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YOUNG LADIES can add a variety of pretty and useful articles to their personal effects, by spending a few hours in canvassing for THE PRESBYTERIAN. It is our own Church paper, and you can work for it as you would not feel inclined to work for any other journal. Read the Premium List, decide what you would like, and go to work. *You are sure to succeed.*

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

AUGUSTINE CHURCH, Edinburgh, has at last secured a successor to Dr. Lindsay Alexander in its pastorate. The Rev. James Gregory of Leeds is the man.

A DEPUTATION from the Evangelical Alliance recently waited on the Emperor of Austria, and presented a petition for freedom of worship for all Christian sects. The Emperor promised to have the subject fully investigated.

BELGIUM and the Vatican do not seem to get on well together. The latest news is to the effect that Cardinal Nina writes to the Papal Nuncio at Brussels that further overtures are inconsistent with the dignity of the Holy See. The cardinal instructs the Papal Nuncio to return to Rome at once if the Belgian Government recalls its ambassador to the Vatican.

DR. TALMAGE has endorsed the withdrawal of his people from the Presbyterian Church on account of the alleged persecution of their pastor. It seems strange that this step should have been taken while the case was pending, but we should suppose that it would not in any degree interfere with the prosecution of the matter to a final issue. The revelations made in the course of the trial have been anything but edifying.

THE state of things in Russia becomes more and more critical. The late attempt upon the life of the Czar has greatly embittered both parties. The policy of repression has, it is said, been fallen back upon, and of course this provokes the other side to indulge in fresh threats and greater restlessness. The Revolutionary Committee has issued a most violent proclamation, avowing that the late attempt against the Czar's life was made by its orders and would be speedily followed by others of the same kind. It is a pity that such things should be, but if the wind is sown either by families or individuals in due time the whirlwind will be reaped.

THE Ontario Legislature meets for despatch of business on Wednesday, the 7th of January. It is believed that a goodly number of important matters will come before the House, but at the same time that the Session will neither be a lengthy nor an excited one. Among other things, it is said, the Government will introduce a measure based on the principle of making all property exempted from ordinary municipal taxation liable for local improvements such as streets, sewers, etc. The reasonableness of this can scarcely well be called into question. And if there is something done in the line indicated, a satisfactory settlement of a very vexed question may in all likelihood be secured.

AS our readers know, the Confraternity of the Blessed Sacrament is a society or order belonging to the Church of England and of the most pronounced Ritualistic character. So much is this the case that the fact of belonging to this order was urged as a sufficient reason for a very prominent Anglican clergyman being inhibited by the late Bishop Bethune from officiating within the Diocese of Toronto. Its object is to advance what the members believe to be the truth with regard to the Lord's Supper. They teach by word and by symbol the dogma of Transubstantiation. There are twenty-five of the Anglican clergy of Canada members and officers of this society. Of these five are located in Ontario.

ANOTHER attempt has been made upon the life of the Czar. It was very nearly successful. Somehow or other the train on which the Emperor travelled went before that which conveyed his attendants and not, as is usually the case, after it. The consequence was that the Emperor escaped and the baggage train was blown up. We are not surprised to be told that the Empress is oppressed with the most gloomy forebodings and is convinced that, some of these days, the life of her husband will be sacrificed. It seems that the Emperor, taking the hint from these occurrences, and from the terrible state of unrest into which the whole country has been thrown, is not only anxious to introduce into Russia the rudiments, at any rate, of popular government, but is preparing a definite scheme with this object in view.

THERE is at last a prospect of permanent peace being brought round in Cuba, by the great bone of contention being removed, through the abolition of slavery. The measure at present under discussion does not provide for immediate emancipation. According to this plan all above 50 years of age are to be liberated on the 17th of September, 1880; from 45 to 50, in September, 1882; from 40 to 45, in September, 1884; from 35 to 40, in 1886; from 30 to 35, in 1888, and under 30, in 1890. It is also proposed to compensate the slave-holders at the rate of 350 piastres per slave. A good deal of opposition is made to the scheme and it is expected that it will be greatly modified before passing into law, if indeed, as was the case with the British West Indies, immediate and unconditional emancipation be not carried.

PROFESSOR SMITH'S case was lately up before the Commission of the Free Church on a memorial from certain members of the Presbytery of Aberdeen. After some discussion, the following motion submitted by Sir Henry Moncrieff was unanimously adopted: "The Commission having heard the memorial, do not judge it expedient to call parties to their bar on the merits of the matter referred to, or to take up that matter on the merits; but the Commission, looking to the gravity of the issues involved in relation to the Church at large, having respect also to the instructions given to them by the General Assembly to advert to the interests of the Church on every occasion, that the Church do not suffer or sustain any prejudice that they can prevent, or they will be answerable, and being impressed with the danger of undue delay in the process before the Presbytery of Aberdeen, hereby intimate to all parties concerned in the process their duty to be prepared before the next Assembly for any line of action which the Assembly may take in order to expedite the probation of the libel."

HON. GEORGE R. WENDLING, who has twice lectured in Toronto in reply to Col. Ingersoll's attacks on the Bible and Christianity, says: "The whole trouble with Ingersoll is that he has mistaken Calvin for Christ. He confounds Tertullian laughing at sinners in hell, with St. John proclaiming a Gospel of love. He listens to the theology of Edwards and fancies he is hearing St. Paul, and looks at Roman Catholic inquisition and Protestant mobs and believes that religion has triumphed over human nature, when he simply sees human nature triumphing over religion." Referring to Ingersoll's attacks on theologians and ministers, he says: "The clergy constitute the most humane and self-sacrificing class of men on earth today. I have been, in the last year, in nearly every Northern State from Maine to Nebraska, and everywhere the clergy are doing the most for humanity, not only in the way of religious ministrations, but I mean in caring for the poor, the wretched, the homeless, the sick, the weak, the intemperate. They are the men who are at the front in movements designed to alleviate human suffering, working by sunlight and by starlight; and four-fifths of them half paid, having poor fare, poor libraries, poor homes, and a portion of every community prejudiced against them. The men I say, who are doing this are the same preachers whom Ingersoll would cast out. Robert Ingersoll

may make pretty speeches about humanity, but here is a class of men whose hats neither he nor I are worthy to hold."

THE correspondent of the "London Standard" gives the following outline of the scheme of reform which was blown into the air with the baggage train of the Czar: "Universal suffrage; a Legislature to be created, consisting of two Houses, the Lower House elected by the peasants, and the Upper House composed of nobles nominated by the Emperor; Asiatic Russia—that is the Caucasus, Siberia and Central Asia—not to participate in the representative system, but to form a Viceroyalty under the rule of the Grand Duke Michael, now the Governor of the Caucasus; the Press to have a more independent position, although its entire freedom will not be granted; the independence of the Judges, who are not to be removable by the Government; Provincial Diets to be charged with the duty of administering the affairs of the Provinces; the complete development of a recruiting system; the military colonies of the Don, the Ural, the Azof, the Caspian and the Czernomorian Cossacks, to be abolished as such; the system of taxation to be reorganized, the poll tax repealed, and the universal obligation to pay taxes to be realized; a book of the State debt to be opened, and a department for the control of the debt to be created; Ministers to be responsible to Parliament; the personality of the Czar to be considered holy, inviolable and irresponsible; Lord Lieutenants to be responsible to the Provincial Diets; the autonomy of the Communes to be confirmed; the ill-famed "Third Division" to be abolished; the number of Court officials to be reduced, and the existing thirteen classes of the Civil Service to come to an end." The equality of every Russian in the eyes of the law is not, however, fully established by this scheme of reform, which yet, if adopted, would suffice to fix the attention of Russia upon home affairs for a long time to come.

FROM the paper read at the meeting of the Evangelical Alliance, at Basle, by Professor Christlieb, on "The Present Condition of Evangelical Missions among the Heathen," we learn that the present total number of Christian adherents to the various Protestant missions throughout the world is estimated at 1,650,000, and that the increase for 1878 is put at 60,000, a number larger than the whole adherents at the beginning of the century. Of the 1,650,000 adherents, 310,000 are given to the West Indies; 40,000 to 50,000 to West Africa; 180,000 to South Africa; 240,000 to Madagascar; 400,000 to 500,000 to India and Farther India; 90,000 to the Indian Archipelago; 45,000 to 50,000 to China, and more than 300,000 for the South Sea Islands. Four hundred thousand pupils are taught in 12,000 mission schools, besides hundreds of native-born candidates for the ministry in dozens of higher institutes and theological seminaries. The present total income of the Protestant societies is about \$5,762,000 (or five times that of the Roman Catholic Propaganda) of which England contributes \$3,332,000, America \$1,666,000, and Germany and Switzerland from \$500,000 to \$700,000. In his criticism of the methods and activity of the different churches in missionary enterprise, Prof. Christlieb has to admit that the free churches surpass the established churches in nearly every department, even some large established churches being surpassed by smaller ones in the same country, as in Scotland. Even in England the efficiency of the Episcopal societies does not excel that of the Nonconformists in anything like the proportions which the superior wealth and numbers of the established churches would lead us to expect. The English societies stand first in importance; next are those of the United States. In proportion to the strength of the congregations by which they are backed, the German and Dutch societies are surpassed in liberality by those of France, Switzerland, and Norway, and the Lutherans by some other communions. At the head of all, in proportion to the numbers in the church, are the Moravians, whose contributions average \$1.19 per member, great and small, of their community.