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Notes of the Week.

The results of the completed census of Germany shows the population of the empire to be 51,758,364, an increase of 2,329,894 over the census of 1890. All of the States of the empire show increases.

Augustus William Lawson Hemming has been appointed Governor of British Guiana to succeed Sir Charles O. Lees, K.C.M.G., retired. He was sent in 1879 and again in 1881 and 1889 on special missions to Paris, and to Berlin in 1887-88. He also served as British delegate to the West African Conference at Berlin in 1884. Since 1879 he has been principal clerk in the Colonial Office.

Marquis Sacrapanti, the Noble Guard of Pope Leo XIII., bearing the zucchetto and biretta to be conferred on Mgr. Satolli arrived in Washington Dec. 19, and the private presentation of the zucchetto and the official papers from the Vatican took place at the residence of Mgr. Satolli. Marquis Sacrapanti explained his mission, and said that at the consistory of Nov. 20 last the Holy Father had made Archbishop Satolli a Cardinal, and had honored him by giving him the mission to bring the insignia and document to America. On the 5th inst. the biretta will be conferred on Mgr. Satolli by Cardinal Gibbons at Baltimore, and then the new Cardinal will go to Rome to receive the Cardinal's hat from the hands of the Pope.

An American exchange has this to say respecting Britain's connection with Guiana over the boundary between which and Venezuela a difference of opinion has for a long time existed. The British tried to make an original settlement in Guiana in 1630, but failed. The French then planted a colony there, but soon abandoned it. In 1652 the British returned and occupied the settlements vacated by the French. In 1674 all the British holdings were traded to Holland in exchange for what is now the city of New York. Finally, in 1814, the territory was ceded by Holland back to Great Britain. At that time the exact boundaries of it had not been determined; nor have they been since. Great Britain's title to British Guiana is incontestable. The only question is as to the exact location of the western boundary line of that province.

The Italians are just now having a hard time to hold their own against the Abyssinians with whom they have for some time been at war. *Information* calls them "the mountaineers of the Switzerland of Africa" and adds that, "of all the remnants of the once so powerful Christian body of the Oriental nations, it is the only one which has been able to maintain its national and characteristic individuality. Since the adoption of Christian civilization in the fourth century the Abyssinians have been able to hold their own against the modern conqueror. They are almost the only people on the whole dark continent that are not Ethiopians: i. e. they are not blacks. In reality they are Semitic to the core, brethren of the Hebrews, Arabs, Syrians, Babylonians and Assyrians. They are a coffee-colored race having all the racial peculiarities of the Caucasian, and by their physiological traits and language are clearly distinguished as Semitic immigrants from southern Arabia."

In response to a Senate resolution of the United States, the Secretary of the Treasury sent to the Senate, on Dec. 23, a statement showing, during each of the last five years and for the whole period, the gross amount of the imports from ports of Great Britain and her colonies and dependencies. The totals for the whole period of five years are as follows: United Kingdom, imports, \$800,349,150; exports, \$2,184,048,64.

A most interesting portion of the Atlanta Exposition being just now held is the Negro building. The exhibits of the colored race crowd 25,000 square feet of floor space in the building. All who visit it, Northerners and Southerners alike, are frank and hearty in their expressions of approval, admiration and even wonder at what they see. It is a revelation to some of them of what has been going on in their midst, all unobserved, during the past thirty years. They have a higher respect and hopefulness for this long despised race when they see what they have accomplished. They realize that they may yet be a rich blessing to their country. In addition to this the stimulating and strengthening effect upon the Negroes themselves of this first effort will be incalculable.

Naturally, how the Chinese converts conducted themselves and stood the trials through which in many cases during the late trouble they have had to pass is a question of much interest to all engaged in the work of the evangelization of China. Dr. Griffith John, who, for over forty years, has been the British and Foreign Bible Society's agent in that country bears this testimony to the fidelity of the native Christians in Sz'chuen. Almost to a man they behaved splendidly in the midst of all their trials. As the missionaries were leaving, the converts assured them that they would cling to Christ and their profession of His name. "We will meet as before," they said "and read our Bibles and pray. We do not promise to sing, for that might involve us in trouble; but we will not forget the assembling of ourselves together."

In the new Venezuelan Cabinet, formed by President Crespo, Foreign Relations are in charge Dr. Pedro Ezequiel Rojas, who was minister of Foreign Relations a few years ago. He has had official charge of the boundary dispute for many years, and is considered one of the ablest diplomats in South America. The executive power of Venezuela is vested in a President, who acts in conjunction with his Cabinet and the Federal Council. He holds office two years, and cannot be at once re-elected. The Federal Council is composed of a Senator and deputy from each State and a deputy from the Federal District, chosen by Congress from among its own members, for the term of two years. The Federal Council chooses the President of Venezuela from its own ranks. There is a system of free public schools. A considerable part of Venezuela is still practically unexplored, and is inhabited by aborigines. The republic is divided into nine States, a Federal District, and five Federal Territories. Venezuela remained under Spanish rule until 1811, when Simon Bolivar proclaimed her independent. The independence of Venezuela was recognized by Spain in 1845. All slaves were emancipated in 1854. In 1864 a Federal Constitution was drawn up. Guzman Blanco became Dictator in 1870, when he was elected President.

The Standard, of Chicago, discusses the partition of Turkey and the beneficial results to religious research that would follow: "It would mean much to Science if Turkey should cease to be, unspeakably much to archaeological and Biblical science. The government of Turkey controls the majority of Biblical sites and districts where material lies hidden of value to the student of the Bible and of ancient history. Exploration and excavation are now made as difficult and as costly as possible to the scholar. The Turk will do nothing himself, nor let any one else do anything for which he is not himself well paid.

England is not the only country in which President Cleveland's message has awakened no little anxiety, although not quite of the same or so serious and threatening a kind. A writer in the *Literary Digest* says: President Cleveland's annual message to Congress has created nowhere greater sensation than in Germany. His remarks on the prohibition of Texas cattle and the difficulties put in the way of American insurance companies are regarded as threats of retaliation. Regarding the question in this light, the German Bundesrath (Senate) has decided to put a heavy additional tax on imported meat, canned, salted, or fresh. So says the *Berlin Post*. The Liberal press in Germany, defending almost exclusively commercial interests, fears a destructive tariff war. But the great majority of the German voters are still bound up with agricultural interests. The farmers complain that they can not make a living if they have to compete with American produce, and the Agrarians in the Reichstag think the loss of American trade a slight calamity compared with the decline of agricultural interests.

The following from *Guild Life and Work* will be read with interest as a pleasing reminiscence of the Queen, and a happy index of her spirit in matters of religion.—On the 2nd of November, 1873, Her Majesty's communicated for the first time in a Scottish Church. She had previously been present at the dispensation of the Sacrament. One of the "Leaves from our Journal" graphically describes a communion at Crathie on a snowy November Sunday in 1871, notes the appropriateness of all the psalms and prayers to the holy ordinance, and records how much the Queen was impressed by "the grand simplicity of the service." "It was most touching; and I longed much to join in it." The purpose, then apparently half-formed, was fulfilled in 1873. The parish minister, Dr. Taylor, now the accomplished Professor of Ecclesiastical History in Edinburgh, officiated on the occasion, and preached a thoughtful and impressive sermon on the sufferings of Christ. During the Communion Service the Queen sat, along with the minister's wife, in the manse pew, which formed part of the "Tables," and she received, like any other communicant, the sacred elements from one of the elders, her own venerable commissioner, the late Dr. Robertson of Hopewell. The royal action was significant. Some bigoted Anglicans gave vent to their disapproval of what they regarded as ecclesiastical inconsistency; but the nation as a whole saw in it a fine expression of the truth which leading English, no less than Scottish ecclesiastics, have cordially recognised, that the two Churches, while differing in forms of worship and government, are one in faith and spirit.

PULPIT, PRESS AND PLATFORM.

Ram's Horn: No rich man was ever happy unless he used a part of his money to make others so.

Lutheran Observer: The lists of the most illustrious of earth do not include many of those who wore a crown or held a sceptre. The great of earth enrolled many poor, but few princes.

Dr. Theo. L. Cuyler: Often the best Christians are those who serve their Master in little things. He never despises the day of small things, or else He would not his oaks in tiny acorns, or the wealth of a wheat-field in bags of little seeds.

United Presbyterian: The divine is immortal. When it enters the human soul, it retains and communicates its immortality. Therefore they who are born of God, who are made partakers of the divine nature, cannot die. They have eternal life.

Cumberland Presbyterian. Long prayers, loud exhortations, and great professions do not glorify God. Nothing but truth-doing and fruit-bearing will glorify him. How does the vineyard glorify the husbandman? By the fruit it bears. A barren vineyard scandalizes the husbandman. So does a barren Christian. "Herein is my father glorified, that ye bear much fruit."

Herald and Presbytery: The days are very short just now, but soon they will be getting longer and keep on increasing until the glorious days of June are reached. The nights may be long now, but they will be short then. The Christian has the joy of knowing that, however long the nights of earthly trial and sorrow may be now and here, they shall at last give place to eternal day in heaven, for there shall be no night there.

Sunday School Times: Little things are often the hardest things. It is comparatively easy to do a momentary deed of daring that will startle everybody; it is not so easy to do little deeds of quiet courage from day to day, unheeded by all and unheeding all. Perhaps you are not called to do the great deed. But you are called every day to do the little deeds, which more surely wear out life and strength in the long run. Be glad that you are called to this; for this is the harder task, and he who is faithful here, will not be unfaithful in the easier great things.

Rev. D. M. Buchanan, M.A.: An assurance of Heaven when life is done is sunlight to the old pilgrim's soul. He is tottering on the brink of the grave, but beyond the darkness he sees the eternal shore. The world has lost its charms for him, his eyes are dim, he cannot see its beauty now. He has had his share of life's trials and joys, but these are gone. He is leaving behind him the faces of kind and loving friends, but yonder, by the eye of faith, he sees the loved ones that have gone before. Hush! he is falling asleep—one foot on earth—one foot in Heaven. Call not this life's night, 'tis but the passing cloud, that hides from view the light of a sublimer day. "For me to live is Christ, but to die is gain."