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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE offices of the Church, in Montreal, have been removed from 210 to 260 St. James Street, where the Rev. R. H. Warden and Mr. James Croil should be hereafter addressed.

AN American Methodist divine in a recent work denies God's absolute foreknowledge. He says that he embraces the doctrine that God does not absolutely know, because that doctrine alone "safeguards the doctrine of eternal punishment."

STANLEY is returning to "The Dark Continent," this time under European auspices. It is said that King Mtesa has received the agents of the Church Missionary Society with great respect, and is desirous of entering upon diplomatic relations with England.

WE understand that the Rev. Principal Grant, of Queen's College, Kingston, and Mr. James Croil, of Montreal, have been commissioned as representatives to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, which meets in Edinburgh in the latter end of May.

THE Republican victories in France of late have significance in more respects than one. Religiously, it means a heavy blow to Roman Catholic arrogance and show, which blossomed so copiously under Napoleon and Eugene. There are now five Protestants in the Cabinet, M. Waddington, a Protestant, being leader. Besides this, Pere Hyacinthe is seeking to resuscitate his movement, and the Bible is finding a willing reception to French homes.

THE Home Mission Committee, Western Section, meets in the Deacon's Court Room of Knox Church, Toronto, on Tuesday 25th March at 2 p.m. Blank schedules for the annual and semi-annual reports of the several Presbyteries' Home Mission Committees. Should any of these not have received the schedules forwarded, duplicates may be obtained by addressing the Secretary, 260 St. James Street, Montreal.

THE Anti-Chinese Bill has passed the United States Senate. It was the hope of the friends of humanity that the upper house of Congress would be found equal to the emergency and would refuse to pass the bill. But the result has disappointed their expectation. There was a majority of ten for it. There is one comfort in the affair. There is little doubt that President Hayes will veto the measure, and there will be no op-

portunity for the present Congress to pass it over his veto even if it is so disposed. And there is another gratifying feature. The Christian sentiment of the country is opposed to the measure. That has spoken in clear, unequivocal terms during the recent discussion of the subject.

IN view of the approaching elections in Great Britain, a large and influential meeting of Nonconformist ministers from all parts of England was recently held at Leeds, when the following resolution was unanimously passed: "That, in the opinion of this Conference, the question of the disestablishment of the Church of Scotland is ripe for immediate practical action; that, therefore, the chairman be requested to convey to Earl Granville and the Marquis of Hartington, as the Liberal leaders in the two Houses of Parliament, the opinion of this Conference that this question ought to be included in the programme of the Liberal party, and that its inclusion would prove advantageous by promoting united action at the next general election."

EUROPEAN countries have been thrown into a state of unrest by reason of the breaking out of the plague in Russia. That their fear is not groundless appears when one remembers the fact that the same plague, in the seventeenth century, swept off ninety millions of people. It is the opinion of high medical authorities that if it penetrates Europe to-day it will in all probability sweep off one-third of its population. The "New York Herald" has been diving into the rag bags and finds that a large majority of the rags imported into the United States comes from Russia. With these rags comes disease, for it declares that the Russians are the dirtiest people on the face of the earth. They hardly ever wash themselves and seldom change their clothes. However, this may be, it is certain that in all cases there is a close relation between dirt and disease.

THE American House of Representatives has passed a bill prohibiting the importation of more than fifteen Chinamen on any vessel owned by a citizen of the United States. The design is to limit Chinese immigration. It is only a sop to the anti-Chinese feeling on the Pacific Coast. We hope and we believe that the Senate will refuse to pass it. But if both Houses are demented enough to pass it, no doubt President Hayes will be equal to the occasion and veto it. It seems that, even if it should be passed, it could never become law. Treaty obligations are in the way. But what becomes of the professions of an "open door," to all nationalities, which have been made so lavishly by the American people in the past? We hope that the United States will not at this late date adopt a narrow, exclusive policy.

THE last public meeting, for the session, of the Knox College Literary and Metaphysical Society, was held in Convocation Hall, on Friday evening the 14th inst. As usual, the hall was filled with a large and appreciative audience. The Glee Club, which during the present year has been under Mr. Collins, gave two selections, "Hark the Curfew's Solemn Sound" and "When winds breathe soft." Mr. A. B. Baird, B.A., read an able and sparkling essay on "Edward Irving," Mr. W. S. McTavish read with taste, "The Famine," from Longfellow. The question, "Does high intellectual culture tend to diminish sympathy with the people?" was then debated. J. Ross, B.A., and J. C.

Tibb, M.A., supported the affirmative, while D. Tait, B.A., and W. A. Hunter, B.A., maintained the negative. The debate was kept up with spirit throughout, the efforts of the speakers being warmly applauded by the audience. The Rev. Dr. Gregg who presided, after summing up, gave his decision in favour of the negative. The public meetings of the Society during the present session have met with ample patronage, and it has to be congratulated not only on the evident interest which its friends manifest in it, but also upon the character of the programmes it provides and the manner in which they are carried out.

MR. CROOKS' new school bill does not propose any radical change in the school law. Perhaps the most important provision is to be found in the following clause: "In any case where a High School Board or Public School Corporation may, by law, require the Municipal Council to raise or borrow a sum of money for the purchase of school site, or the erection or purchase of any school house or addition thereto, or other school accommodation, or for the purchase or erection of a teacher's residence, such Municipal Council may refuse to raise or borrow such sum when it is so resolved by a two-thirds vote of the members present at the meeting of the council for considering any by-law in that behalf." It is but fair to give the municipal councils a voice in the incurring of liabilities for which they are responsible. By another clause the time for which debentures may be issued for school purposes is extended to twenty years. The amendments in matters of detail are principally in the direction of assimilating the law for the election of school trustees to the ordinary election law; and there seems to be a general feeling that the bill does not go far enough in this direction, seeing that it falls short of vote by ballot. We do not doubt that election by ballot would sometimes be found quite as beneficial in the case of school trustees as it is in the case of members of Parliament, and for the same or very similar reasons.

BISHOP SIMPSON is no friend of strong drink. In his Yale lecture he urges young men entering the ministry to avoid all stimulants. His advice is good not only for those who are entering, but for those who are in, as well. Speaking of these stimulants he says: "I would scarcely suppose that any one who feels himself called to the ministry will countenance their use; yet kind friends will sometimes suggest that you are weak, your nerves are tremulous, you have been out in the cold, you need a little stimulant, and they will urge the taking of a little wine or brandy before preaching. These friends will tell you that the most distinguished ministers are in the habit of using them, etc., etc. He further says: "I have known some young ministers who have used a few drops of paregoric or opium to give them strength for the pulpit. I am glad to say I have known but few such cases; but I must add that these were led in the end to either physical or moral ruin." And in passing, he fires a shot at the clerical cigar: "I suppose there is a sort of enjoyment connected with it, for I have seen men sit for an hour smoking, with their feet upon a table, professing to be studying. I have no doubt they had visions of greatness and glory; but prolonged observation shows that their lives usually ended, with their cigars, in smoke. There are many good deacons and Sabbath School superintendents in our churches that might ponder the Bishop's plain words with advantage."