

NEWS AND NOTES.

THE DEPTH OF THE OCEAN. APPARENTLY the Pacific is no longer to hold the position of the deepest ocean of the world. Until now, the depth of 4 1/2 miles sounded off the coast of Japan has been the record for deep sea soundings, but this is now beaten by a sounding in the South Atlantic of 7,706 fathoms, or nearly nine miles. The difficulties in carrying out these observations are considerable. The pressure at such profound depths is enormous, and the consequent friction on the sounding line causes it to run out very slowly. There are different forms of deep sea sounding machines, nearly all of which are contrived to release the sinkers on touching bottom, to save the difficult work of hauling them up again.

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A new Church is proposed. It is to be a Universal Church. It is to be a creedless Church—a Church "where heresy hunters will be absolutely impossible, because the spirit which makes heretics will be the central inspiration of its life." Its Bethlehem is Chicago—its Pentecost a Conference called by a "circular letter." Its coming was prophesied at the meeting of the Parliament of Religions, when it was said by seers and wise men of the East that a Church would soon arise with only two articles of faith, the first being, "All religions are true," and the second being, "All religions are false." The chief apostles of the new Church, which is to be "the great prophetic free Church of America," are: The Rev. Dr. H. W. Thomas, of the People's Church Chicago; the Rev. Dr. W. S. Crowe, a Universalist Clergyman, of Newark, N. J.; Dr. Emil G. Hirsch, a prominent Jewish Rabbi, and the Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones, a well-known Unitarian clergyman. They are to disciple all nations, but unto no Master, and are to gather the elect out of Brahminism, Christianity, Buddhism and Agnosticism, and—let them stay there. Their first temple will be a Pantheon, probably with an altar to "The Unknown God."—Presbyterian Observer.

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