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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE "Christian at Work" tells of a London reviewer who paid a sceptical author back in his own coin. The author, Mr. John Morley, had insisted on printing "God" as "god" throughout one of his books. The reviewer was equally careful in the frequent mention of Mr. Morley's name to have it appear as "mr. John morley."

DR HÄNSEL, a savant, of Reichenberg, Germany, has succeeded, after many experiments, in photographing several flashes of lightning. The photographs took in part of the landscape, and made it possible to estimate with accuracy the place where the lightning struck. It also proved possible to compute the length of the course traversed by the electric current. These experiments are to be continued, with the aid of stereoscopy. They have awakened much interest.

SINCE the adoption of the prohibition amendment in Kansas one of the cities which have persistently disobeyed the law is Dodge City. Liquor has been sold there without attempt at concealment, and the place became the resort of all vile characters. A press despatch says that last Sunday, "for the first time in the history of the city, all the business houses, saloons, dance halls and gambling halls were closed. There is universal rejoicing, and it is believed that measures of reform will be carried out. Many gamblers and prostitutes are leaving."

THE Marquis of Lorne recently commissioned the city clerk of Ottawa, a well-known sportsman, to procure for him some live muskrats. Two of these creatures have been secured, and will be sent by the Governor-General to Scotland. The Marquis and his father have taken considerable interest in the acclimatization of American animals on the ducal estate, where there is already a colony of Canadian beavers. The Governor General's muskrats may be tamed by feeding with the hand and scratching their backs, an attention which muskrats very soon learn to appreciate.

A SAD disaster has befallen the picturesque and thriving town of Hadjin, Turkey, which has been almost wholly destroyed by a conflagration which consumed 1,500 houses and three hundred shops. Not less than 6,000 people are without homes, and the resident missionaries appeal for aid to be sent to the treasurer of the Board. Three Protestant communities had been organized, and a new church was burned. One woman said: "My relatives were in twenty-two houses; and oh! if one of them had been saved I might have had a home; but they are all burned."

THE Defence Association, of which Dr. Begg is chairman, has issued a "manifesto" recommending a stand to be made against innovations and the accumulation of funds to defend to the uttermost "the position and property." They trust that the time is near at hand "when there shall be a loud cry from all parts of the Presbyterian Church for a pure Presbyterianism, instead of that miserable jumble of independence and ritualism, unsound doctrine, theatrical worship, and overbearing policy, by which our professedly Presbyterian churches are all at present more or less infected."

THERE are about 4,000 Mennonites, or Anabaptists, in Manitoba, divided into ten or twelve villages, and occupying the richest land. They came seven years ago, a large reservation being set apart by the Government for their exclusive use. Their language is a mixture of Russian and low Dutch, and their customs and habits are primitive in the extreme. They are not at all cleanly, living under the same roof with pigs, cows, horses, and poultry, and keep aloof from the settlers. Their elders decide minor disputes, but the power belongs to the people, without whose consent no business of importance can be transacted. They are, of course, subject to the Provincial law.

ANTI JEWISH riots in Hungary are continually reported. Two thousand peasants resisted the troops recently at Egerszeg. It was thereupon decided to institute martial law, with the provision that anyone condemned to death should be executed within three hours after sentence. Despite this proclamation the disorders continue. The peasants now threaten to attack the landlords. A band of 400 peasants destroyed by fire the property of Jews at Sgoctoe. They threatened to shoot a fireman who tried to extinguish the flames. Acts of incendiarism are increasing in number. Forty-eight houses of Jews have been burned at Szepeth, and thirty-six at Bezered, and their crops have been destroyed.

THE King of Sweden has been patting the Good Templars on the back. Addressing a deputation from one of the Orebro lodges, his Majesty said: "I honour your cause, for it is good, and you have a noble object in view. I have spoken to many of your brethren, amongst them my friend and your chief, whom I greatly esteem, C. O. Berg, M.P., of the Upper House, through whom I know that you are not of any particular political party, and I am informed from many parts of the kingdom, and from the military exercising places, that the people are beginning to be sober. You are fighting in a noble cause, and you can rest assured that I will do all that I can for your Order and its cause."

A TERRIBLE hurricane has swept over the Samoan Islands which must have seriously affected the English mission churches. All vessels in the harbour were wrecked, and for twenty miles west of Savali only one house remains. We hear that at Apia the Catholic church and school buildings were blown down and one of the missionaries killed. The London Society began mission work in Samoa in 1830, and the Wesleyan Society in 1835. The population of the group is about 150,000, and Savali and Upolu are the principal islands. The London Society has upward of 30,000 hearers and more than 7,000 in its schools; the Wesleyan Society has about 1,700 scholars, and together the societies have perhaps 5,500 members.

EIGHTY years ago, says the New York "Observer," there were only seven Protestant missionary societies; now there are seventy hailing from Europe and America. Eighty years ago there were about 170 missionaries, and now there are about 2,500 missionaries from Europe and America in heathen lands. Eighty years ago there were about 50,000 converts from heathenism, now there are about 1,820,000—310,000 in the West Indies; 250,000 in Africa; 500,000 in the East Indies; 70,000 in China and Japan; 90,000 in the Indian Archipelago; 300,000 in the South Pacific Seas; 240,000 in Madagascar; and 60,000 in America. Eighty years ago there were about seventy missionary schools; now there are more than 12,000, with upwards of 400,000 scholars, all receiving instruction in the Word of God.

"ATHLETICS are overdone," is beginning to be the cry from our colleges. Stronger words than these are used by the disappointed parents. Dr. McCosh testifies of this with sufficient plainness: "I know a professor of a college who was addressed bitterly by a father on the occasion of his son's graduation: 'I sent my son to your college that he might become a scholar and assist me in my law office. I find that you have made him a tumbler, and I believe I should look out for a place for him in a circus.' An accomplished lady was heard to say: 'My boy formerly, when he came home, was accustomed to talk of the lectures he heard, and the new books of history and poetry he read. Now his talk is of sparring, and he has actually asked leave of me to go up to New York to see the performances of a band of boxers.'"

MR. SPURGEON, in "Sword and Trowel," writes of the Salvation Army methods in the following terms: "If you want to know how to distract a congregation,

you have only to go to the great drum-thumping establishments, and hear for yourself how noise can be glorified. Outside of these emporiums instruments of brass are in full blast, with their still, small voices proclaiming peace on earth, good will toward men. To put it more plainly, the age of the tin-kettle and the banjo has arrived, and with these weapons of our warfare the strongholds of the devil are to be thrown down. In certain districts the Sabbath is made hideous, the streets are rendered dangerous, and quiet is banished, in the name of the Lord Jesus, and with the view of attracting the masses to Him. The design is admirable, the method intolerable."

THAT cargo of 390 tons of frozen mutton, recently sent from New Zealand to London has set statisticians in the sheep raising regions of the west to figuring on the possibilities of the future. Mr. Armour, the great Chicago dealer, says the United States can never compete with Australia in supplying Europe with mutton. A California newspaper admits this fact. It says that Australia and New Zealand have over 70,000,000 sheep, and that the annual increase is 30,000,000 a year. The colonies can more than supply the mother country out of the annual increase. English mutton sells for seventeen to twenty-one cents a pound. In Australia the sheep are killed for their skins, and their carcasses are thrown away. Even at eight cents a pound there is a big profit in shipping mutton to London. The artificial ice in which it is packed is so cheap that it is said there is little risk in the undertaking.

VOLCANIC eruptions occurred at Java last week, involving immense destruction and an enormous loss of life. Terrific detonations began to be heard on the evening of August 26th, on the Island of Krakatoa. They were audible at Soerakrata, on the Island of Java. The ashes from the volcano fell as far as Cheribon and the flashes proceeding from it were visible in Batavia. Stones fell in a shower on Serang, which was in total darkness throughout the night. Batavia was nearly so, all the gaslights having been extinguished during the night. The eruption continued the next day. On Tuesday towns on the Island of Java were swept away by an immense tidal wave, and the lighthouses, as well as a mountain in the Sunda Straits, disappeared. The town of Anjer was destroyed and navigation rendered dangerous by the upheavals. Krakatoa disappeared, and sixteen volcanoes arose between where it stood and Sibiis Island. The number of lives lost is not known, and probably never can be; but it is estimated at from 30,000 to 100,000. Earthquake waves were observed on the Pacific coast as a result of the eruptions.

THERE have been heavy storms and gales off the Newfoundland coast during the past week. A schooner which skirted the coast last Wednesday and Thursday reported that wreckage was encountered on every side for thirty miles of her course. Many dories were seen bottom up, and oars, fish boards, and other material in large quantities were passed from time to time. It was estimated that over sixty fishermen were lost. Many vessels were driven ashore. The rumours of a tidal wave, at first spread abroad, were afterward denied. The steamer "Ludwig" from Antwerp, has been out over sixty days, and all hope of her safety has been abandoned. There were seventy persons on board, of whom twenty-four were passengers. The gales have not been confined to the American coast, for a heavy one is reported to have prevailed on the English coast on Saturday night and Sunday, causing many wrecks and the loss of several lives. The rumour was current in Plymouth, England, that the "Amerique," of the General Transatlantic Line, from Havre for New York, had foundered in the gale. No confirmation of the report, however, could be obtained in London. The "Amerique" has already met with two serious accidents, having been abandoned off the French coast in April, 1874, and having run ashore on the New Jersey coast in January, 1877.