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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

SEVERAL hundred Catholics in Lille, France, have bound themselves by an oath not to send their children to the secularized public schools.

It is said that the removal of the Christian Brothers as teachers of the public schools in France has resulted in an increase of 100,000 scholars.

THE Irish Presbyterian Synod has adopted resolutions strongly condemning the growing practice of sitting instead of standing during prayers.

THE missionary ship *Harmony*, which plies between the missionary stations of Labrador for the Moravians, has just started from London on her twenty-fifth trip to the Arctic Seas.

A MOVEMENT has recently been inaugurated in the Protestant Episcopal Church in Massachusetts, having for its object the doing away with the pew system in all churches of that denomination.

THE Pennsylvania Railroad Company has issued orders to all ticket agents to refuse to sell tickets "to persons who are intoxicated," and that all gatemen are instructed "to pass no one who is under the influence of liquor."

A COMMISSION appointed by the French Government to ascertain the cost of constructing an inland sea in the desert of Sahara has reported that \$250,000,000 is the least sum for which the work could be done, and the scheme has consequently been abandoned.

THE company appointed for the revision of the Authorized Version of the Old Testament finished their 76th session at the Chapter Library, Westminster, on the 7th of July. The second revision of the Minor Prophets was continued as far as the end of Habakkuk ii.

WE find the following in the San Francisco "Daily Examiner" of the 27th ult.: "Rev. Wm. Cochrane, D.D., of Zion Presbyterian Church, Brantford, Ontario, and Convener of the Home Mission Committee of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, British Columbia and the North-West Territories, is stopping in the city."

THE Belfast "Witness" says of the Repression of Crime Bill: "It would almost seem to have worked a revolution already, for since its passing became a question of hours we hear less of outrages than formerly. It is to be hoped the measure will be successful in destroying the enemies of law and order that of late have raised their heads so haughtily and defiantly, and used their hands so ruthlessly and dastardly."

A WIDOW of a Methodist minister recently died in Helmsley, England, and it was desired to bury her beside her husband. This the vicar would not permit, because it was consecrated ground. There was an unconsecrated part of the cemetery, however, which could be used; but he would not suffer the procession to go in at the ordinary entrance, because the passing of Nonconformists over consecrated ground would hurt the feelings of Churchmen.

THE "Salvation Army" is about carrying the war into the gorgeous East. A detachment of soldiers, all of whom, by the way, are officers, has been selected to go to India, and is already endeavouring to fit itself for its duties by wearing Oriental costume, the turban included. The Commander-in-Chief of the force is an ex-civil magistrate who speaks four Indian dialects. This gentleman is to be accompanied by his wife, two captains, and two lieutenants.

A MEETING has been held at Lambeth Palace, under the presidency of the Archbishop of Canterbury, to establish a Church of England mission to the Nes-

torian Christians of Kurdistan, and to aid them in the establishment of a training college. Resolutions in support of the objects were passed, and two Nestorian bishops who were present expressed, in Syriac, their satisfaction at the kind reception which they had met, and at the service rendered to the cause they had at heart.

THE Belfast "Witness" is responsible for the following comparison: "The Curates' Aid Society in England appears to be carrying out the same principle in regard to sales of advowsons that the Land League carried out in regard to the sales of farms and stocks. The representative of the society attends, and by making a burlesque of the proceedings, or by asking all sorts of relevant and irrelevant questions of the auctioneer, renders the sale impossible. In several instances recently this plan has been successful. The method may not be very dignified, but it may help to put an end to an abuse which is a disgrace to the English Establishment."

REV. DR. BEGG, in a letter to the "Scotsman," says he expects 200,000 Free Churchmen can be got to petition next Assembly against instrumental music, and thinks "it may have some effect in arresting the mad proceedings of our infatuated leaders and their unwise followers." He proposes also to have similar petitions sent to the supreme courts of the Established and United Presbyterian Churches, "earnestly asking that this illegal corruption of worship may be removed from them." He calls all true Presbyterians to "a manly struggle, that the process of declension may be arrested, and the noble contending of our ancestors not rendered abortive and covered with ridicule by a generation of pretentious backsliders."

THE Rev. John Hall, D.D., of New York, is spending his holidays on the other side of the Atlantic. This is what the "Outlook" has got to say about him: "Pleasant it was to see and hear Dr. John Hall, of New York, at the Presbytery of London on Tuesday evening. He is without question in the front rank of living Presbyterian divines; and somehow he seemed to us, as he stood before the Moderator, a model Presbyterian, a sort of incarnate expression of the system to which he is attached—a man solidly built, and of grave and simple bearing—a combination of sobriety and vigour. No one could imagine him 'losing his head,' or talking nonsense, or playing the pious mountebank. A steady, well-balanced, discreet, but thoroughly progressive man is John Hall—the very type, we should say, of a Presbyterian Christianity."

A DESPATCH from Ogden, Utah, says: "A wholesale persecution of the Gentiles has been begun, and arrangements have been made for testing the constitutionality of the Edmunds Act in the Supreme Court of the United States. If the decision be adverse, the Mormons have nevertheless determined not to submit at any cost. The polygamists, from President John Taylor down to the distant apostles, bishops and elders in the most extreme part of their domain, have separated from their wives, and are living with one only. All polygamists have, under orders, resigned from municipal offices, and monogamists, as strong in the faith as those deposed, have been selected and commissioned in their places. Every effort will be made to beat the Government on all the sections of the Edmunds Act."

THIS is what the "Christian Leader" thinks of the trouble in Egypt: "The 'unspeakable Turk' is filling up the cup of his iniquities. That the Sultan has been at the bottom of this Egyptian imbroglio from the beginning was manifest to every intelligent and candid onlooker. If a war is to arise from the conspiracy, we venture to predict that the Sultan will at length receive the treatment which ought to have been administered long ago. An end will be put to that monstrous anomaly, the upholding of the Mohammedan abomination by the two chief Christian powers of Europe. The Turkish empire is the great obstacle in the march of civilization. In European Turkey,

for upwards of four centuries, a few million of Turks have lorded it over four times as many Christians, who have been crying for deliverance from their bondage; and all that time the sword of the false prophet has been hewing at the Cross of Christ. This intolerable evil must be swept away."

THE "Christian Guardian" says: "We are glad to notice that our temperance friends in Halton are vigorously enforcing the Scott Act, in spite of the unscrupulous opposition of those who are selfishly interested in maintaining the ruinous traffic. The people of Halton deserve the sympathy and support of the friends of temperance throughout the country. If the Act is effectively enforced in Halton, it will give courage and decision to those who are hesitating in other counties. If it be a failure in Halton, it will arrest progress all over. The Acton "Free Press" mentions it as a singular fact that every case for violation of the Scott Act in the county, which has come before the courts, has been against men who were engaged in the hotel business long before the Scott Act came into force there, and not against the proprietors of low shebeen shops, 'which would spring up in every part of the county as soon as the Act became law,' as King Dodds endeavoured to lead the people to believe, during his gushing lectures in the Scott Act campaign."

THE Belfast "Witness" of the 21st ult. says: "One of the most interesting and gratifying incidents of what, in most respects, was a disagreeable necessity, was the action of the American admiral and fleet. The Irish in America, or at least those portions of them who either plunder or are plundered in the name of Ireland, have already been labouring to stir up ill-feeling between the two countries. Anything which could tend to that purpose was either created or magnified. In America, as in this country, the extreme faction seem to have defeated their object, and created sympathy when they hoped to sow distrust. During the bombardment the American admiral sailed round the British fleet in token of support, and when the British admiral asked the support of the marines of other countries to assist them in restoring order, one or two hundred Americans entered Alexandria, and did duty along with them. General Grant, too, has declared his sympathy with England in this crisis. It is gratifying that while the disloyal and rebellious in this country have been labouring to stir up America against the mother-country, the old love breaks out, and the hearts of the two great Anglo-Saxon nations now beat as one."

AN official telegram from the insurgent Government of Egypt to the United States says: "The Khedive having issued a decree dismissing Arabi Pasha from the Ministry for neglecting to defend Alexandria, and having published a proclamation declaring that England is the friend of Egypt, Arabi Pasha has called on the country of which he is the submissive servant to pronounce its will in the matter. At a great meeting comprising Ulemas (superior judges), Cadis (ecclesiastical judges), the Coptic Patriarch, heads of the Armenian, Greek, and Maronite communities, various high functionaries, Mudirs (councillors), Notables, and leading merchants, in all 364 persons, moving speeches were delivered, especially by Ali Bey, Under-Secretary to the Soudan, who recounted outrages of English sailors upon Alexandrian women. The meeting, with only three dissentients, decided to maintain Arabi so that he might defend the country until the conclusion of a satisfactory peace or the total extermination of his forces. All decrees to the contrary were declared annulled, as the Khedive was beyond the pale of Mussulman law. It was resolved that the decisions of the meeting be submitted to the Porte. Cousins of the Khedive who were present at the meeting declared that Tewfik would be Khedive if he sided with the country and the army, but that under the present circumstances he is either a prisoner or a puppet of the British, and his authority might be repudiated. Immense numbers of people paraded the streets, shouting "Victory to the friends of Egypt against aggressors."