

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

THE Philadelphia fund in aid of Charleston amounts to \$52,081.95.

MRS. OLIPHANT is at work upon the biography of the late Principal Tulloch.

THE last Sabbath of October has been designated as "Children's Thanksgiving Day" for the missionaries of the American Sunday School Union by Secretary Crowell.

MAJOR W. E. PENN, the well-known Baptist evangelist, has accepted an invitation to spend a large part of the fall and winter in the work in the State of Kansas.

THE election of Dr. Dowden to the Bishopric of Edinburgh having been confirmed by the bishops, his consecration took place in the cathedral, Edinburgh, on September 21.

DR. JOHN KER, Professor of Practical Training in the United Presbyterian Theological Hall, Edinburgh, died very suddenly on October 4th at the Hermitage, Murrayfield, Edinburgh.

DROUGHT church, Worcestershire, which is one of the oldest edifices in England, is to be pulled down, as a recent subsidence in the ground has caused the building to become undermined.

THERE is a threatened deficit in the Sustentation Fund of English Presbyterian Church. The falling off has arisen from a diminution of the aid given to the fund by some of the wealthier congregations.

THE Jewish Almanack just published states that there are 5,400,000 Jews in Europe, 300,000 in Asia, 35,000 in Africa and 250,000 in America. The total Jewish population of the world is estimated at 6,300,000.

THE first number of the Theological Review and Free Church College Quarterly, which was announced some months ago as in preparation, is to be issued in November. It will contain articles by Dr. Rainy and Mr. Stalker, of Kirkcaldy.

THE Irish Presbyterian Church has recently lost three leading men: Rev. Dr. Arrott Bellis, comparatively young, and Rev. Dr. W. Fleming Stevenson, and Rev. Dr. Prof. Croxery, who both stood in the very front rank of the ministers of the Irish Church.

THE U. S. Methodist million for missions seems to be all pledged except about \$50,000, and Chaplain McCabe, from his sick bed, asks if 50,000 Sunday school teachers will not each raise another dollar for the fund, to make it complete before November 1.

THE largest organ in the world has just been completed and placed in the Lutheran cathedral church at Riga. The colossal instrument measures 36 feet in width, 32 feet from back to front, and is 65 feet high. It contains no less than 6,826 pipes, distributed among 124 sounding pipes.

THE proposal to erect a church house in commemoration of the Queen's jubilee is being warmly taken up. Her Majesty has expressed her approval of the idea, and four dukes, six earls, three viccounts, twelve barons, and thirty-four bishops have joined the committee, which has the primate for president.

THE strength of seven of the largest Protestant Episcopal dioceses in the U. S., as indicated by the number of communicants reported in 1885, is as follows: New York, 42,532; Pennsylvania, 29,365; Maryland, 23,132; Connecticut, 22,033; Massachusetts, 21,271; Long Island, 17,789; Virginia, 15,353.

THE Jewish Intelligencer states that at the last "Trinity Ordination" in England five Hebrew Christians were ordained to the ministry of the Church of England, all of whom had been brought to a knowledge of Christ by missionaries of the London Society for promoting Christianity among the Jews.

ON Sunday, September 19th, the date of the synodical collection for the Committee on Instruction of Youth, special sermons were preached to young people from nearly every pulpit in the Presbyterian Church of England. From the accounts that have reached us it appears to have been a regular "Children's Day."

THE general session of Glasgow has remitted to the several kirk-sessions to consider as to the desirability of a re-arrangement of the hours of public worship, so that the forenoon service be the principal diet, leaving the afternoon open for services for the young, or for parochial work, with services of an attractive kind in the evenings.

IN an article published in the Nouvelle Revue, a French traveller declares that there is scarcely a village in Syria without a Protestant church; more than one may be found even in the gorges of Mount Hermon. At Beyrout there is a German hospital and American university, where the most practical sciences are taught, especially that of medicine.

DURING the summer the Rev. Dr. Phillips Brooks has sometimes omitted the Litany at Trinity church, Boston. To a churchman who asked the reason he explained that the audience in the hot weather consisted largely of strangers unfamiliar with the service, who had come to get good, and he felt it his duty to make their burden in listening as light as possible.

THE Board of Directors of Princeton Theological Seminary have elected as associate professor to Dr. Moffat, in the chair of Ecclesiastical History, A. C. Armstrong, Jr., son of the New York publisher and a recent graduate of both the college and seminary, taking high honours in both courses. Mr. Armstrong has recently returned from

a year of study in Berlin University, Germany.

ACCORDING to the latest statistics the Baptist Church in Germany numbers 169 congregations, 152 chapels, 1,282 preaching stations and 32,244 members. The net increase in the membership last year was 1,155. The number of Sunday schools is 432, teachers 5,193 and scholars 18,257. Value of church property, exclusive of debts, \$400,000. Annual contributions for all objects, \$100,000. About 18,000 copies of their church publications, 15,000 Bibles, and 30,000 New Testaments were distributed.

AT the beginning of this century Protestantism in France could not count one hundred and fifty pastors; it had no Christian works of instruction or of evangelization. It simply existed. Today it has a list of one hundred and fifty-five Christian workers, and eight hundred pastors to carry on the work of the evangelization among the scattered churches. The annual gifts of French Protestants for the support of churches and Christian work are estimated at \$940,000.

"THE Revised Psalter," by Rev. W. Rigby Murray, which has met with so cordial a reception at the hands of musical critics, was recently introduced in connection with harvest thanksgiving services, into Brunswick Street church, Manchester, of which Mr. Rigby Murray is minister. This is the first time, it is believed, that the Revised Version of the Psalms has been used in the service of praise by any congregation in Christendom. Other congregations are preparing to follow the example.

THE fifty-sixth semi-annual Conference of the Morcom Church convened on the 6th at Coalville, a small, isolated settlement in Summit county. Four hundred persons were in attendance. None of the recognized leaders were present except Apostle Richards, who opened the meeting. He exhorted the saints to stand firm and never surrender their divine right as revealed to them by the prophet. An epistle from First President John Taylor, issued from his hiding place, was read before the conference.

THE tithe struggle in Wales still goes on. So annoyed are the authorities by the resistance of the farmers to the distraint proceedings of the clergy, that they have issued a "police notice" declaring that people who assemble and shout and "gesticulate" at a sale are liable to two years' imprisonment with hard labour. We should like, says the Christian World, to see a Welsh farmer thus sentenced for protesting in his musical language, or by the motions of his body, against the levying of tithes. The present agitation would sink into insignificance by the side of that which such a monstrous attempt to crush the expression of public opinion would provoke. The Bishop of St. Asaph has most wisely endeavoured to pour oil on the troubled waters by asking both the farmers and the clergy to make allowance for one another.

A DESPATCH from Delhi on the 8th says further: "The ill-feeling recently aroused between the Hindoos and Mohammedans here over mutual violations of their respective religious principles culminated in a riot last night. Several persons were killed. The immediate cause of the bloodshed was the profaning of the Jumna Musjed, or Great Mosque, by a Hindoo sectarian leader, who tied a small pig in a painful posture within the sacred edifice, so that it squealed with all its might. This enraged the Mohammedans and they at once assaulted the Hindoos. The native religious agitation is daily gaining dangerous activity. One cause of much of the trouble is the fact that the butter in common use has been found to have been adulterated with pig's fat. At Bombay a society has been organized to propagate hostility to Mohammedanism and to incite a general knowledge of the true Hindoo religion."

THE London Guardian is becoming anxious as to the state of the Church in rural districts. The late elections have, it says, shown the alienation, to say the least, of the agricultural labourer from the Church. "On every side," continues our contemporary, "we are told of the religious ignorance and the immorality that are so terribly rife in our villages, and we are compelled to ask what the Church has done, or is doing, to remedy this state of things." Mission chapels, lay readers, and open-air preaching have been suggested, but the Guardian inclines to the idea of diocesan missions. The missionaries are to be effective in "encouraging, instructing, and sometimes rebuking the regular clergy," and must not limit their work to appeals to the emotions, but give systematic instruction in Divine things to the people of the same parish for several weeks at a time. "We cannot help feeling," remarks our contemporary, "that our country parishes require quite as much teaching as exhortation. The people are ignorant of the merest rudiment of Divine truth, and we are bound to say that there is nothing more painful to an observer than to see how very remote many parish clergymen are in giving continuous and systematic doctrinal teaching to their people." A stronger condemnation of the State Church-system, or a more convincing exposure of its failure to sustain the religious life of the nation, has seldom been penned.

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