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Notes of the Week.

THE Central Presbyterian University at Richmond, Kv., has had an additional endowment fund of \$100,000 recently subscribed by Presbyterians of that Synod. Two of the largest subscribers gave \$20,000 and \$30,000 respectively. The amount was raised mainly through the efforts of the Chancellor of the University, Dr. S. H. Blanchard.

THROUGH the conciliatory efforts of France Greece has been induced to listen with less impatience to the demand of the Powers for disarmament. The outbreak of hostilities seems for the present deferred, but so electric is the condition of the European political atmosphere that a bolt may burst out of the thunder cloud at any moment.

MESSRS. JONES AND SMALL have begun revival services in Baltimore. The skating rink has been engaged and fitted up for their accommodation. As arranged it will seat about 4,000 people. A large chorus has been organized for the singing. Ministers of the Presbyterian, Baptist, Methodist, Episcopal, Reformed Episcopal, and other Churches unite in announcing the meetings, and ask "all Christians" to join in the prayer of the prophet: "O Lord, revive thy work!"

IF leaping to the front rank of musical proficiency at one bound be an evidence of success, then the Toronto Vocal Society, by their splendid concert held on Monday week, have achieved that distinction. The success was thoroughly deserved. The programme was in all respects an excellent one, and the rendering of the principal numbers was most effective. The conductor, Mr. Haslam, is an accomplished and painstaking instructor. Mrs. Agnes Corlett-Thompson's graceful singing indicated a decided advance in attainment.

OF Professor Bruce's series of lectures just concluded in Union Theological Seminary, New York, the *New York Evangelist* says. The course has been a very able one, and when published in a volume, will furnish a masterly discussion of its great theme, "The Miraculous Element in the Gospels." Such contributions to theological literature illustrate the value of an endowment like that of the Ely Foundation, which enables a seminary to avail itself of Biblical learning from the other side of the ocean. Dr. Bruce goes to Washington, thence to New Orleans, San Francisco and the Yosemite. He might take a peep at Canada on his way back. He is certain of a cordial welcome.

LAST week the Baptist Union held its sessions in Toronto. The Baptist Union is not a long established institution, but it is growing in vigour and usefulness. Of course our Baptist friends look upon congregationalism as the perfect system of Church government, but they have found from experience that a general union is nearly, if not quite, as useful as a General Assembly. The chief difference is that the Union has no legislative authority over individual congregations. For the promotion of educational and mission work they have found the Union very helpful. The meetings were interesting, and the reports submitted show that the Baptist Church in Ontario is living and progressive.

It would appear that the relation the Roman Catholic Church desires to sustain to the labour movement is somewhat indefinite. Dignitaries have been consulted and the purposes and aims of the Knights of Labour have been explained to them. In Chicago, New Orleans and elsewhere ecclesiastical authorities have declined to interfere with the new labour organization. It is now announced that the Canadian Cardinal has issued a mandement forbidding Roman Catholics to join the order. Workingmen of this generation are better educated than their predecessors, and it is pretty certain that many of them will not refrain from the exercise of private judgment in a matter in which they are vitally interested.

THE Free Churches in Glasgow have a very necessary institution—a stranger's committee—whose duty it is to look after those members of the Church who come to settle in the city. It is stated that hundreds, perhaps thousands, of members of churches have come to Glasgow during the last few years without introductions from the country churches to which they belonged, and in very many cases these persons have gone to swell the lapsed masses. During the past year the stranger's committee of Glasgow Presbytery have had forty-four cases, involving eighty individuals, reported to them; but these probably did not represent one-fifth of the number that ought to have been dealt with by the committee. This seems the right end at which missionary work should be begun.

THE large and commodious temple erected for the Salvation Army in Toronto was opened last week with continuous and varied services. Mr. Ballington Booth, son of the General of the Army, visited Canada on his way from Australia, and was present at the opening ceremonies. The Army has done a confessedly good work and will doubtless continue to do so in the future. In so far as it concentrates its efforts in preaching the Gospel and raising the fallen by practical sympathy and true Christian charity, it will have the cordial approval of all right thinking people. Its methods may not and do not meet with admiring approbation, but the general inclination is to regard these in a charitable light, because of the good the Army has accomplished.

THE boycott of Mrs. Gray, the New York baker, has brought her into fame. The *Jewish Messenger*, which is a little mixed in its Scottish history, says. The name of Mrs. Gray is likely to go down in history with that of the famous Scotch woman who threw a stool at John Knox! It is a sad commentary on the degeneracy of American manhood that it was a woman who first dared to beard the boycotter and take steps to bring him to justice. Her resolute action will do more to bring this boycotting persecution to an inglorious close than all the editorials in the daily press and fiery resolutions in legislative halls. Mrs. Gray's bread will thus compete with Mrs. Hopkins' pies in the esteem of a voracious public; and again is feminine supremacy proved beyond the shadow of a doubt.

THE Hon. David Dudley Field, speaking in Brooklyn, said. We lawyers are overwhelmed with work. The leader of the bar in this city must have 2,000 volumes at least, in his library. That is a great cost in money, and an infinitely greater cost in labour. How many books do you think the lawyers in France have? I asked a French advocate one time, and he said five. Just five. Think of it. In the State of New York there are 11,000 lawyers to a population of 5,000,000 people. In France, with a population of 40,000,000, there are only 6,000 lawyers, while the German Empire, with 45,000,000 people, has but 5,000 lawyers. There are 16,000 decisions in our courts every year, that is 160,000 in ten years, beside the decisions of the English courts. All have to be searched through by lawyers.

THOUGH the feeling of opposition to Home Rule is unmistakably strong among Irish Presbyterians, "Co-

lumbanus," writing in the Belfast *Witness*, says. Our great Irish question has now entered on a new phase. It is evident that Mr. Gladstone has taken off his coat, as well as Mr. Parnell. It may be taken for granted that whatever party may be in power changes are in the future, and the not distant future, which will completely revolutionize the face of Irish society. I need not concern myself at present with the bearing of these changes on Great Britain and the Empire. Affairs in Ireland will be remodelled from top to bottom. Many old abuses will be swept away and, to say the truth, they were not few in number, as we Presbyterians have known too well. Greater abuses may, doubtless, take their place. But in any case the *status quo* will not be maintained. While doing all that in us lies to prevent what we should regard as national disaster—and anything involving or leading to a weakening of the United Empire would mean disaster—we should at the same time keep our heads in the present crisis, and not utter words of needless irritation.

A CASE of religious persecution is reported from Constantinople. A young Jew was converted to Christianity through the efforts of the mission of the Free Church of Scotland to the Jews in that city. All attempts of the Jews to persuade him to change his decision having proved unavailing, they sent to the father of the young convert, who lives in Roumania. The father came, and for the sake of better influence over his son, he brought with him to Constantinople his daughter. The result was that the daughter, too, was converted to Christianity. Upon this, the poor father was fain to return to Roumania in grief. But the Jews of Constantinople would not allow him to leave the city. Obtaining the aid of the Turkish police in their favour, they demanded that as he had brought his daughter into the hands of the Christians, he remain to make an effort to get her away again. By the assistance of the Turkish police they succeeded in getting the girl arrested, and although she is firm in her declaration of belief in Jesus Christ, she has been kept in prison three weeks, notwithstanding all efforts of her Christian friends to have her released under the religious liberty laws. These laws are, it seems, not to be enforced save when it pleases the Turks.

MEN of all shades of thought are bestowing keen attention on the capital and labour problem. The very fact that thoughtful men who from their circumstances belong to neither camp are gravely considering the question, and what it involves, is a hopeful feature. Dr. Randolph S. Foster, of Boston, contributes a valuable paper on the subject in this week's *New York Independent*, in which he says: At bottom there is a question of rights which cannot be settled by force. What the right is on this question of capital and labour is yet to be found. Force cannot repress the question; no power can. God and eternal justice are on the side of right. It must be ascertained and asserted, and must prevail. Anarchism furnishes no solution. The greed of capital furnishes no solution. The dumb cry of wronged labour furnishes no solution. There must be a solution. The elements of the problem are plain, they are simply the rights of labour and the rights of capital. Both these rights exist, the one as much as the other. The problem is to regulate them on principles of equity, not to extinguish them. Labour is poor; capital is rich. The problem is not to make labour rich and capital poor, or how to equalize them, but how to make the two subsist in just relation to each other, so that the one shall not oppress or wrong the other, and so that they may work together for the common welfare. Society is an organic whole, in which the individuals have rights. The thing to be gained is that no individual or class of individuals be allowed to gain what does not belong to them, or fail to gain what does belong to them of right, and so that the rights of each and of the whole may be equally conserved. The majority, who will always be poor, and on the side of labour, cannot, and ought not, be reconciled to anything less than this.