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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

IN Central Turkey the Protestant community has made a gain of twelve per cent., and of 1,000 registered members within the year.

THE justification of the most earnest work which women can give to Foreign Missions is in the fact that "the bondage of heathenism falls heaviest upon women."

IN connection with the recent sessions of the Church Congress in Great Britain, a meeting of the Funeral and Mourning Reform Association was held, and the object of the association was warmly endorsed.

IT is reported that the resignation of the entire Spanish Ministry is imminent owing to the strong opposition of a party of statesmen to the proposed emancipation of slaves in Cuba.

THE Orleans Cathedral is to be decorated with ten painted windows representing scenes in the life of Joan of Arc. A subscription of 125,000 francs to meet the expense was made almost as soon as it was asked for.

A STATUE to Cervantes has been unveiled at Alcalá, Spain, where the immortal author of "Don Quixote" was born on the 9th of October, 1547. The Association of Spanish Writers participated in the festival.

THE Reformed Episcopal Church in the United Kingdom, otherwise known as the Reformed Church of England, have organized a Canadian Synod and made application to the General Synod to elect a Bishop for Canada. An ex-Vicar of the Church of England, who is a graduate of Oxford, is the one spoken of.

IN spite of the hard times in Ireland and the great outcry about everything going to ruin, we are glad to learn that the payments made to the Sustentation Fund of the Presbyterian Church of that country up to the last accounts were only £133 less than during the corresponding period of last year. It is expected that the amount for the whole year will equal, if not exceed, that of last.

A GREAT deal too much prominence has been given to the miserable encounter between the editors of the London "Telegraph" and "Truth." Column after column about it have appeared in all the leading newspapers. It is a comfort to know that we have now heard about the last of it, as there is a likelihood of the resulting law suit being settled privately. Had it never been heard of at all it would have been better for the credit of all concerned.

THE Home at Constantinople, under the charge of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, is overrun with applications to such an extent that the teachers have given up one of their parlours for a dormitory. This year for the first time Turkish girls have entered the institution, a step which marks a new era in its history. Last year there were two Bulgarian girls at the Home, now there are seven. The Turks are beginning in various places in Turkey to attend Christian service.

IN reply to the charge of failure of Foreign Missions, the "St. Louis Presbyterian" gives the following striking facts: "1. During the last year the Gospel was preached in one thousand towns and cities in China where it had not been previously heard. 2. In

China there are 14,000 native church members. 3. The missionaries of the American Baptist Church baptized last year 18,000 converts from heathenism. 4. In Madagascar the idols have been burned, and the London Missionary Society reports 1,000 churches and 67,726 church members. 5. The British Wesleyan Missionary Society reports 170,000 communicants. 6. Not less than 60,000 idolaters in Southern India cast away their idols and embraced Christianity in the year 1878."

BETRAYALS of trust seem the order of the day. Most of them professedly have been with the best intentions. The defaulters never meant, they say, to wrong any one. They merely took the loan of money which was not their own, intending to make it all right by-and-by. Somehow, however, the by-and-by never came. One of the latest of these cases is that of Dempster, the defaulting bank agent in Ingersoll. He seems to have been much respected in the locality, and the bank had the most implicit confidence in his honour and uprightness. It is the old story, living above his means and eager to keep up the farce, he stole and called it borrowing; and now he finds himself in gaol with very dreary prospects before him. His fate, however, won't warn multitudes who are following the same course, and at the same time hoping that all will come right at last.

THE Postmaster-General of the United States has done a very proper thing. A communication having been sent to him by the postal authorities of Canada stating that though all publications styled "Police Gazettes," etc., are prohibited circulation in the Dominion on account of their immoral character, yet in spite of all the precautions possible on the part of the Canadian postmasters some copies of such get into circulation on this side of the lines; and requesting the United States Government to take measures to prevent the forwarding of this class of matter in Canadian mails—an order was forthwith issued declaring that all such publications addressed to Canada shall henceforth be unmailable. This is as it ought to be. The corrupting influence of such papers cannot well be exaggerated, and it is a comfort to think that henceforth Canada will be free from their presence.

THE eleventh anniversary of the services in Agricultural Hall, London, was observed on Sabbath, October 12th, Rev. Dr. Thain Davidson, the master-spirit of the enterprise, presiding. He said that at no time in the eleven years had the appointed preacher failed to appear. The services had attracted many who never entered a place of worship, and not a few of them had been led to join some Christian church. During the past year, Dr. Davidson said, addresses had been delivered by ten Episcopalians, eleven Presbyterians, eleven Congregationalists, ten Baptists, and two Wesleyans. The expenses for the twelve months had been about \$1,250, and the collections at the doors had amounted to about \$850. The anniversary meeting, which as usual was kept within the hour, was addressed by an Episcopalian clergyman, a Wesleyan, a Congregationalist, and a Baptist.

AN article which appeared in the "Pall Mall Gazette" of October 8th, has attracted general attention in Great Britain. The writer claims that all the States of Europe and even the United States are in danger of a Socialistic revolution which will be fierce and destructive; that the immense standing armies, when the conflict comes, will be as likely to take the part of the Socialists as of the Government and the existing social order; and that the Socialists are led by men of ability, education, and character, "who recognize as clearly as their opponents the more important points in the situation." The article closes with the prophecy that "it is probable that one of the first results of the strong revolutionary impulse in Europe will be an increase of priestly authority," and that from the fear of the ultimate designs of the Socialists, engendered in the minds of the religious and well-to-do portions of the community, leading to the

different educational systems being put under clerical control, as the only way by which they can be kept from becoming not merely useless but in the highest degree morally hurtful and politically dangerous.

THE Rev. Fergus Ferguson, who was before the U. P. Synod of Scotland some two years ago on a charge of heresy, recently delivered a lecture on "Modern Orthodoxy." He said: "The sum of orthodoxy is contained in six points: That there is a God; that the universe is the work of God; that man is a being made in the image and after the likeness of God; that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and the Saviour of the world; that the Church, as the body of Christ, is the organization in which the Spirit of God fully dwells, and by which, therefore, the mind of God as contained in the Sacred Scriptures may be most fully and clearly made known to the world, in order that the world might be brought back to God; and that the Bible is the Word of God." The dilemma of modern orthodoxy is, in Mr. Ferguson's opinion, the attempt to reconcile these six points with the notion of the eternity of evil—"a notion not only incompatible with every one of the fundamental propositions of pure orthodoxy, but logically destructive of every one of them." It remains to be seen what his co-Presbyters will have to say to this new manifesto of Mr. Ferguson.

JOHN DUNN, whose name has come up so often in connection with the Zulu war and who has been rewarded for his services by being made a chief under the new order of things, has a bitter hatred to all missionaries and mission work. His first act as a Zulu chief has been to forbid the entrance of all Christian missionaries into his dominions. We don't wonder at this in the slightest. The great mass of the white people in these border lands of South Africa with whom, no doubt, John Dunn has spent most of his life have exactly the same feelings. It is not the first time in which, in those regions, missionaries have been ordered off, and for the same reasons. The very presence of these missionaries is a protest against the iniquitous courses which too many of the white colonists follow. It makes them uncomfortable, and they therefore prefer to have none of it. The Dutch Boers some quarter of a century ago ordered all missionaries out of the Transvaal because they protested against the enslavement of the native children. John Dunn and others are only following suit. And they are wise in their generation. Some men have always hated the light because their deeds were evil.

THE Supreme Court of Pennsylvania has recently given a decision in the celebrated Stack-O'Hara case which may be taken as a precedent in the settlement of similar difficulties. Father Stack was removed from his pastorate in Williamsport by his Diocesan, Bishop O'Hara, without either being brought to trial or having another parish assigned to him. Stack took the matter into the Civil Courts and secured a decision in his favour. An appeal was entered on behalf of the Bishop, and now the Supreme Court has confirmed the judgment of the court below in the following terms: "Then, without reviewing the conflicting opinions as to the ecclesiastical power given to the Bishop to deny to a priest the exercise of all priestly functions, without assigning any cause, we cannot assent to the doctrine that the pastor's right of property may thus be stricken down, and he be prohibited from following his profession, without accusation and opportunity for hearing and trial. If it is not contrary to the laws of the Church—which we are not prepared to admit—it is contrary to the supreme law of the land." The plea of course was that the Civil Court had no jurisdiction, as what had been done had been quite in accordance with the laws of the Church and Stack had agreed to abide by these. This, however, was overruled and the civil law was declared to be supreme wherever material interests were involved. Some may be inclined to say that this decision trenches upon the principle of Spiritual Independence.