

THE PRESBYTERIAN

TORONTO: LEIGHTON CO.

Vol. 1.—No. 45. (New Series).
Whole No. 344.

Toronto, Friday, September 6th, 1878.

\$2.00 per Annum, in advance.
Single Copies, Five Cents.

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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE new Presbyterian Church at Arkona is now completed and will be opened next Sabbath.

NO mixed marriage can be celebrated by a Roman Catholic priest in England without an express stipulation that all the children shall be trained up as Catholics.

ACCORDING to the gossip of the Athenæum Club, Professor Robertson Smith will be offered and will take the vacant chair of Mathematics in the University of Aberdeen, and so get out of his present difficulty. Mr. Smith won the Ferguson Scholarship for Mathematics in Glasgow in his time.

IN an editorial "The Congregationalist" disposes effectually of the notion that the Jews did not believe in a future state. Attention is called to a mistranslation of the word *rephaim* in such passages as Psalm lxxviii. 10, which should read "Shall the shades [not dead] arise and praise thee?"

REV. G. L. MACKAY, the representative in Formosa of the Canada Presbyterian Mission, was married lately to a young native of Northern Formosa, named Chang Mia Tsong. The lady is said to be clever, and she is, of course, a convert to Christianity. Mr. Mackay is the first of his order, according to the China "Mail," who has taken a native wife.

IT is reported that the Presbyterian congregation of Seaforth has secured the services of Professor McLaren of Montreal as precentor. We congratulate not only Seaforth but Western Ontario on this acquisition. The call from the Seaforth congregation to Rev. Mungo Fraser of St. Thomas will come before the Presbytery of Chatham at its next meeting.

AT a meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works, London, a letter, signed by Sir Charles Reed and others on the behalf of the Sunday School Union, was read, requesting the Board to appropriate a site on the Thames Embankment for the purpose of erecting thereon a statue to the memory of Robert Raikes, the founder of Sunday schools. The matter was referred to a committee.

HENRY WARD BEECHER arrived in California on Aug. 22, and is now delivering a course of lectures in the Metropolitan Temple, San Francisco, on "The Wastes and Burdens of Society," "Ministry of Wealth," "The Reign of our Common People," and "Hard Times."

Mr. Beecher will be on the coast only twenty nights, and will speak every night in some one of the towns or cities of the region about San Francisco.

CHIEF JUSTICE MOSS has decided a case where the town corporation of Napanee refused to let a hall to an infidel lecturer on learning the character of his address, and he sued the town for damages. The Chief Justice came to the conclusion that Christianity was part of the common law of England, and as such was made a part of the law of Canada in 1759. He held that the tendency of a lecture like the one in question was against the interests of Christianity, and as such illegal.

THE Archbishop of Canterbury has lately made vigorous statements in behalf of temperance. He says: "There is one dreadful evil overspreading the whole land, which makes havoc of our workingmen—the evil of intemperance. Unless you make distinct and positive efforts against it, you will be neglecting an evil which is eating out the very heart of society, destroying domestic life among our working-classes, and perhaps doing greater injury than any other cause that could be named in this age."

THE International Lesson Committee appointed at Atlanta, will hold its first meeting in Cincinnati, on Wednesday, September 25th, 1878. Its sessions will continue, it is probable, during Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, and will be devoted to the consideration of the outline of the next seven years' course. The lessons for the first three years will also be chosen, if time permit. Those desirous of offering suggestions may send them to any member of the committee, or to the Rev. Dr. Warren Randolph, of Indianapolis, secretary of the former Lesson Committee.

THE yellow fever is on the increase in most of the South-western cities. In New Orleans there have been about 2,500 cases, about twenty-five per cent. of which were fatal. The news from Grenada is heart-sickening. There is every indication that the town will be wiped out by the plague. Other cities on the Lower Mississippi are suffering more or less, especially Vicksburg and Memphis. The people are flying to the North, leaving property to take care of itself. There are now about 1,000 refugees in Cincinnati, many of whom are in great want, but are being taken care of by the authorities.

THE Rev. E. W. King, a Scottish minister, is endeavoring to gather a Protestant congregation in the Roman Catholic province of Tilburg, Holland. He finds it up-hill work. Of the 27,000 inhabitants, 26,300, he says, are Catholics, who rule with a rod of iron. No Protestant or anti-Catholic can get employment in the mills, and not one Catholic has been induced to join the little church. The beginning was made nine years ago. Such was the nature of the opposition of the Catholics that the first minister could get no public place to preach in, and had to hold meetings in small rooms and kitchens.

MR. HENRY VARLEY is still attracting large congregations in Australia, but is also, it would appear, creating considerable excitement by engaging in serious controversy with the manufacturers of Adelaide about the wages they pay to their factory girls. Experienced factory girls, it is said, get good wages, but "young learners get only half-a-crown a week; and to

this fact Mr. Varley has publicly attributed all the sin and shame of Adelaide." This the manufacturers resent, and are not slow to show their disapproval. "But the result is," we are told, "that all the apprentice girls go to hear Mr. Varley, and that more than one M.P. has taken up his cause."

ON Saturday, the 10th ult., the House of Commons, in the British Parliament, reached a vote on what has been termed the "Sunday Closing Bill." It is a bill which provides by positive law for the shutting up of all public houses in Ireland throughout the Sabbath. From its first entrance into the House, it was keenly contested at every step. At length, however, it passed its third reading by a vote of sixty-three to twenty-two—a very good majority but what was the aggregate of this vote, eighty-five, to the whole number of members in the House? Yet every thing in the interest of public morals, and the best interests of the people of Ireland, every way, constrain the earnest hope that the law will be sacredly regarded and enforced throughout the whole of Ireland. If so, there will be found to be in it an incalculable blessing.

CIVIC weakness is not confined to Montreal. The following extract is from the Belfast "Witness" of August 23rd: "Matters have come to a dead-lock in Belfast. We do not know where we are, nor whither we are going. The Mayor has forbidden all processions, but the ship carpenters of the Queen's Island have, unequivocally, expressed their determination to march in defiance of the proclamation. This is a serious and grave state of affairs, and calls for exceptional tact and judgment on the part of the local authorities—qualities which, we regret to say, have been too often conspicuous by their absence. The secret of the present difficulty lies in the fact that the authorities, being too weak to put down rowdy ruffians who wreck houses and churches and smash heads, are obliged, in order to secure the peace, to encroach upon the liberties of all classes."

"THE RECORD" of the Free Church of Scotland for August gives an interesting review of the missions of that Church. These missions are found in India, Africa, the new Hebrides, and Syria. In all there are forty-five ordained missionaries, of whom nine are natives, and twelve preachers and missionary teachers and doctors. Of the ordained missionaries twenty-seven are in India and fifteen in Africa. Two ordained missionaries and three missionary teachers were sent out the past year. The Indian missions have been somewhat interfered with by the great famine. The Rev. Narayan Sheshadri formed two orphanages in Western India, which have 136 children. Evangelization, street-preaching, household visitation, the circulation of religious literature, and itinerant preaching have been faithfully attended to, and the important work of Christian education has not been neglected. In connection with Mr. Sheshadri's mission, 778 villages were visited and preached in. The South African missions have suffered severely by the Kaffir war. In Central Africa cheering progress has been made at Livingstonia. In the new Hebrides the Free Church has two of the nine missionaries now in those islands. The third one, the Rev. John Inglis, is now in Scotland, superintending the printing of a version of the Scriptures in the language of Aneityem. In Mount Lebanon, Syria, the Church has one missionary, and several schools, containing 1,000 children.