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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE corner stone of an institution where the daughters of missionaries may be educated, has just been laid in London, the building to cost \$75,000.

IN the report of the Presbytery of Brockville in our issue of the 27th ult., it is made to appear that there are thirty vacancies within the bounds. This is incorrect. There are only three vacancies.

THE Government of Russia has at last withdrawn its prohibition against missionary enterprise in central Asia. The Synod of the Russian Church has prepared to found extensive missions in all parts of Turkestan.

POPE LEO XIII., it is now reported in Europe, is assured of two attempts having been made to destroy his life by poison, and in his constant fear of the attempt being repeated, is said to have his brother attend to the marketing for his table, and he prepares his own coffee. The report has not ceased that his late Secretary, Franchi, died from poison secretly administered to him.

A WRITER who is quoted by "The Church Times" (Ritualistic) says that of the 22,600 ministers of the Church of England 12,000 are in the High Church party, 5,400 in the Low, 2,500 in the Broad, leaving 2,700 who are "mostly colorless nonentities." In his opinion, the Evangelicals would go out, in the case of disruption, leaving the High Church party to absorb the remainder.

ON Saturday morning, the 14th of September, an order was issued that Sabbath traffic on the tramway from the Botanic Gardens to Dunedin, on the Antrim Road, Belfast, Ireland, should commence on the following day, and the first car was started shortly after twelve o'clock on Sabbath. When this arrangement became known on Saturday, an invitation was sent out soliciting a meeting of ministers to be held in the rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association, Lombard Street, on Monday morning. In response to that invitation nearly all the Protestant ministers of the town assembled, passed resolutions protesting against the desecration, and appointed a committee to prepare a memorial on the subject and to take steps to have it largely signed and placed before the directors by an influential deputation.

THE first meeting of the new International Lesson Committee was held in the parlors of the Gibson House, Cincinnati, on Wednesday, September 25th.

The committee decided to draw up, at this meeting, a general outline of the lessons for the seven years' course, and to select the particular passages, titles, memory verses and golden texts for the year 1880. It also determined to give the first six months of each year to the New Testament, and the second six months to the Old; and to leave the twelfth and thirteenth lessons of the quarter (if there be so many) without an assignment, the twelfth lesson to be devoted to reviews, and the thirteenth to special studies. The first half of the year 1880 will be occupied by studies in the Gospel according to Matthew, and the second half by studies in the book of Genesis.

THE following item has come across the frontier. We cannot at the present moment lay our finger on any congregation in Canada which we are quite sure would act in the manner described; but we give our aid in extending the circulation of the item, lest there should be, even in this country, any probationers or others to whom the hint given at the end might be useful. It is from the Philadelphia "Presbyterian Journal:" "One of our exchanges relates an instance, —not an uncommon one, we fear—of a minister who was invited to supply a vacant pulpit, and who, confident that he would receive compensation for his services, left his family all the money he had; but, failing in his expectation, was under the necessity of going to a friend to borrow fifty cents to pay his fare back. We agree with our contemporary in the opinion that, in accepting invitations to supply vacant pulpits, it may yet become necessary for our brethren to write in bold characters at the top of their notes this regulation—Preaching 'C. O. D.'"

THE second annual meeting of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of the Province of Ontario will be held in this city on Wednesday and Thursday, the 23rd and 24th inst. All Local Auxiliary Unions are expected to send two or more representatives, and other Christian workers from localities where no Union exists are also invited. Negotiations are in progress to procure return tickets at reduced rates for delegates holding certificates from the Secretary of the Provincial Union. At the meeting on the forenoon of the first day, the time will be occupied with devotional exercises, address of welcome, and reply; and in the afternoon and evening with address of president, reading reports, appointment of committees, and annual address. On the second day there will be half-hour discussions on the following topics: Woman—Her Influence and Work; Prayer and its influence on our Work; Drunkenness and its relation to Fallen Women; Temperance Literature; Helps and Hindrances in Connection with Women's Work.

THE destiny of Turkey must be accomplished in spite of all bolstering. The era of European Mohammedanism inevitably draws towards its close. What has been left undone by foreign invasion will be done by internal disorder. The indications of a general breaking up are accumulating. The Prince of Montenegro insists that the Porte shall surrender to that country the territory ceded to it by the Treaty of Berlin; and the Porte appears to be as powerless to comply as it is in the case of the demands of Austria. The withdrawal of the Russian army and the English fleet from the immediate vicinity of Constantinople gives rise to serious apprehensions of rioting if not revolution in that city this winter. None of the con-

ditions are wanting. A weak government, a discontented people, a fanatical priesthood, a soldiery likely to fraternize with the populace, an immense horde of refugees and tramps, and paper money seventy-five per cent. below its nominal value, make up all the conditions necessary to promote the most serious disturbances.

AT a primary meeting of Christians held in Brantford in July, at which most of the Evangelical Churches were represented, a committee was appointed to make arrangements for holding a Conference of Christians in Toronto in October, for the purpose of seeking "to advance the Kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, by instilling into the minds and hearts of God's children a deeper interest in the study of His Word, and by setting forth the necessity of a more thorough and unreserved consecration to the work and Person of the Lord." The committee have accordingly made arrangements for the Conference to take place in Shaftesbury Hall, in this city, on Monday, the 21st inst, and the four days following. Many eminent ministers and laymen, from far and near, are expected to take part in the proceedings. Rev. Dr. Brooks of St. Louis is to act as chairman. Among the names on the programme we find: Revs. J. H. Castle, John Potts, Geo. Young, J. A. R. Dickson, W. S. Rainsford, J. C. Antliff, John Smith, D. J. Macdonnell, S. J. Hunter, of Toronto; John Clarkson, of Brantford; Canon Baldwin, of Montreal; W. J. Erdman, of Chicago; H. M. Parsons, of Buffalo; and Wm. Taylor, of California. Major Cole of the United States and his wife and daughter are expected to be present and assist in the singing. The first meeting will open at three o'clock p.m. on Monday, 21st inst.

THE late Rev. Dr. Spence, formerly of Ottawa, whose death we recently noticed, made the following bequests to religious and charitable institutions in Canada, besides leaving several legacies to charitable objects in Scotland—all to be paid after the death of his widow:—To the Trustees of Queen's College at Kingston, Canada, thirty-eight shares of one hundred dollars each of Montreal Corporation Consolidated Stock, interest seven per cent., to be invested in perpetuity for the general good of that College. To the Trustees of the said College one thousand dollars of Dominion of Canada six per cent. stock, to be invested in perpetuity for providing a bursary in the College to students in Divinity. To the managers of the Ministers' Widows' and Orphans' Fund of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, thirty-nine shares of one hundred dollars each of Montreal Corporation Consolidated Stock, interest seven per cent., in trust for the benefit of widows and orphans of ministers of the said Church. To the Treasurer for the time being of the fund for the support of the "Aged and Infirm Ministers" of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, \$2,500, free of legacy duty. To the Kirk Session of St. Andrew's Church, Ottawa, Canada, \$500, free of legacy duty, to be invested by that Court in perpetuity, and the yearly interest to be laid out in the purchase of fuel, to be distributed at Christmas in each year among the most deserving poor of the congregation. To the Protestant Orphans' Home, Ottawa, \$500, to be disposed of by the managers of that institution in such a way as may be deemed best for the benefit of the same. To the Protestant Hospital, Ottawa, \$500, to be expended by the managers in such a way as may be considered best for the benefit of that Institution.