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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE Foreign Missionary Board of the American Presbyterian Church receives \$25,000 from the estate of Mrs. Means of Alleghany, Penn.

IN the capital of Japan, writes a missionary, there are about 70,000 soldiers, all in the American uniform, and provided with arms purchased from the United States and England.

KING MENDEK, of Koa, South Abyssinia, has abolished slave-trading in his realm and on his frontier, because, as he tells the London Missionary Society, "I am, and wish to remain, a Christian."

THE Free Church of Scotland will be represented in the next Pan-Presbyterian Council by the Rev. Principal Rainy, the Rev. Sir Henry Moncrieff, the Rev. Dr. Begg, the Rev. Dr. Blaikie, and the Rev. Dr. Adam.

A RUSSIAN Government official sent from St. Petersburg to report on a miraculous hot spring at Shalazgori was almost killed by the infuriated villagers, because he declared the spring not to be holy. Four of his assailants have been sent to prison.

WE notice with regret the death of Mr. John C. Becket, printer and publisher, Montreal. He was a native of Ayrshire, Scotland, and was well-known and highly respected as a citizen, and as an elder and Session Clerk of Erskine Church.

AT a recent Episcopal Convocation in the United States the question was discussed "How far are amusements advisable for raising money for church purposes?" Would it not be well for some convocation, whether Episcopal or not, to discuss the question *with the first two words deleted?*

THE Governor-General and the Princess Louise attended divine service at St. James' Cathedral on Sabbath morning, the Bishop of Toronto officiating. In the evening the Governor-General attended at St. Andrew's Church. The preacher here was the pastor of the church, Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, B.D.

ON Sabbath, the 31st ult., the seventh general conference of the Evangelical Alliance began its sessions in the ancient city of Basle, Switzerland. More than 1,500 delegates had arrived, and the hotels and boarding houses were filled. The English, French, Scotch, German, and American Churches were strongly represented.

MRS. THOMAS, of Philadelphia, a lady more than eighty years old, has built a neat stone church in Kane

at a cost of \$20,000, and presented it to the Presbyterian congregation. The venerable lady, says the Titusville (Pa., "Herald," spends a part of her income each year in building a church somewhere in the country.

A GENERAL SYNOD of the seceding Reformed Episcopal churches in England has been held, and resolutions passed denouncing the action of the General Council in America in electing a bishop for the English churches in communion with it, declaring that the election is null and void, and asserting that an insuperable barrier against compromise has thereby been erected.

THE call to the Rev. Prof. Patton, D.D., to become the settled pastor of the Jefferson Park Church, Chicago, the pulpit of which he has supplied for some years, has been sustained by the Presbytery, an objection on the ground that his whole time and ability were already pledged to the Chair of Theology in the Seminary having been overruled. His induction will take place next Sabbath evening.

A SOMEWHAT remarkable contribution of art to history is found in a picture of the Massacre of St. Bartholomew, painted by a French Protestant artist, Francis Dubois, who died in Geneva, twelve years after the Massacre, in 1584. In his exile he reproduced the horrors of which he had been an eye-witness. The picture contains 160 figures and has lately been reproduced in lithograph by M. Alexandre Dur- ing.

THE Pope's latest Encyclical is substantially a denunciation of modern philosophy in all its forms, and a plea for returning to the philosophy of the scholastics of the middle ages, among whom he especially admires Thomas Aquinas. Gregory the Thirteenth is wise in his generation. The Church of Rome properly belongs to those dark days. The light of modern times is rather strong for her eyesight. It will be much safer for her to amuse her students with the desultory speculations of mediæval metaphysics than allow them to pursue knowledge by the inductive method.

UNDER date August 28th, Rev. Dr. Cochrane, of Brantford, writes to us from Glasgow, Scotland, that he met with the Colonial Committee of the Free Church and addressed them in reference to the Home Mission work of the Presbyterian Church in Canada; that he had an interview regarding the same matter with Dr. Wilson, of Limerick, Ireland; that, along with the Rev. J. M. King, and Rev. Dr. Barclay, of Toronto, he attended the funeral of Principal Willis, on Saturday, the 23rd August; and that he will be back in Brantford by the end of this month, in time for the next meeting of the Home Mission Committee.

NO one should be deceived by the fair professions of those who wish to devote the Sabbath to some "good" purpose, conducive to the welfare of their minds or bodies, apart from religion. A surprisingly extensive movement recently took place in Baltimore in the way of organizing "Sunday Literary Clubs." These clubs were ostensibly for mental and moral improvement, and to many this sounded as being next in goodness to religious worship. But this movement was followed up with so much zeal that suspicions were aroused, and an investigation being ordered, it was

found that the "clubs" were for the purpose of enabling the members to consume beer and other liquors which they could not lawfully purchase at the ordinary places of sale on the Sabbath. This is a sample of the mental and moral improvement that comes of Sabbath-breaking.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Chicago "Interior," pleasantly spending his vacation in visiting our northern lakes, says: "Orillia, situated on Lake Couchiching, where we have made our principal stay, is a beautiful town, but the chief attraction to us, however, are the hills and rocks. Nature has not put all the good things in one place; a flat prairie is good to plough in but a poor place to fish. I find here a flourishing Presbyterian church, over which the accomplished and genial Rev. Mr. Gray presides as bishop. I was surprised to learn that he has been a settled pastor here for twenty-eight years. His long residence makes him a sort of Presbyterian Nestor in these parts. He tells me the union of the Presbyterian bodies in Canada is proving harmonious and successful. The people are mostly of the Scotch-Irish type, and we find them as genial and warm-hearted as they are proverbial for stability. They still cling to Rouse and the Paraphrases, but they have introduced the 'kist o' whistles' and a choir. I find Dr. Gibson's fame in all the churches and his loss to Canada Presbyterians deplored. At Gravenhurst we tramped over the rocks, where Prof. Patton, in student days, first tried his theological wings. He literally sowed the seed on "stony ground," for there is only soil enough for two gardens in the whole town. The seed seems to have had growth, nevertheless, as there is a good church there."

CHOLERA prevails in Japan to an alarming extent. The reckless and unprincipled conduct of the German Ambassador, in insisting on his right to disregard all quarantine regulations made by the native Government, can scarcely be too strongly condemned. Regarding this matter the "Times" says. "As a result of the monstrous outrage committed by the German minister in breaking the quarantine established by the native authorities at Yokohama, the cholera in that place and Tokio has become epidemic. It has already carried off, in these and other cities, no less than twenty-five thousand victims. There appears to have been no provocation for the forcing of the blockade by the German war vessel, except the minister's determination not to recognize the right of the Japanese to regulate their own police and sanitary affairs. The English authorities were at first as insolent as the Germans in their treatment of the Japanese rulers and their laws; but they refrained from force, and, becoming alarmed since the spread of the pestilence, they have joined other European representatives in requiring strict obedience to the quarantine laws of Japan. This change of attitude comes too late, unhappily, to prevent the useless and murderous sacrifice of thousands of lives by the pig-headedness and vanity of one overbearing Deutsch brute at the head of the German embassy in Japan, and another in command of a German ship of war. The outrage of which these savages have been guilty is one of almost unexampled atrocity, and if the guilty officers are not promptly punished by their government, all civilized powers should combine to deprive the Germans of the power to repeat such atrocities by assisting Japan in excluding German war-ships from Japanese waters."