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Notes of the Week.

At a meeting of the Foreign Mission Committee of the Pan-Presbyterian Council, held in Edinburgh lately, it was agreed to endeavour to arrange for joint missionary services in connection with the three Presbyterian Churches in some of the principal towns of Scotland. This, we believe, is the first attempt which has been made towards united action by the three leading denominations representing the Presbyterianism of Scotland.

DR. HAMILTON MAGEE, of Dublin, speaking at Glasgow lately, said it continued to be the almost universal testimony of those who were engaged in missionary work in Ireland that recent agitations had opened rather than closed the door of favourable opportunity. An agent had written to him from the very centre of one of the most disturbed districts, that he was as well received by the Roman Catholics as the Protestants, and that the people were most willing to talk of religion.

THE Presbyterian Union of New York, which is set for the advancement of the Church in that city, in social and other ways, gave a reception to the Committees on Reunion of the Northern and Southern General Assemblies, at the Assembly Rooms of the Metropolitan Opera House on Friday evening last. The occasion proved an interesting one throughout. There were five-minute addresses in plenty, choice selections of vocal and instrumental music, also a collation, and opportunity for social intercourse.

ON referring to the illness of John Bright, the *British Weekly* says: The veteran statesman is facing death with the calm, unshrinking courage with which he has ever met his foes. As we write, there is even a hope that he may rally from this severe attack. The whole nation has stood with reverent anxiety at the bedside of the illustrious man whose moral worth and nobleness, no less than his calm and deep wisdom, have left none to stand beside him but that other veteran from whom his name can never be divided.

A MATTER of great interest, says a contemporary, is understood to be rising in Free St. George's, Edinburgh. For some years past there have been frequent private discussions how the overburden of

work, of which Dr White has always complained, should best be met. This winter there is the same pressure, and, though the great Edinburgh preacher is in more than unusual vigour, the question of his relief has again come to the surface. But on this occasion a collegueship is being definitely spoken of as the true solution.

THE *Christian World* says: The Rev. Dr. Mathews, the new General Secretary of the Pan-Presbyterian Alliance, is settling down to work in London. His library and household goods are expected to arrive from Quebec this week, but as there has been a fire on board during the voyage, he may have suffered a loss. Papers, just received from Quebec, devote considerable space to the farewell accorded to Dr. Mathews by his large and attached congregations. Dr. Mathews will be an acquisition to London Presbyterianism.

MR. WEIR, of Hampstead, memorialized the London Presbytery to give a deliverance as to whether it was competent or desirable for Presbyterian ministers to become M.P.'s or members of County councils. The Presbytery, however, did not consider it desirable to give such a deliverance. The reference was understood to apply to Rev. Dr. Rentoul, of Woolwich, the barrister-minister, who is mentioned for a County councillorship. Rev. D. Fotheringham, of Tottenham, who was invited to stand, declined because he thought it would interfere with his duties as a minister.

THE large number of meetings which have been held throughout Great Britain in connection with the Armada Commemoration, and the Accession of the Protestant Dynasty, as arranged by the Alliance culminated recently, in two largely attended Conferences, held in the Lower Exeter Hall, and a public meeting in the evening. Colonel Sandys, M.P., presided at the latter, and stirring addresses were delivered, amongst others, by Canon Woodward, Rev. Dr. Wylie, Dean of Achonry, Rev. A. C. Wainwright, Sir A. Blackwood, and Mr. Mark Knowles.

THE Rev. John McNeil, of Edinburgh, has been preaching to crowded congregations in London with great acceptance. He preached at College Park, when considerable numbers of the Regent Square people went to hear him. His subject at College Park was the Cave of Adullam, and the crowded audience were quite delighted with his sermon. Some of his most intimate friends are quite confident that he will accept the call to Regent Square, and others are equally confident that the movement for a tabernacle in Edinburgh will now be pushed forward in order to keep him there. Mr. McNeil himself has, however, not given any indication of his mind on the matter.

SPECIAL services have been held in Greyfriars United Presbyterian Church, Glasgow, in celebration of the third jubilee of the congregation. On Sunday, the pulpit was occupied by Rev. Messrs. W. S. Goodall, J. Buchanan, and Professor Calderwood, the two latter having been ministers of the Church, from 1856 to 1881. At the soiree on Monday, the pastor, Rev. W. S. Goodall, sketched the history of the Secession of which the first minister of the congregation, Rev. A. Fisher, was one of the founders. In connection with the celebration, the Church has been restored at a cost of \$3,685. The membership now stands at 760, of whom 530 have been received during the five years of Mr. Goodall's ministry.

FULL explanations concerning the "Peerless" Bibles are given in another column. They are without exception the handiest and most complete edition of the Sacred Scriptures yet published. The

amount and variety of accurate and carefully-compiled information on all that pertains to a thorough study of the Bible, furnished by several distinguished and scholarly members of the Revision Committee, will surprise the average reader. Whoever uses the "Peerless" Bible has at hand for ready reference all that gives him the fullest information on almost everything the reading of the sacred text can suggest. With such a valuable help to Bible study within reach, ignorance of the contents and meaning of the Sacred Volume is simply inexcusable. When a copy can be secured on terms so easy a little exertion will meet with a most encouraging reward.

THE Canadian Society of Musicians held their annual Conference in Toronto, last week, which was largely attended by members, many of them from great distances. Matters of interest to the profession were ably discussed, among them the comparative merits of the usual notation and the tonic sol-fa system. Enjoyable musical evenings enlivened the meetings. A concluding service of praise was held on Friday evening, at St. Andrew's Church, the galleries of which were crowded, and there was a fair sprinkling of auditors in the body of the church. An extensive selection of classical organ music was rendered by Messrs. Edward Fisher, J. C. Batchelder (of Detroit), E. D. Phillips, and Arthur Dorey. The St. Andrew's choir gave Stainer's anthem, "And all the people saw the thunders," and songs were given by Miss Robinson, Mdle. A. Strauss, and Mr. E. W. Schuch. Rev. D. J. Macdonnell read the lessons, and gave an appropriate address on music and worship.

Two weeks ago the death of Mrs. Thomas Henning was announced. It is now our melancholy duty to chronicle the death of her husband, which sad event took place in Florence, Italy, on Thursday last. Only last week a communication from his graphic pen appeared in these columns, to which for years he was a frequent and valued contributor, his papers being widely appreciated and reproduced by contemporaries. He was a man of varied accomplishments, devout spirit, amiable disposition and blameless life. The following brief and kindly notice appeared in the *Globe* of Saturday: The news comes by cablegram of the death of Mr. Thomas Henning, at Florence, Italy. Only fifteen days ago, or thereabouts, the death of Mrs. Henning in the same city was recorded. Mr. Henning was at that time in fair health, as good as he had enjoyed for some time previously, but never seemed to rally from the shock he sustained by the suddenness of Mrs. Henning's death, and on Dec. 27, he died. The deceased gentleman was widely known and highly esteemed in this city, though for several years past he has resided chiefly in Europe, on account of ill-health on the part of himself and Mrs. Henning. Meantime they travelled considerably, and Mr. Henning, being a keen observer and possessed of literary tastes, contributed frequent articles, descriptive of his journeyings, to THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN and other magazines and newspapers. Mr. and Mrs. Henning paid a final visit of considerable length to Toronto, which was brought to a close about eighteen months ago. Mr. Henning was a brother-in-law of the late Hon. George Brown, and for about fifteen years was connected with the business management of the *Globe*. He was a native of Loughbrickland, county Down, and was educated in Belfast, Ireland. In his second year at Royal College he received a gold medal and first prize for an essay on the historical and antiquarian associations of his native place. During his early life in Canada he was a teacher in Knox College and other institutions. He was of a quiet, sedentary disposition, an ardent lover of books and a deeply religious man. His death will be a subject of sincere regret to his wide circle of friends.