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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

REV. R. J. LAIDLAW, of St. Paul's Church, Hamilton, has been asked to open the new Presbyterian church at Winnipeg.

WE are requested to state that copies of the Montreal Presbyterian College Calendar for the Session of 1879-80 can be obtained by addressing Rev. Principal Macvicar, Montreal.

A REVIEW of the Rev. R. J. Laidlaw's very interesting book, "Our Religion as it Was and as it Is," will be found in another column. For the price and contents of this volume see advertisement on last page.

THE Rev. Mr. Sproat, the deputy of the Church of Scotland, is at present in Manitoba visiting several of our congregations there so as to become personally acquainted with the vast mission field of the Church in the North-west.

IN our notice of "Premillennial Essays" in issue of 27th ult., several errors occurred: "Rev. H. Parker" ought to be Rev. H. Parsons; "Dr. David Brown and the Second Advent" ought to be Dr. David Brown's Second Advent; and "paid him such respect," in the last sentence but one, ought to have been written, made him have such respect.

BISHOP COXE, of the Diocese of Western New Jersey, is opposed to the revision of the Scriptures, or to the Revised Bible, which is now in process of preparation. One of the reasons for his dread of the revision is that, "the new Bishop of Durham is the most learned man of all the company, and he finds Presbyterianism in the Epistle to the Philippians!"

THE stage has been turned into the service of temperance in one case, at least. At the Princess' Theatre, London, a drama under the title of "Drink," written by Charles Reade, was produced recently. One of the characters is a man who has gone mad by brandy-drinking, and it is said that a more fearful representation was never witnessed on any boards.

THE Eskdale and Liddesdale "Advertiser" of June 11th contains a report of a sermon by the Rev. Dr. Snodgrass, late Principal of Queen's University, Kingston, now parish minister of Canonbie, Scotland, delivered on the occasion of the induction of the Rev. Jas. Buchanan as minister of the parish of Langholm, and vacated by the death of the Rev. J. W. Mac-turk, B.A. Dr. Snodgrass also delivered the charge

to the newly inducted minister and to the members of the congregation.

AN English evangelist, Lord Radstock, has been accomplishing some good work in Copenhagen, Denmark, recently. He has preached at the houses of the nobility, and held private conversations with those who might wish his advice. So far many persons of the highest rank and nobility have joined in assisting him princesses, ministers, admirals, commodores, and many military and civil officers. He has also preached acceptably several times in the English chapel in Copenhagen; once in the Methodist Church, the pastor translating into Danish; and in other churches of the city.

IN Great Britain and Ireland there are 867,000 persons who speak Irish-Gaelic; 309,250 who speak Scotch-Gaelic; 12,500 who speak Manx; and 1,006,000 who speak Welsh. The total number of those who speak a Celtic tongue is 2,195,450, or nearly 7 per cent of the whole population. Mr. Ravenstein says the Irish-Gaelic, the Scotch-Gaelic and the Manx belong to the northern Gaelic; and that since the Cornish became extinct, the Welsh alone represent the southern Gaelic or Cymrig branch, but it shows the greatest vitality. The last person who could speak Cornish died about 1791.

WE remind our readers of the annual collection for French Evangelization by appointment of the Assembly on Sabbath, 20th July. We hope that in intimating the collection on Sabbath first ministers and missionaries will give a brief statement as to the work, so that their people may be prepared to contribute liberally on the following Sabbath. With the prospect of an abundant harvest this year we trust that the collection will be a most liberal one. While many can, and doubtless will, contribute their \$5, \$10, or larger sums, how very few of our people are there but could give at least \$1 and that without perceptibly being poorer thereby.

INTOXICATED rats are a novelty in the list of the victims of alcohol; but a gentleman engaged in the business of distilling at Cincinnati states that the rats in his distillery are in the habit of drinking any spirits spilled on the ground or left in open vessels, and that they often become, in consequence, so tipsy that they cannot run, and are easily taken by hand. They pay with their lives the penalty of indulging in the inebriating fluid. The rum consumed by the rats is a very small proportion of that produced in that and other distilleries, but the bulk of the stuff operates in the same way. Helplessness, ruin, death, are its usual effects; but the victims are not rats; they are men and women endowed with reason and possessing immortal souls.

THE "Missionary Herald" for July showing how missions promote commerce says: "A few years ago no artificial light was used in Syria save that afforded by the little wick floating in a cup of olive oil. The people then seemed to have little need for lamps, but now that schools have been multiplied, and the people have learned to read, they desire to use their evenings for study. The result has been, according to Dr. H. H. Jessup, that there has been a great demand for oil for illuminating purposes, so that there is not a village or nook about Mt. Lebanon in which empty boxes,

marked "astral oil," may not be seen. The first shipment of American oil to Syria was made by a Boston merchant in 1866, and last year the imports at Beirut alone amounted to 1,500,000 gallons. In more senses than one is America giving light to Syria.

FACTS brought to light by the Vermont "Chronicle" upon the facility with which divorces are procured in New England reveal a humiliating chapter of domestic discord sadly inappropriate to that enlightened district. The ratio of divorces to marriage in Massachusetts is 1 to 23, in Vermont 1 to 16, in Rhode Island 1 to 13, and in Connecticut 1 to 10! In 1877 there were 1,331 divorces in these four states. These startling figures show the necessity of prompt and vigorous efforts to correct the evil that is sapping the foundations of the divinely-appointed institution of the family. Preachers and parents and legislators have a duty before them that must be faithfully discharged or society will be wrecked. There is little hazard in saying that the rapid growth of this mischievous disregard of the sanctity of marriage is largely due to the flashy, skeptical, and infidel literature of the day.

A LONDON correspondent of the "Evangelist" calls attention to the atrocities still perpetrated by the Turks on the Christians in Macedonia and Armenia, and to the fact that not one single measure of reform has been carried into effect since the war, while corruption at headquarters is notoriously worse than before. He quotes from a Constantinople letter to one of the London papers this fearful charge: "Every impartial observer will agree with me that throughout the empire still under Turkish rule things are worse than before the war; and both Christians and Turks agree that England is responsible to a great extent for the increase of the evils." In view of the state of things in the Turkish Empire, and of the persecutions of Protestants in Austria, he counsels that protests be sent from every religious denomination to the World's Evangelical Alliance at Basle in August, that it may send its earnest remonstrance to the Governments represented at the Berlin Congress against these outrages on our common humanity and Christianity.

DURING the past month Free St. John's Church, Walkerton, has held its anniversary services. Mrs. Robert Gowanlock gave a social which was quite a success. Then Mrs. Wm. Rowand followed with another social, the largest both as to members and results ever held in the congregation. And on Sabbath last the summer sacrament was dispensed. The Rev. R. C. Moffat was very ably assisted on the week days by the Rev. John Baikie of Harriston. Notwithstanding the many removals to Manitoba and elsewhere, fourteen new members were received, which with the fifteen at the previous communion, tells its own story of hard work and Divine blessing. Notwithstanding the cry of hard times heard everywhere, the special collection taken up, over and above the usual one, was twice larger than any collection ever taken up in this church. We are glad to learn that the membership is steadily increasing, that the Sabbath school is flourishing, and that the minister's Bible-class is crowded with fathers, mothers, sons and daughters. Next Sabbath morning the Rev. R. C. Moffat will give the third sermon of the series on the "Foundation of our Faith," the subject being "How shall I know whether I am a Christian or not?" For the evening, Jesus, the sinner's omnipotent Friend and Saviour."