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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 frequent demand for something more complete than could heretofore be obtained, by the Rev. 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 returns asked for by the General Assembly. Price of Class Roll, 60 cents per doz. Price of School Registers 10 cents each. Address—

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Notes of the Week.

THE seventh general conference of the Lutheran Church is to take place in Dresden in September next. The success of the previous meetings has convinced the committee that some real object in Church life is served; and they invite all who accept the Lutheran Confessions to be present. The date is from September 20-23.

THE Rev. Dr. H. B. Wilson, of Cookstown, has been appointed assistant commissioner on the Educational Endowments Commission in Ireland; and his appointment has been hailed with much satisfaction by our Presbyterian brethren in Ireland. The vacancy to which Dr. Wilson has succeeded has been caused by the resignation of Professor Dougherty, of the Magee College, Londonderry, who was formerly minister of the Presbyterian Church at Nottingham. Professor Dougherty has bestowed much labour on the work, which is of an exacting and difficult kind.

THE *Quarterly Register* of the Presbyterian Alliance gives a very interesting account of the Union that took place at Amsterdam in June between the "Christian Reformed Church in the Netherlands" and the "Netherlands Reformed Churches." On the afternoon of 16th June the Synod of each of these two Churches wound up all its business and then adjourned—for ever. The next forenoon, 17th June, the first "Synod of the Reformed Churches in the Netherlands" was held. The united Church numbers about 700 congregations, with some 400,000 adherents.

THE Rev. Dr. Stephenson has publicly set apart six young ladies for the work of deaconesses in the Methodist Church. The ritual of the service is taken, with modifications, from that used at Kaiserworth, and in the course of it portions of Scripture were read by two of the sisters of the Deaconesses' Home. In the course of his address the ex-President described the sisters as servants of the sick and poor, of the children, and of the lost, for Christ's sake. He has no sympathy with the system which imposed life-long vows. The order of deaconesses, such as now restored to the Church, is Scriptural, Apostolic, and essentially Protestant.

To those who are troubled to understand the essential wrong of gambling, we commend the following from a sermon by Archdeacon Sinclair, at St. Pauls, London. Gambling bears to stealing exactly the same relation that duelling bears to murder. In duelling, each combatant is necessarily prepared to have his life taken, and in gambling each party is similarly prepared to take or lose what is not properly his own. Of all habits, gambling is the most intrinsically savage. Morally, it is unchristian and unchristian. "All gambling," said the acute Archbishop Whately, "since it desires to profit at the expense of another, is a breach of the Tenth Commandment."

THE statistics of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church, just published, show that there are 171,609 communicants, a gain over last year of 6,137; 1,670 ordained ministers, a gain of 31; 270 licentiates, a gain of 34, and 264 candidates, a gain of 8. The number of congregations has grown from 2,844 to 2,916. There has been a most gratifying increase in the contributions, those for Home Missions

amounting to \$22,498, more than double those of last year, while those for Foreign Missions have increased from \$12,090 to \$20,430. So also in education there has been an advance from \$6,400 to \$10,524, while the total contributions are \$794,576, against \$705,503 reported last year.

THE Council of the Sunday School Union of England, acting in conjunction with the representatives of American Sunday schools, are organizing a World's Sunday school Convention, to be held at St. Louis, U. S. A., in the September of 1893; and with a view to facilitating the attendance of English visitors, are arranging for excursion parties of Sunday school workers and their friends to leave England about August 19th, 1893, proceeding from Liverpool by way of New York and Niagara to Chicago, where ample time will be available for visiting the World's Fair and Exhibition, and thence to St. Louis, returning by way of Pittsburg, Washington, Philadelphia, and New York to Liverpool. The Convention, which is expected to be one of the largest and most important ever held, will be attended by delegates from all parts of the world, and it is hoped that a sufficient number will attend from England in one party to completely fill the *Alaska* and sail at the date given above.

THE London *Presbyterian* says: This has been a most remarkable week for celebrations. On Wednesday fell the four hundredth centenary of the sailing of Columbus, with three southern vessels, from the harbour of Palos, near Huelva, in Spain. The results of his adventurous voyage can hardly be justly estimated in their magnitude. The discovery of America secured the safety of the sacred cause of human liberty, and the still more sacred cause of Gospel truth. What Protestantism and freedom owe to the New World is written large on the face of modern history. On Thursday the Shelley centenary found fit celebration; and on that day, also, a statue to Edward Irving was unveiled at his birthplace, the town of Annan, in Dumfriesshire. We have a medallion portrait of him on the walls of our church in Regent Square, which was erected for the mighty preacher in the days of his popularity and renown, and in spite of the clouds that closed around him towards the end of his strange career, we are proud of the lustre of his name and the nobility that stamped his character. We may have had wiser men amongst us, but hardly one whose memory the world will less willingly let die.

THERE is a good prospect in India of a harvest for the Lord. Rev. T. E. Scott, of Mutra, writes: "The next ten years will work wonders. India is ripening to the harvest. Caste will give way. Old forms of faith will disintegrate. Hoary customs will be given up. I can see little cracks and crevices in the wall. And when the structure does fall, as fall it must amidst the dust and debris and racket and noise and confusion, the religion of Jesus Christ will arise, calm and beautiful, fair as the moon, clear as the sun, and terrible as an army with banners." In an address on the subject of missions, which he recently delivered, Sir Charles Elliot, the Governor of Bengal, said: "When I saw that the number of Christians in the North-West Provinces had increased from 13,000 to 23,000 in ten years, I turned to see how it was in my own province, and I found that the number of Christians in Bengal had increased during the last ten years from 122,000 to 189,000. Surely," adds Sir Charles Elliot, "so great an increase as that is a fact to give encouragement to all who are engaged in missionary work, and all those at home who support the cause of missions."

THE more we learn of the Uganda matter, says a contemporary, the more deplorable it seems. Letters from several of the English missionaries have been published in full, which support the position we have taken, that the primary responsibility for the outbreak rests with the intrigues of the French priests during the past years. It is possible that Captain Williams was unnecessarily severe in training his Maxim guns on boat loads of refugees,

and that some of the bloodshed might have been spared. It must be remembered, however, that it was war, and that the victorious party is invariably charged with carrying its victory to excess. In view of the long patience of the officers, and their repeated efforts at pacification, it is reasonable to give them the benefit of the doubt. According to the latest advices King Mwanga has thrown overboard his Roman Catholic friends, and allied himself to the English. It was, perhaps, necessary for the general peace and welfare, in view of the peculiar reverence of the people for the kingly office, that he should be restored to power; but it seems a pity that English Christians should place such an unmitigated tyrant and unprincipled scamp on the throne. The outlook is not of the brightest, especially in view of the decision of the British East Africa Company, to withdraw entirely at the close of the year. The feeling between the two parties is very bitter, and can hardly fail to result in continuous clashing.

THE New York *Independent* says: The theological professors are playing pass-in-the-corner. Professor Bissell goes from Hartford (Congregational), to McCormick (Presbyterian), Professor De Witt, of McCormick, goes to Princeton, Mr. Lewis B. Paton, Fellow of Princeton, goes to Hartford, as does also Mr. B. MacDonald, of Glasgow University; and Professor Foster, of Oberlin, has gone to Oakland. To come back again to Hartford, Professor Graham R. Taylor goes to Chicago Seminary, as Professor Zenos went a little while ago to McCormick Seminary in Chicago. There are two other new professors in the Chicago Seminary, Mr. E. T. Harper, as assistant in Hebrew and Assyrian, and Mr. Wyckoff as Professor of Music. There was quite a contest between Chicago and Hartford for the possession of Professor Taylor, and it was not any larger salary, but the conviction that there was a greater field of work which turned the scale in Professor Taylor's mind in favour of the Western city. He will be Professor of the English Bible and Christian Sociology, and will take charge of the evangelistic work of the students. This latter has become a great feature, developed by Professor Curtiss and still further enlarged by Mr. Gates, who now returns to the mission work in Eastern Turkey. The fifty Congregational Churches in Chicago testify to the importance of this work. There is now no theological seminary in the country which has a larger variety of departments and works, both scholarly and practical, than Chicago Seminary.

THE *Christian Leader* says: Mr. Morris, from Equatorial Africa, is at the Keswick convention, and is strongly of the opinion that Captain Lugard would do nothing to prejudice the cause of the Catholics or to help the cause of the Protestants as parties. If he has supported the latter, it is because they are the party of law and order. Captain Lugard is no Gallio, caring for none of these things. On the contrary, he is sincerely interested in mission work, but he is a sternly just and upright man, and he has been constant to the feeling that to him the national honour and impartiality were committed. Mr. Morris says that if Britain retreats from Uganda it will have a disastrous effect on the native mind, who will say that we have been beaten. This retreat, is, however, a consummation devoutly to be wished by the Roman Catholics, who look forward to establishing a great Roman Catholic Empire in Central Africa. The letter received during the week from Mr. Ashe tells us nothing new. He was not at Uganda, and has only heard of the events there at second hand; but, so far as it goes, his report goes to confirm Captain Lugard's original account of the fighting. The Church Missionary Society, of course, is very anxious to see peace restored to the country, and the forthcoming number of the *Intelligencer* will contain an appeal for prayer for our brethren in and near Uganda, for the native Christians, both Protestants and Catholics, and specially for those who, bearing the name of Christ, seem at all events to have been tempted to depart from the simple purpose of a missionary's commission, and to use their high office as a means of intrigue.