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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE Rev. Dr. William Graham, of Liverpool, has been unanimously appointed by the Synod of the English Presbyterian Church to the Chair of Church History and Pastoral Theology at a salary of \$3,500.

THE Church of Scotland expended during last year, on Foreign Missions, the sum of £20,164 6s. 6d. It has eight different mission centres, of which six are in India, one in China, and one in East Africa. On its Colonial work the same Church expended £9,013, while on its Jewish mission the expenditure was £5,885.

THE Rev. Charles Chiniquy arrived at St. Anne's, Ill., on the 5th inst., after being absent for about twenty-two months, during which time he has visited the principal cities of Australia and New Zealand, preaching and lecturing on temperance and Roman Catholicism. Mr. Chiniquy received a cordial welcome home.

DR. PELLEN has been appointed as Medical Missionary to the Church of Scotland McIntyre mission on the east coast of Africa, and was bid God-speed at a farewell meeting held in Blythswood Church, Glasgow, on the 14th of March, last. The Rev. Dr. Cumming delivered a stirring and appropriate address to the departing missionary.

ACCORDING to official reports, the population of the Sandwich Islands amounted in 1878 to 57,985, showing an increase since the census of 1872 of 1,088. During the last five years the number of immigrants had risen from 5,366 to 10,477, while the number of natives had decreased from 51,531 to 47,508. Of the foreigners in 1878, 833 were English, 1,276 Americans, and 5,916 Chinese.

THE Free Church Mission at Livingstonia, Lake Nyassa, continues to prosper. A grammar and vocabularies of the Chinyanja language which is spoken there have been published, and thus the first steps taken towards the translation of the Bible into the Nyassa and Zambezi dialects. This work has been accomplished by Mr. Alexander Riddell the agriculturist and schoolmaster of the mission.

IT is a sad sign of decay in the religious earnestness of a Church when the requisite supply of ministers from its own membership is not forthcoming. But surely it is equally indicative of something being wrong when, as in the U. P. Church of Scotland, there are more theological students and preachers of the Gospel than the Church can find work for. Is our own Church in Canada not tending in the same direction?

THE English Church Missionary Society finds its receipts for the year very encouraging. The deficits of the last two years have been cancelled and the ordinary expenditures met. The English Baptist Missionary Society also rejoices at the liberality of its patrons. The total receipts last year were \$250,758, an increase for the year of \$21,296. Excluding special funds, the receipts are the largest ever received, except in the Jubilee year. The debt has been reduced to \$3,300.

IN Germany elopements are never heard of, and yet there is no such thing as getting married there without the consent of parents. Certain prescribed forms must be gone through or the marriage is null and void. The proposal being formally made and accepted, then comes the betrothal. This takes place, for the most part privately; shortly after which the father of the bride (as she is then called) gives a dinner or supper to the families and the most intimate friends on both sides, when the fact is declared, and leave given to publish it to the world—which, however, has generally been fortunate enough to anticipate the information. The cards of betrothal are then circulated amongst the friends and acquaintances of each of the lovers.

QUITE a little crisis is imminent in the history of Protestant missions in Spain. Cabrera, formerly a priest, embraced Protestantism in 1861 at Gibraltar, and was, one year later, installed as pastor, under the auspices of the Scotch Presbyterian Society. In 1868 he was called to Seville, and in 1874 to Madrid, to succeed the lamented Carrasco. Last year the Scotch Society reduced its appropriation for the support of Cabrera from \$1,500 to \$900. Feeling aggrieved, Cabrera determined to relieve his church from the patronage of that Society, and turned to the English Episcopal Committee. Last February he published a pamphlet, proposing to the young Spanish churches that they organize on the model of the Episcopal churches of the United States; and in March he met at Seville the four Spanish pastors who depend on the Episcopal Committee, and also Bishop Riley, the American Bishop of the Mexican Episcopal Church, and was by them elected "the first bishop" of Spain. He now proposes to erect in Madrid a beautiful Protestant cathedral, and to organize his diocese under the patronage of the wealthy and powerful Anglican Church.

THE treatment of the late King of the Zulus at Cape Castle appears to be of a character hardly creditable to the Cape Government. Cetewayo has now been for more than seven months a close prisoner, denied all communication with those Englishmen who, in former days, were his friends, and who are still disposed to pay him friendly attention, if they were allowed. All sorts of sightseers, who had no other object to gratify but a morbid curiosity, have, it is stated, been allowed to gaze at Cetewayo, but against all who have been known to be in friendly communication with Bishop Colenso the door has been resolutely closed. Mr. F. W. Chesson, on the part of the Aborigines Protection Society, furnishes the most explicit testimony upon this point. Last month Dr. Robert Colenso, a son of the Bishop of Natal, being at Cape Town, asked the Premier, Mr. Sprigg, for permission to see Cetewayo, but was refused. What can be the meaning of this ungenerous treatment of a fallen foe and of his friends? Can the Bishop's suggestion be true, that Cetewayo was perfectly free of all the hostile intentions towards the English which were attributed to him by Sir Bartle Frere as an excuse for entering into war against him?

THE gambling fever for the season has already set in with great intensity and promises to be as bad as ever if not worse. In spite of the utter discredit into which boat-racing was brought last season in the estimation of every respectable person, by the frauds, lies, and general "crookedness" universally prevalent, we have again an eager attempt made to rehabilitate the performers and the sport, and some people calling themselves respectable join in the effort. Then the walking mania seems not quite dead, though the exhibitions of last year were sufficient to cover it with scorn in the estimation of every person possessed of a shred either of character or common sense. Anything, apparently, in order to have an opportunity for gambling and for thus gaining money without honestly working for it. No doubt, as the season goes on, we shall have advocates of dog fights and cocking mains, and all such other "sports" which are just as reasonable and not a whit less disreputable than those which too many are now excusing and which not a few are even earnestly defending as highly moral, strictly patriotic, and undoubtedly calculated to make Canada's name more honoured and Canada's people more prosperous in every respect. That such things should be is a matter for regret, that members of churches should countenance and encourage them is simply disgraceful.

THE American Bible Society, at its sixty-fourth annual meeting, reported that there are engaged in the Society's work in this country 18 district superintendents, 75 agents, and 4,528 unpaid volunteer distributors. The receipts for the year were \$608,342.28. For the foreign work of the Society, to be expended during the year, the amount of \$119,793 has been ap-

propriated. The New Testament has been translated into Japanese and is already published, and the translators are at work on the Old Testament. Aid has been afforded to the work of translating portions of the Bible into several of the colloquial languages of China. In India work upon the Telugu Scriptures has been resumed. Some portions of the Old Testament in the Zulu language are nearly ready for the press, while the Gospels of Mark and Luke in the Muskokee language are ready for publication. Editions of the Revised Esthonian and of the Dakota Bible have been printed, also a part of Isaiah in Mpongwe, the Gospel of John in Dikele, and a revised edition of the Psalms in Spanish. There were prepared for distribution at the Bible House 1,134,438 Bibles. Several thousand purchasers were found for them abroad and nearly all of them were distributed. The whole number issued by the Society during sixty-four years amounted to 37,408,208 copies. The gratuitous work for the year amounted to \$338,187.08.

A VERY striking illustration is given of the power of Christian willinghood, in the history of Free St. George's Church, Edinburgh. As most of our readers are aware, this is the church of which Dr. Candlish was the first pastor. It has always been distinguished for its zeal and liberality in every good work. Since 1843 it has raised the large sum of £295,889 11s. 9d., or nearly a million and a half of dollars. Of this amount nearly one-half has gone to the general Sustentation Fund. In its contributions to that fund it has never gone back even for a single year. Amid all the excitement of the Disruption and all the enthusiasm of novelty it contributed in 1843 to this fund what was thought then the very large sum of £2,409 16s. 3d. It has however never given so little during any one year from that time to the present. Its contribution for 1879-80 stands the highest even in its record, viz., £5,294. For "strictly local and congregational purposes" it has reserved of the whole raised only £91,247 12s., and even of that a very large proportion was not exclusively for the benefit of the worshippers in Free St. George's, but went to build and support mission churches in destitute localities in the city. All this tells of a marvellously effective and well directed congregational organization, and shews beyond all cavil that Christianity has within itself in the native influence of its doctrines on the minds of those who believe, everything which is requisite for its efficient support and indefinite extension.

EVERYWHERE there is more or less of a protest being raised against the excessive strain put upon the mental powers of the children at school by the number and character of the tasks assigned them. The somewhat celebrated Miss Jex. Blake, M. D., of Edinburgh, in a recent letter to the London "Times," says: "In dispensary practice I have lately seen several cases of habitual headache and other cerebral affections among children of all ages attending our Board Schools, and have traced their origin to overstrain caused by the ordinary school work, which the ill-nourished physical frames are often quite unfit to bear. I have spoken repeatedly on the subject to the members of school boards, and also to teachers in the schools, and have again and again been assured by them that they were quite alive to the danger, and heartily wished that it was in their power to avert it; but that the constantly advancing requirements of the Education Code left them no option in the matter, and, indeed, that the evil has been steadily increasing, and appears likely still to increase." Miss Blake says further that a majority of the most intelligent teachers could testify that a majority of the children find themselves habitually over-tasked, so that though temporary precocity is secured, the result is sure to be marked and permanent dulness. We are quite sure the same thing can be said of the system in Canada as very generally carried out. Many here will re-echo Miss Blake's hope that the educational authorities will consider "not how much more can be piled on to existing demands" but "how far the present requirements can be relaxed, while yet a really sound general education in the public schools is secured."