscribing \$200 to a church erection, payable and paid by making mats at eight cents a week, and subscriptions by men payable and paid by the profits on firewood sold at eight cents a stick after ferrying seven sticks in a canoe across the twenty mile wide channel; then, 2,000 miles away, beginning a "foreign

mission" on the Micronesian Islands—why if this were not fact it would be counted the silliest of all possible romances, the improbable of the improbable, the impossible of the impossible, compared with which Jules Verne's expeditions would be stale sobriety itself."

THE Brantford "Courier" of a recent date has the following: "Last night closed a seventeen years' pastorate. The Rev. Dr. Cochrane, morning and evening, preached sermons appropriate for the occasion. His sermons yesterday were masterly efforts and gave ample evidence that he has lost none of his powers of eloquence, while his earnestness and zeal have, if anything, increased. For seventeen long years he has gone in and out amongst the members and adherents of Zion Church congregation, sharing their trials in adversity and their happiness in prosperity. Great changes have taken place—but throughout all, never was a congregation more devoted to its pastor nor a pastor more devoted to his flock. Long pastorates in this age are the exception, not the rule. The wealthy congregations in our largest cities are always on the alert and ready by the offer of large salaries to secure talent. Dr. Cochrane more than once has had such opportunities, but he has preferred to remain in our own city. His labours have not been confined to Brantford only. He has held high offices in the Presbyterian Church of Canada, and his voice has been heard in all parts of the land. His life has been one of ceaseless activity, and we wish for him and his congregation many years more of devotion one to the other. No greater tribute can be paid to a pastor or congregation than to publish the fact that for seventeen years they have worshipped together, and that at the beginning of the eighteenth year the attachment one for the other is greater than ever before."

THE "Vindicator," referring to the departure of the Rev. Mr. Hogg and family from Oshawa, says: "On Friday evening, he was presented by several ladies with a handsome silver tea-set of seven pieces, from the congregation. On Saturday, the Misses Hogg were waited on by members of the classes taught by them in the Sunday school, and presented with tokens of the love and respect in which they were held by their pupils. Rev. Mr. Hogg removes, to assume his Toronto charge, this week. He takes with him the good-will and respect of all who know him in the town." Notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the weather, there was a large gathering of the congregation and friends, on Tuesday evening, to welcome the Rev. Mr. Hogg to Charles street. After a sumptuous tea had been partaken of, the meeting was called to order by the Rev. Dr. Reid, who most happily discharged the duties of the chair. The 100th Psalm having been sung, suitable speeches were delivered by the Rev. Messrs. Drummond, Frizzell, Robertson, Prof. McLaren, and Principal Caven. All bore testimony to the many good qualities of Mr. Hogg; and all predicted for him and the congregation a prosperous future. Several young ladies—among them Misses Cathron, Symes and Gunther—contributed several solos, which agreeably varied the proceedings, and were well received. The piano solo by Miss Gunther was exceedingly well rendered, and elicited a hearty encore. The Rev. Mr. Hogg, in a few feeling remarks, brought the proceedings of a most enjoyable evening to a termination. The meeting closed with the benediction.