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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE Edinburgh U.P. Presbytery has suspended the Rev. Walter Duncan, Leith, for plagiarism.

IT is reported that there is a great stir in Orissa, India, since the death of the keeper of the Juggernaut Temple, and that 400 Hindoos there have recently given up caste.

SINCE the meeting of the American General Assembly in May last, nearly eighty ministers have died, many of them prominent workers and leaders in the Presbyterian Church.

THE New York "Independent" says: "The sum of \$19,000,000 has been given by private individuals in this country toward the cause of education within the past fifteen months."

THE Free Church missionaries at Bombay have begun a theological class, and already, within the limits of the Bombay Presbytery, "nine natives have been recognized as students of divinity."

THERE are eighteen different evangelical societies at work in Syria. These employ eighty foreign preachers and teachers, and three hundred native helpers. They seek to reach the total population of Syria, which numbers 209,000 souls.

IN his sermon last Sabbath week, Henry Ward Beecher expressed the hope that editors might become thoroughly Christianized—not after the pattern of the religious press, however, God forbid! he said, but after the pattern of the New Testament of Jesus Christ. Mr. Beecher is editor of a paper claiming to be religious, and therefore has a right to speak of himself, and no one will object to what he said with this application. He knows what manner of man he is.

THE English Ritualists are marching on with rapid strides. Here is a notice taken from the "Church Times," the organ of the Ritualists: "Of your charity pray for the repose of Emily, the beloved wife of Amos Gray, of Codecote, who fell asleep on the 19th inst. Jesu mercy." Well might the "Tablet," the leading Roman Catholic journal in England, say: "We consider Ritualism to be indirectly the most powerful propaganda for the Church of Rome which England has yet seen."

IT is a noteworthy fact that the Archbishop of Canterbury has presided at a meeting held in the library of his own palace, over a meeting called to give aid to the Waldensian churches. He also pleaded the cause of these churches with unusual earnestness, and this in spite of the admitted fact that the polity of these ancient churches was "Presbyterian." The speech of the Archbishop was so hearty and so full of catholic feeling that it has attracted attention both from within and without the church of which he is Primate.

INTELLIGENCE has been received in Britain that a Portuguese gunboat having several Jesuits on board, and accompanied by officers of the Portuguese army and a force of marines, has entered the Congo River, and arrived at San Salvador. It is said that they have instructions by Papal Bull to harass and root out the Protestant mission there, and that they have secured the good graces of the Congo king with the presentation of handsome gifts. It is probable that immediate representations on the matter will be made by the Foreign Missionary Society to the Government.

MARRIAGES between Christians and Jews, though allowed in Austria, are still forbidden in Hungary, and the chief rabbi of Szegedin having been asked to marry a Jewess to a Catholic who had adopted Judaism at Vienna, the Government, whose advice he solicited, informed him that the marriage would be null, the law not permitting a Christian to join a non-Christian persuasion, the man remaining therefore,

legally a Catholic. The Hungarian Jews have accordingly resolved to agitate for the legal recognition of their religion, for mixed marriages, and for obligatory civil marriage.

AS an illustration of what may be done for the children in a church, we give the following item from the "Congregationalist." "The Rev. Eli Corwin, D.D., who has now for some months been pastor of the Presbyterian church at Racine, Wis., gives the children a short sermon every Sabbath in connection with the morning service, and no part seems to be listened to by the elder people with more pleasure than this. Few children were in the congregation when he began the practice, but now there are a hundred sandwiched in among the seven or eight hundred others in the congregation."

THE following letter has been received from Sir H. Wellwood Moncreiff, Secretary to the Scottish Bible Board, in answer to an inquiry regarding the revised edition of the Bible: "It is a great mistake to suppose that the new revised edition of the Scripture will, on its publication, become an authorized translation or supersede the present one. That can only be after the Queen has adopted it and allowed the substitution. It is impossible to say when, if ever, such adoption and allowance will take place. Objections may be taken to the revision. Its publication now is only to enable the public and all authorities to judge of it. It may be approved of, but it may be disapproved of. (Signed), H. Wellwood Moncreiff."

TWENTY-TWO thousand laymen have put their names to a memorial, presented to the Archbishop of Canterbury on April 2nd, in which they enter their solemn and emphatic protest against the toleration within the Church of England of any doctrine or practices which favour the restoration of the Romish mass, or any colourable imitation thereof, any re-introduction of the confessional, or any assumption of sacerdotal pretensions on the part of the clergy in the ministration of the Word and sacraments." Among the signers are many members of both Houses of Parliament, 141 generals and officers of the army, 31 admirals and officers of the navy, 79 physicians and surgeons, 75 barristers and solicitors, and 191 magistrates.

THE Synod of Glasgow and Ayr has adopted a resolution proposed by Rev. Mr. Hutton affirming the decision of the Presbytery of Glasgow regarding the "Scotch Sermons." Dr. Jamieson's motion, which was that put by Mr. Hutton, was as follows: "That the Presbytery having, under their deliverance at last meeting, had their attention directed to two sermons by one of their number, the Rev. W. L. McFarlan, Lenzie, contained in the volume of 'Scotch Sermons' laid on the table of the Presbytery, and having regard to the character of the statements contained therein as affecting the doctrines of the Confession of Faith, agrees to remit these sermons to a committee with instructions to confer with Mr. McFarlan on the subject, and to report on an early day."

DR. IRVING gives, in the April number of the "Foreign Missionary," a valuable table presenting the results of missionary operations in India. According to this table there are now in India 644 foreign missionaries, 682 native preachers, 6,836 native helpers, and 130,958 communicants. The most striking fact which these results indicate has reference to the increase of native preachers within the past thirty years. In 1850 there were in India and Burmah 48 native preachers; in 1880, 682, an increase of *fourteenfold*. The communicants have increased sevenfold within the same period, while the number of foreign missionaries has not so much as doubled. The growth of the native agency is the surest sign of the progress of the evangelical work.

THE prosecution (says the "Pall Mall Gazette") of one of the authors of "Scotch Sermons" for heresy seems now to be inevitable. Should the General As-

sembly sustain the Presbytery and the Synod in requiring a conference, everything will depend on the explanations that may be offered by the incriminated clergyman. His prosecutors have hinted that they will be satisfied with very little in the way of an apology; and a statement that the heretical doctrines complained of were not put forth as the author's own views would probably meet all the difficulties of the case. This would be the best, though not the most heroic, way out of what threatens to be a very awkward affair. The Kirk cannot afford to trifle with her reputation for orthodoxy, nor can she very well sustain the distractions of a great polemical struggle.

IN common with others, says the New York "Independent," we accepted for a time the current opinion that Mrs. Lewes died some time before her husband, while George Eliot was yet living with him and bore his name by courtesy. Finding this opinion questioned, we applied as near headquarters in London as possible, and learn that there is no doubt about the matter, and that "the lawful wife of the late G. H. Lewes is now living. 'George Eliot,' our informant continues, 'lived in open concubinage with Lewes, was his mistress (or, rather, one of his mistresses), and the Eliot-worshipping set accepted the situation and objected mainly to having the fact stated in plain English. The nonsense about Eliot considering herself married to Lewes, etc., imposed on those who wished to be imposed on, and on nobody else.'

IN the course of the excavations necessary for the reconstruction of the baths at Durkheim, in the Palatinate, the workmen have come upon an enormous iron chest containing the celebrated treasure of the Abbey of Limburg, which disappeared after the siege of the Abbey in 1504. The treasure is supposed to have been put in safety by the Abbot out of fear of an attack. It is composed of a large number of vases and other objects of gold and silver, of precious stones, and a host of coins of the fifteenth century. There are also a number of articles for worship, dating from the commencement of the Abbey, which was constructed by Conrad the Salic, and his wife, Queen Gisela, and opened in 1030. By the law of the Palatinate, half the treasure goes to the State and half to the French company which has the working of the baths.

THE "Christian at Work" comments on the Oleomargarine law, which obliges dealers to mark their packages, and not insist upon putting them forth as butter. It makes application to preachers who put forth something of their own, which they offer in place of the juiciness and flavour of the Gospel, but which they insist upon giving the Gospel name. They agree to furnish butter, but instead offer oleomargarine. Some of these, it says, preached pretty Easter sermons, and the organ sounded, and the choir sang, and there were Easter lilies around the pulpit. And all the while in their hearts they reject miracles and disbelieve the Resurrection. We do not complain—it would do no good—that oleomargarine is manufactured; we only insist that when it is produced it shall be obliged to wear the label, whether it is the natural product or that of the factory.

AT the late meeting of the Free Church Synod of Aberdeen, an overture on Professor Smith's case was submitted for transmission to the General Assembly. It referred to the articles published by Professor Smith since last Assembly, 'containing opinions more pronounced than those for which he had been libelled,' and concluded that "whereas Professor Smith asserts that the finding of last General Assembly gives toleration to those advanced views within the Free Church, it is humbly overtured by the Free Synod of Aberdeen to the venerable the General Assembly, to take such steps as shall be necessary to vindicate the doctrine and discipline of the Church." The transmission of the overture was duly moved and seconded. It was also moved and seconded that the overture be not transmitted. On a division there voted for transmission thirty-five, against forty.