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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

A NEWSPAPER is about to be published in London in the Persian language, for circulation in India, Persia, Turkey, and Afghanistan. The principal promoter of the scheme is an Indian Mussulman, who has for several years lived in Constantinople.

THE Jesuits expelled from France are entrenching themselves in English and Spanish soil. They have established nine colleges throughout Spain. Large buildings to be used for similar purposes have been purchased on their behalf in Wales, near Canterbury, and other places. These foes of freedom and true religion appear to have no lack of monetary resources.

THE Jewish population of the world at the present is a matter of much discussion and great uncertainty. The Jewish Calendar of Grand Rabbi Servi for the present year puts the number at 9,210,000. Others estimate it as low as 6,000,000. The true number is probably somewhere between these two extremes, but the Jews are so scattered over the whole world that it is impossible to obtain an accurate census.

MINISTERIAL communion is a thing of the past in the Anglican Church. The High and Low Church parties mutually exclude each other. "For myself," said Dean Close lately, "I would quite as readily allow one of the apostate English Roman Catholic Church Cardinals to preach in my pulpit as I would allow one of these Anglican priests to do so." The "catholicity" of this body is a point much insisted upon, but it has little visibility.

TEACHERS may do very much, if they will, to induce their Sabbath school scholars to attend the regular church services. These questions should be often thought of and answered by each teacher: Do my scholars attend the regular church services? If not, have they any good reason for staying away? What can I do to induce them to attend? Some teachers have found that it had a good effect to give a credit mark in the regular school record book for attendance at the church service.

THE London (Eng.) "World" is able to state that the Princess Louise has come to Europe only by the urgent wishes of her medical advisers, her destination being the baths at Marienbad, whither she went on Tuesday, August 17th. Her Royal Highness still feels the effects of her accident a good deal. After her return from Germany she will go to Scotland before proceeding to America. The insinuation which has been made that the Princess Louise dislikes Canada is without foundation.

EXPERIENCE has perfectly justified the admission of women to the science classes of University College, London. The number of men the past year increased, instead of diminishing, and at the late distribution of prizes the women took an honourable part. Of 68 prizes the women took 16; of 103 first class certificates, 38; of fifty second class certificates, 10; of 52 third class, only 2. In a former year the first mathematical prize has been taken by a woman; this year they fell behind in mathematics and fine arts, but won first places in political economy and in Latin and Greek.

THE Chinese Government has inaugurated a new departure which ought to make the United States political parties heartily and healthily ashamed of their miserable anti-Chinese plank. Chin Lan Pin, the Chinese Minister to the United States, has transmitted to Secretary Evarts a circular sent by the Chinese Government to its representatives abroad, formally giving notice that the Government of China has revoked the ancient decree prohibiting natives of the Celestial Empire from engaging in commerce with foreign ports, and announcing further that in the future Chinese merchants may trade with foreigners at will. Hitherto the Chinese trade has been confined

to a small number of monopolists in the five treaty ports.

ACTIVE preparations are now in progress for the census of India, which is to be taken next February, and which will be the first attempt at synchronous enumeration of the population of the whole of British India and the feudatory States. The work will be one of great difficulty, not only on account of the vast area which the operations will cover, but even more by reason of the ignorance and prejudices of the people. There has been some doubt as to what information should be required, and it is now decided to record the names, condition, sex, age, religion, mother tongue, birthplace, occupation, education, infirmities, such as blindness, deafness, dumbness, insanity, and leprosy. Hindoos will also be required to give their castes.

INDUSTRIAL hardships give way before the right spirit. We read that at "Wanamaker's Grand Depot" in Philadelphia, where there are employed, on an average, between twelve and thirteen hundred persons, fully six hundred of whom are saleswomen, sitting is not only allowed, but it is the wish of Mr. Wanamaker that all should sit down when not engaged in the necessary duties of business. In short, there is an excellent understanding between employer and employed, and all parties are probably better served, and surely better satisfied, on account of its prevalence. Other great establishments, both in the States and Canada, need to take knowledge of Mr. Wanamaker's methods, and move up toward the millennium a trifle.

THE Moslems of Persia have been interested in the preaching of the Presbyterian missionaries to such an extent as to call out a note of warning from the Government. The Rev. J. L. Potter has received the following note: "Sir: It has been brought to the knowledge of the Persian Government that of late religious meetings held by you have been attended by Mohammedans, and I have received an official communication on the subject from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, in which the objections on the part of the Shah's Government to religious instruction being given to Mussulmans are set forth. His Highness adds that, should you continue in the course of which he complains, it will be impossible for the Persian Government to allow of your continuing to reside there; and I may further state to you that he has informed me verbally that the police have received orders to arrest any Mussulmans who may endeavour to attend your meetings."

JAMAICA has been visited with a disastrous earthquake. A description of it says:—The hissing, creaking, whistling, roaring sound of the wind was fearful. Vessels have been sunk and driven ashore, wharves destroyed, roofs blown off, trees uprooted, and a catalogue of other damages sustained which it is impossible now to estimate. A list is given of twenty-five vessels which sustained more or less damage, some of them being driven ashore and broken up. Two or three vessels are ashore on the pallsides. Every wharf except one has been blown away, including the harbourhead wharves. The seabeach is strewn with flour, rice, fish, and other articles of food. It is believed that several lives are lost, as many persons from the different vessels are missing. Those who are saved from the shipping could not secure anything in the way of clothing or effects. The heavy tiles which pave the Victoria market wharves have been all blown off, leaving the market a mere skeleton. All the penitentiary vessels have foundered, and those at Port Royal have sustained considerable damage. The harbour presents a dreadful appearance, as there is not a sound vessel or wharf to be seen. The damage on land is roughly estimated at £100,000.

A LADY who was reared in a Methodist home was taught the Shorter Catechism by a father who had a strong predilection for the Calvinistic theology. Being of a thoughtful disposition, and reverent as well, she looked at the truths thus learned in their connections

and relations, and became strongly impressed with a love for the Presbyterian faith, and then for the worship in which this faith had its expression and influence; and an opportunity presenting itself, she changed her church relations in obedience to her convictions. The instance is not without lesson. In many families, even in the Presbyterian Churches, the Catechism is slighted simply because it is "hard." Tender parents do not wish to worry the minds of their children with anything—anything religious, that is—that will tax them so severely, or put so heavy a strain upon their consciences. It is all very foolish, of course, but it is strictly in keeping with the easy-going religion that clamours so loudly for recognition. But to people, whether young or old, who are willing to think in a devout spirit, the great fundamental truths of this old compend will always commend themselves, and a reverent familiarity with them will do much to fix and perpetuate them in ways that are thoroughly evangelical.

THE New York "Christian Advocate" has this admonitory paragraph—not so much needed in the Presbyterian, as in some other churches: "It is reported that an eloquent Lutheran clergyman of Baltimore has resigned his pulpit, in order to take part in the campaign by supporting the Greenback ticket. When ministers go on the stump they take a fearful risk. While opponents hate them, and are no longer benefited by their preaching, those who agree with them in politics do not seem to respect them very highly as ministers. The society in which they find themselves is not congenial to a spiritually-minded man. To sit on the platform and listen to obscene jokes, to be preceded or followed by a speaker who makes irreverent or jocosely allusions to the clergy and the Church, to be introduced by a chairman whose career has been anything but religious; these, and other things liable to occur, are inconsistent with the ministerial character. Besides, the style of the minister is unconsciously, perhaps intentionally, lowered to tickle the ears of the groundlings, and he returns to the pulpit to degrade it with stump oratory. Too many reputations have been wrecked on these shoals. Let ministerial stumping be left to those already ruined beyond repair; and let the earnest minister talk, write, and vote his sentiments courageously, and devote his energies to his special work."

THE Winnipeg "Free Press," of Sept. 4th, says:—Rev. Prof. Bryce returned on Wednesday from a ten days' trip to Turtle Mountain via Emerson, having gone on Mission business. The reverend gentleman, who has seen all parts of the Province and a portion of the North-West Territories, describes the country for thirty miles this side of the Pembina river, and for thirty miles beyond it, as unsurpassed for beauty and fertility in his North-western experience. West of the Pembina river there is, it is estimated, a population of 600, most of whom went in a year ago; and the settlers in this district are most enthusiastic as to their prospects. At Pilot Mound—a point 90 miles west of Emerson—service was held last Sabbath. A congregation of 120 people was assembled, and the communion dispensed to above thirty persons. In Southern Manitoba, where four years ago there was not a Presbyterian missionary labouring, there have been during the present summer nine, so great has been the development of this part of the Province. Churches are arranged for at Nelsonville (brick veneer), Mountain City and Dominion City, and steps are being taken at Pilot Mound. The people themselves in these districts are counted on for raising about \$3,000 this year for the support of their missionaries. In all parts of the region—except the newest and most scattered—steps are being taken by the settlers for the establishment of schools. The Turtle Mountain district has, it is estimated, about thirty families actually resident, scattered over a stretch of twenty-eight miles. Some one hundred entries have been made. The people of Turtle Mountain themselves think they should have had 400 families actually entered this summer, but for the restriction and uncertainty in connection with land.