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IMPROVED CLASS ROLL

For the use of Sabbath School Teachers.

IMPROVED SCHOOL REGISTER

For the use of Superintendents and Secretaries.

Both the above have been carefully prepared, in response to request for something more complete than could heretofore be obtained, by the T. F. Fotheringham, M.A., Convener of the General Assembly's Sabbath School Committee. These books will be found to make easy the work of reporting all necessary statistics of our Sabbath Schools, as well as preparing the same asked for by the General Assembly. Price of Class Rolls 60 cents per copy. Price of School Registers 30 cents each. Address—

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Notes of the Week.

MR. GLADSTONE, in thanking Rev. Gavin Carlyle for a copy of his "Moses and the Prophets," the able lectures delivered last year to the Glasgow Sabbath Protection Association, characterizes them as "your vigorous defence of the old belief concerning the Old Testament and your criticism of the criticisms now so fashionable."

DR. MUNRO GIBSON has been busily engaged preaching up and down the country in his official position as Moderator of Synod. Dr. Gibson will take his holiday in Crieff. Rev. D. Wright, a licentiate of the London Presbytery, is expected to enter upon his duties in September as assistant to Dr. Gibson at St. John's-wood, during his Moderatorial year.

AT the English Presbyterian Committee on Intercourse with other Churches, Rev. Dr. Gibson, Moderator of Synod, reported regarding the visit of the deputies to the Irish and Welsh Presbyterian Churches, and arrangements were made for a deputation to the Waldensian Synod meeting in September, and to the Netherlands Reformed Church.

THE Rev. William Smyth, father of the General Assembly of the Irish Presbyterian Church, who was minister at Glennan, Down, for seventy-one years, has died at the age of ninety-six. He entered Glasgow University in 1812 and graduated in 1816, when he was only twenty. During the last three years of his college life in Glasgow, Dr. James Reid the historian and he resided together.

THE New York *Independent* says: These private training institutes, to prepare people for the missionary work, we do not much believe in. The best training is the general training of college and seminary, and the short-cut courses are not to be encouraged. We hear of thousands of young men pledged to the missionary work, but they do not materialize, and it is as well that they do not, except as they get a good education.

THE Rev. Dr. McCaw, who has just retired from his pastoral charge in Jersey, after a pastorate of forty-five years, mostly spent in Manchester, intends to reside in Ireland, but will continue to hold the position of a minister *emeritus* of the English Presbyterian Church and Clerk to the Synod. Dr. McCaw's comparatively brief ministry in Jersey was a notable success. On his leaving, the friends there have shown their appreciation of his work and worth by presenting him with a piece of silver plate.

THE *Christian Leader* remarks that the good custom is growing of Scottish Christian people undertaking as individuals each to support a native colporteur in China in connection with the National Bible Society. Three colporteurs have lately been started in this way, one supported by a lady in Lanarkshire and two by a family at Campbeltown. The cost is \$50 a piece. One worthy Scotsman, who has three children, has just determined to have a colporteur in China to represent each of them; he has been long a confirmed invalid, with little hope of ever being strong.

THE *Christian World* says: Dr. Stalker, we believe, is of the opinion that Mr. Moody will most likely send a favourable reply to the requisition which is being sent him from Scotland, asking him to pay another visit to that country. In Glasgow the requisition has been signed by about one hundred and fifty ministers, but it would be interesting to know how many who were asked to sign refused to do so. We are aware that some have declined to append their signatures to the document, and that out of no feeling of disrespect to Mr. Moody, or depreciation of his work. They object that the present movement is not spontaneous, and that signatures have been obtained in many cases by considerations altogether apart from any benefits likely to accrue from a visit from the evangelist.

THERE was some strong things said at the meeting of the Congregational Council in reference to business morality, says the *Presbyterian Messenger*, but nothing more sweeping than the dictum of the Lord Chief Justice in the Sebag case, that "the Stock Exchange did not seem to have mastered the elementary principles of honesty." A delegate from Ohio at the Council said that, as a rule, they might say of their American plutocrats "that their millions were not the fruit of legitimate commerce," but represented the "fleeings of the poor." Ben Tillett accused Christians of "having closed their eyes to customs in trade which literally crucified the people, body and soul together." These are mild expressions of opinion compared with the Lord Chief Justice's reference to the principles of business morality recognized by the London Stock Exchange Committee.

THE Toronto Humane Society continues to do excellent work. In exercising a wholesome restraint over those who are disposed to be cruel to horses under their charge, it deserves commendation and encouragement. This season it has been the means of bestowing a large measure of happiness on a class whose lot in a large city is none too bright. Aquatic excursions have been got up for many children who have few opportunities of getting a breath of fresh air, a sail on the lake, and a run into the country. Special attention has been given to sick little ones, who have been delighted with the opportunities afforded them of getting a glimpse of the natural beauties of lake and land. The Society has the fervent gratitude of those who have been benefited, the blessings of the parents and friends of the little folks, and the well-wishes of the whole community. N. B.—These latter can be well expressed in tangible form. The address of the Society is 103 Bay Street, Toronto.

THE Rev. Alexander Robertson of Venice affirms that there are now few families in Venice who can read who do not possess a copy or at least a part of the Scriptures. The issue of the illustrated Bible in half penny parts by Signor Sonzogno, editor of a Milan newspaper, has done much to popularize the Book in Italy, and to create a hunger for the Word. Mr. Robertson believes that more copies of the Bible were sold in Italy last year than of any other book. Similar testimony is borne by the colporteur of the Bible Society of Scotland at Lecce. The people in various cities are becoming interested readers of the Scriptures, and many now have a family Bible. There appears to be a general religious movement in the district. A priest noted for his superstition and hatred of Protestantism has passed through a great change since he read the Scriptures, and would fain become a preacher of the Gospel. The bishop refused to visit one town at a high festival because it was given up to Protestantism; but the substitute he sent called on the colporteur, and twice had serious conferences with him.

THE annual statistics of the Presbyterian Church North, prepared by Dr. Wm. Henry Roberts, the Stated clerk, are just completed. The number of Presbyteries is 216, an advance of three on 1890. There are 6,223 ministers enrolled, as against 6,158

last year, an increase of only sixty-five, while 1890 showed an advance of 222 over 1889. There are 7,070 churches, a growth of 176 in the year. The total number of communicants is 806,796, as against 775,903 for 1890, while the additions have been 97,585 (of which 59,650 were by examination) as against 64,672 in 1890. The Sabbath schools show an increase of 16,217, the total number being 883,680. The contributions as a whole show a falling off, being \$14,062,356 instead of \$14,368,131. The decrease is in certain special lines; education receiving only \$154,518 instead of \$470,356 in 1890, when, however, there were special efforts made. The Relief Fund, \$116,573, shows a decrease of \$10,189; Freedmen \$124,814, a decrease of \$13,574; Aid for Colleges, \$163,920, a decrease of \$84,187; Congregational, \$9,764,379, a decrease of \$235,220. On the other hand Home Missions, \$995,625, shows an advance of \$105,769; Foreign Missions, \$784,406, an advance of \$62,101; Sabbath School Work, \$131,915, an advance of \$23,270; Church Erection, \$360,944, an advance of \$47,825; Sustentation, \$63,117, an advance of \$7,762.

WE regret, says the *Christian Leader*, to announce the death of our venerable contributor, Rev. John Inglis, D.D., the distinguished father of the New Hebrides Mission, who passed peacefully away at his residence at Lincuan Cottage, Kirkcowan, Wigtownshire, in his eighty-fifth year. A native of Moniaive, Dumfriesshire, he received his education at Glasgow University, and in 1842 was licensed as a preacher by the Reformed Presbyterian Presbytery of Paisley. After itinerating for a short time he went to New Zealand as a missionary to the Maories, but finding the field duly occupied he proceeded to Aneityum, one of the South Sea Islands, where he remained as a missionary for upwards of thirty years, during which he saw the natives transformed from heathen cannibals to civilization and Christianity. Along with Dr. Geddie and Mr. Copeland, he translated the Scriptures into the language of the island, and, after spending three years in London superintending its printing, he retired to the quiet village of Kirkcowan, where he devoted his closing years to the writing of two volumes, both published by T. Nelson and Sons of Edinburgh, the first entitled "Reminiscences of Missionary Life and Work in the New Hebrides," and containing a charming biography of his wife, the second "Bible Illustrations from the New Hebrides."

THE New York *Independent* has the following: Our readers may not all understand precisely what is the reason for the outbreaks in China from which missions, and especially Catholic missions, have so repeatedly suffered for more than a century. The cause is a widely spread belief among the Chinese and a general repetition of the calumny that the Christians kill infants for the purpose of using their eyes and other parts of the body for medicine. It would seem, perhaps, incredible that such a belief should be general, and yet when we remember how general has been in certain parts of Europe the belief that Jews kidnap Christian children and kill them in connection with the Passover, we must not judge them too harshly. The occasion for this calumny is this: It has been for a long while an important part of the work done by Catholic missionaries to baptize moribund infants, believing that the baptism will secure their eternal salvation. Besides this it is their habit to establish orphanages in which infants, especially female, are gathered, baptized and reared. Of course the death rate is very large in such establishments and a great many infants are buried. This fact being known, an excitable and suspicious people imagine that the foreign devils murder the children, and they can conceive for no other reason except to make medicine of parts of their bodies. It has sometimes been proposed to try to persuade the Catholic missions to give up this form of work, but with their belief that is impossible, and it is hardly to be anticipated that even the Pope could be induced to forbid it. Now the danger coming from the fanaticism of the Chinese is extending to Protestant missions and to traders, but we see no relief except by the slow processes of a better information.