

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE New York "Observer" of the 29th ult. states that the Rev. R. H. Hoskin, of Canada, has taken charge of the Presbyterian church of Perry, in the State of Iowa.

THE ministers of St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, have applied to the Teinds Court for an augmentation of their stipends. Dr. MacGregor desires his income advanced from £923 to £1,146; and Mr. Barclay asks that his be raised from £869 to £1,092.

THE anti-disestablishment petition from the Highlands has been despatched to Lord Colin Campbell; it has 52,000 signatures, and the Inverness "Courier" informs us that if deputations had gone round to carry on an agitation, the number of names could have been doubled.

JOHN ALEXANDER, of Ashgrove, Esquesing, was charged before the police magistrate, at Milton, on Friday 16th ult., with violation of the Scott Act, and was fined \$50 and costs. The liquor found was ordered to be spilled out, and the keg in which it was contained to be destroyed, which was done.

DR. HOW, the Bishop of Bedford, whose diocese includes the east-end of London, united on a recent Sabbath evening in a Salvation Army service at St. Faith's Church, Stoke-Newington. One of Mr. Booth's "captains" conducted a part of the service, and Dr. How preached what we see described as a "friendly" sermon.

THE estimates of the population of the eight principal towns in Scotland at the middle of 1882, founded upon the numbers enumerated at the censuses of 1871 and 1881, are here subjoined: Glasgow, 514,048; Edinburgh, 232,440; Dundee, 145,433; Aberdeen, 107,378; Greenock, 70,128; Paisley, 56,641; Leith, 63,312; Perth, 30,206.

PRINCIPAL RAINY, as the new convener of the Free Church Committee on the Highlands and Islands, is visiting many of the congregations in the far north. He has been preaching at Invergordon, Helmsdale, Logie Easter, and Beaul, and officiating at the communion services in the East Church, Inverness. He has crowded congregations.

THERE is an "Order of the Holy Cross," a brotherhood in operation in New York city, which is intended to furnish a "ministry supplementary to the parish system." The members of the new order, all Protestant Episcopal clergymen, renounce wedlock, individual salaries, and individual property, drawing their support from voluntary and unsought contributions, and living in a "clergy house."

"It is not pleasant to hear," says the "United Presbyterian," "that the President of the United States goes fishing, holds conferences for political purposes on the Sabbath, and attends horse races in Washington. Probably he does not do these things, or perhaps he is only guilty of some, but the charges are that he does them all. The tone of his administration is certainly not religious. But it must not be concluded that because of this he is the most godless of the Presidents. Other men broke the Sabbath, went to horse races, etc., in the face of the religious public."

A VERY important lawsuit has just been decided in Austria. The question was whether parents who had for conscience sake left the Romish Church should be allowed to bring up their children according to their own religious convictions. The Government had decided in the negative, and had ordered, under pains and penalties, that such children be taken to the Romish priest for baptism and instruction. The Supreme Court of Law has cancelled the Government order, and lodges the responsibility and privi-

lege of determining the religious status of children with the parents.

MR. J. M. HUTCHESON, of Thorndean, Greenock, Scotland, a highly respected citizen of the great sugar-refining town, has had a telephonic connection made between his residence and the George Square Congregational Church, Rev. J. M. Jarvie's, of which he is a member, and where he officiated for many years as honorary organist. Having been an invalid for some time, Mr. Hutcheson has been deprived of the privilege of church attendance. This, however, he has determined shall not continue longer, for with his telephone connection he will in future be able to lie in bed or sit in his easy chair at home and listen to the accustomed voice of his pastor or to the pealing notes of the organ whose keys his fingers have known so long and so well.

MR. MOODY recently met a large number of gentlemen in London, to confer with them respecting his future plans. There were present representatives from many towns in the kingdom, as well as from London. Mr. Moody said that he had in hand sufficient invitations to keep him hard at work in Great Britain for the remainder of his life, and he was also urged to return home at once. He proposed, however, moving about Scotland for a short time, and then visiting Paris for a fortnight. After that he hoped to preach in a number of towns in the south and south-west of England. Liverpool might probably be reached next spring, and London last of all, where a long stay was necessary. It was ultimately decided that all future arrangements should be left in the hands of the London Committee.

THE "Christian Leader" of the 22nd ult. says: "The Highland crofter, whose case is quite as deserving of consideration as that of the Irish peasant, may perhaps get a half-hour in Parliament before the session ends. Mr. Macfarlane has secured the first place on the 11th July for his motion for a Royal Commission; and, as it embraces only the Western Highlands, Mr. Dick Peddie will propose that it be applied to the Highlands generally. The sooner the investigation is made the better. Some of the latest evictions are exceedingly harsh and cruel. A typical case is that of Mrs. Macmillan, evicted by the Earl of Morton—as an act of retaliation, it is believed, on her son, the Rev. J. Macmillan, of Ullapool, who has been advocating the cause of the crofters. Mrs. Macmillan has paid her rent regularly for forty-four years, and the holding has been in the occupation of her ancestors from time immemorial. She craved permission to live in the house till this season's crops were ripe; but her prayer was refused, and she is compelled to seek a home elsewhere, leaving the crops on the croft at the mercy of the Earl of Morton's game. His lordship is likely to discover that he has committed a blunder as well as a crime."

DR. GOULD, for seventeen years in China, at a meeting recently held in London to consider the opium question, made the following statements: "If you had a number of Chinese in a room, you could not by their appearance tell who used tobacco and who did not; but the opium smokers would be marked in a moment. The sallow face, the emaciated appearance, the heavy eyes, indicate the opium smoker. The Chinese themselves speak of such a man as 'an opium ghost.' Its power over the system seems overwhelming. Many desire to be cured; they try, they suffer the most intense agony, they come near to death, but they take to the pipe again. One of the saddest things is the hold that opium smoking has taken on the *literati* and Mandarin classes—it is draining the life-blood of China's best families. In Swatow the vice is becoming so prevalent that now the merchant is considered inhospitable if he does not keep his opium pipe and give his customers a few whiffs. We are told that India cannot afford to discontinue the opium trade; it is a question of right or wrong—can we not afford to do right? We are told that 'righteousness exalteth a nation;' but if the English Govern-

ment in India cannot do without opium, then it is established not on righteousness, but on opium chests, which must eventually bring it to ruin."

THE "New York Evangelist" says: The temperance victory in Iowa was resolutely, even fiercely, contested, yet it proves more sweeping and triumphant than the friends of the good cause had dared to expect or even hope. Maine and the East will have to look well to their laurels. Kansas was the first State, east or west, to adopt and enforce a constitutional amendment against the sale and manufacture of liquor; and now Iowa has followed suit by a majority which shows the intensity of the temperance sentiment of the inhabitants of that State, for the majority in the election of the 27th ult. bids fair to range anywhere from fifty to sixty thousand. As in Maine, the strongholds of sobriety were found in the small towns and rural districts. All the cities voted against the amendment save Des Moines, where, we are told, the Temperance Union held prayer-meetings in the churches, the bells of which were rung every hour during the voting. The auspicious result will impart courage and activity to the temperance ranks elsewhere. Indiana, Michigan, Wisconsin, and perhaps other States, are far from indifferent spectators of this great triumph. A daily contemporary, in commenting on the result, predicts that the material interests of Iowa will suffer; that emigrants will turn aside from a State which thus presumes to abridge the liberty of its citizens! Not so at all. Intelligent and worthy immigrant parents will all the more flock thither, to find "liberty" for their children from the allurements and drawbacks incident to intemperance, and its attendant squalor and crime. Kansas and Iowa have devised shrewdly. They have greatly increased their attractions for the best of the incoming multitudes.

THE following appeared in a recent issue of the Montreal "Witness": "A Jewish gentleman, who has till now resided in Russia, tells the following good story of the persecution: The Jews in a certain city heard threats that they were going to be massacred. They went to the commandant of the town and told him that they had no quarrel with anyone, and only wished to live peaceably, but rather than be murdered they would prefer to leave the place, and would be obliged if he could give them a safe conduct out of harm's way. The commandant, who seems to have been a friendly person, at once took in the situation as a very serious one for the town, so he told the Jews to follow his advice. Friday would be market day; on that day they were not to open their shops or their houses, or answer any knocks. On that day the peasants, who, on bringing in their produce, were in the habit of being met by dealers before they reached town, were astonished to meet no buyers. They went on and ranged themselves in the market place, but still no buyers. They sought the shops, but they were shut; sought out the houses, but they got no answer there. The commandant, taking a walk about noon, remarked to the people he met on the market that they were later than usual to-day, as by that hour they were usually gone home. They said that they could not understand it; there were no buyers. 'Oh,' said the officer, 'that must be because the Jews are gone; they told me that some one was going to kill them, and they are gone.' The farmers asked him what they would do. 'Why, you had better send your grain to England and France; that is, I believe, where the Jews sent the most of it.' This was little comfort, as they did not know where England and France were. They said they could not get on without the Jews. Where had they gone to? So the commandant proposed that they should all sign a promise to protect the Jews if anyone should attack them, which they willingly did. The commandant then sent word to the Hebrew clergymen that their people might come out as soon as they liked. We presume that had the rabble and donkey boys of Alexandria had some experience of this sort, they would not have been so ready as they were to pillage the Franks."