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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE Pan-Anglican and Pan-Presbyterian Synods having been held, a Pan-Methodist conference is now suggested.

WE have just received a very interesting letter from Rev. K. F. Junor, giving an account of his safe arrival in Formosa and of the prosperity of the mission there. It is too late for insertion in this week's issue, but will appear in our next.

PROFESSOR MACLAREN begs to acknowledge the receipt of ten dollars from "A Friend," Vankleekhill, for the Formosa Mission. The letter containing this remittance having been sent to the Dead Letter Office, Ottawa, was not received until a considerable time after its date.

REV. W. DICKSON, in reporting on Sabbath schools to the recent Scotch Free Church General Assembly, stated that the Scottish Sabbath school teaching went back of Robert Raikes, certainly as far back as two hundred years. Trace of it was found in the old session records of Dalgety, and the martyr John Brown it was known taught a Sabbath school at Priesthill.

THE eighth annual convention of the Ottawa Valley Sabbath School Association was held in St. John's Church, Almonte, on the 27th, 28th, and 29th ult. There was a large attendance of delegates, and some of the meetings were well attended by the general public. Many important topics were discussed, and many interesting and instructive addresses delivered—among others, two addresses by Rev. Prof. McLaren, Toronto, who happened to be present.

REV. DR. ASHMORE, a Baptist missionary in Swatow, China, writes to the "Examiner and Chronicle" that at one of the remote inland stations of the Scotch mission, an infuriated crowd rushed into a meeting of the Christian converts, attacked and fearfully beat six of the eight who were present, and then pursued two who had escaped. One of these was the principal agent in introducing the new religion, against whom they were especially incensed. They dragged him out of the village, beat him till he was senseless and then cut his throat. The case has been laid before the English consul.

A CORRESPONDENT of the "Herald and Presbyter," writing from San Francisco, says: "Our Sabbath on this coast is European rather than Puritan. It is the day for parades, processions, etc. As our Constitutional Convention is to meet soon, an effort is being made by ministers and others to secure a section in

the new organic law, recognizing the right of every one to a weekly day of rest, and requiring the legislature to enact such laws as may be necessary to protect this right. We are not very sanguine of success, but we shall do what we can to redeem the Lord's day from the present fearful desecration."

BISHOP WHITTAKER (Protestant Episcopal) of the diocese of Nevada has been giving the Nevada newspapers some queer stories of his experience in a recent tour through the towns of Tybo and Ward. At Tybo he could get no building to preach in but a gambling house, and in response to the Litany, instead of "Amen," an excited listener, with his pantaloons stuffed into his boots, cried "keno." At Ward a horse-race had been announced for the afternoon, but at the bishop's earnest request the racing was postponed till the religious services were over. The whole congregation went from the church to the race-track as soon as the sermon was finished.

THE London Sunday School Union has issued its seventh call for a time of special prayer and thanksgiving for Sunday-schools. The days named are the 20th and 21st of next October, and the request is that Christians all over the world will observe them. On Sabbath, the 20th, sermons are to be preached by clergymen who feel a particular interest in the Sabbath school work. While the suggestions of the London Sunday School Union have in some places been cheerfully and thoroughly complied with, there are a great many churches and Sunday schools which have taken no notice whatsoever of them. An urgent appeal is now made for a general expression of interest.

INFORMATION has been received at the Mission House, in New York, of the atrocious murder of three Moravian missionaries near Lance-a-loup, in Labrador, recently. The missionaries were found dead and covered with frightful wounds in their new house at the above locality. The fact that wines and spirits, which were kept at the mission house for medical purposes, and a considerable quantity of canned meats and vegetables, were missing, led to the necessary conclusion that the crimes were perpetrated by what are known as the "lazy gangs" among the Esquimaux Indians. Of late the missionaries have been engaged in a crusade against the extensive bartering of rum for fish and skins, which has been in vogue among the Newfoundland fisherman and the natives of Labrador.

THE London "Christian Globe" criticises at considerable length the proceedings and results of the Lambeth Conference, in England. In commenting upon the closing sermon by the Protestant Episcopal Bishop of Pennsylvania, it says: "But if the Bishop's splendid vision of the Church renewing her mighty youth like an eagle, and kindling her undazzled eyes at the full mid-day beam, is ever to be realized, she must be purged of much that hinders her onward march and stultifies her influence for good. All the exertions of all her laymen will fail to reconcile the masses of the people to the sale of livings by auction, compulsory funeral rites for dissenters, and the practice of Popish rites and ceremonies. When she has swept away all these from her midst, then, and not till then, will she have peace and prosperity within her walls, and find a place in the hearts and affections of the people."

THE first Syrian family that ever immigrated to this continent landed lately at New York. It consists of the parents, six sons and one daughter, who until 1860 lived in Damascus, but were then forced by the brutality of the Druses to take refuge in Beyrout. The father is master of several languages, and was professor of Greek and Arabic, and also a director in the college at Beyrout. He has taught most of the American missionaries the Arabic language. His two oldest sons are physicians. They and the fifth son, who is still a student, derived their medical knowledge from the professors in the American Protestant College in Beyrout. The third son is a shoemaker, and the fourth a tailor. They come to America to avoid the continual dangers to which Christians are exposed in Syria. They had to leave Syria secretly, as the Sultan does not approve of his subjects going to other countries. The passage occupied thirty two days, via Alexandria and Liverpool.

REV. R. A. FYFE, D.D., Principal of the Canadian Literary Institution, died on the 4th inst., at his residence in Woodstock. Dr. Fyfe had been in failing health for some years, but up to within a few days of his death had seemed no worse than at any time during the last year or two. He had recently returned from a vacation trip, and thought himself somewhat invigorated, and was looking forward hopefully to the recommencement of his labors in the college; but a few days before his death he was taken suddenly ill on his return from a short walk. At first his physicians thought there was no cause for serious alarm, but after a day or two his strength rapidly failed, and alarming symptoms developed themselves, with the sad result above stated. His loss has cast a gloom over the whole community, and is deeply regretted by a large circle of friends, to whom he was deeply endeared by long acquaintance and many noble and generous traits of character. The loss will be especially serious to the Baptist denomination, of which he has been for long years one of the most prominent leaders; and to the Theological and Literary College, which was originated by his foresight and energy, and has been most successfully carried on under his management.

THE Session of a Presbyterian congregation in Atlanta, U.S., passed the following sentence on one of its deacons, and the action of the Session was afterwards sustained by the Presbytery: "Whereas Mr. Frank E. Block having admitted before the Session that at an entertainment given by him at his residence in this city on the 27th December last, dancing, both round and square, was permitted, and having defended and attempted to justify the same, notwithstanding the deliverances of the Presbytery of Atlanta and of the General Assembly, which have both strongly enjoined upon Sessions the absolute necessity of enforcing the discipline provided in the Constitution of the Church against such conduct; and the said Block having gone further and denied the validity of said deliverances above referred to as unauthorised by the Constitution of the Church and the word of God; and having denounced the same as an unwarrantable usurpation of power on the part of said judicatories. It is therefore declared as the sense of this Session that the said F. E. Block be suspended from the privileges of church membership until he shall give evidence of repentance for this offence, and make promise of reformation for the future."