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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE many recent stories of damage by flood, although disastrous, are well overshadowed by that of St. Kitt's, where two hundred people and property to the value of a quarter of a million were destroyed. The poor people are sadly in need of help.

POPE LEO'S personal expenses are \$3,000 per month. This, a Catholic paper says, is "less than that of his predecessors." He claims Peter as a predecessor; and our impression, from the Bible narrative, is that Peter, James and John, with the other disciples and the Master, spent less than that sum per year.

THE Congregationalists of South Africa have been holding their annual meeting at Graham's Town. An increase was reported in the income of the union for aggressive purposes. A mission has been established at the diamond fields, students have been prepared for the ministry and evangelists for rural work. The retiring chairman delivered an address on "Some Aspects of Colonization and Christianity."

A MISSIONARY of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland in Old Calabar, writes that one of the converts, a woman, is so anxious to keep the Sabbath regularly that she has provided herself with a board with seven holes and a peg tied to a string. The peg is shifted every day. Whenever it is in the first hole, she knows that Sunday has come. He says the heathen, whom he addressed in a recent tour strenuously objected to the fourth and seventh commandments, and declared that it was impossible to keep them.

THE Prince of Bulgaria, as a Protestant, adds one more to the number of rulers who adhere to a different religious profession from that held by the majority of their subjects. Herr Koch, professor of the German language and literature at Schaffhausen, has just been nominated Court Chaplain to Prince Alexander. We may add that the private secretaries of the Prince are young men educated at Robert College, Constantinople; and at Tirnova no fewer than forty members of the National Assembly are said to have been educated in that establishment.

SINCE the American Board of Foreign Missions was organized, seventy years ago, it has received and expended \$17,000,000 on Foreign Missions, has organized 350 churches, with \$3,000 communicants; has sent abroad 550 ordained missionaries and 250 unmarried lady missionaries. The Board, through its servants, has also reduced to writing twenty-six languages, and has issued in forty-six languages upwards of 2,300 different educational and religious publications. There are 400,000 pupils under instruction in its schools, and its missionary constituency is estimated at 100,000,000 heathen. Twenty-six missionaries and assistants were sent out during the current year.

CLERICAL intolerance in England is not confined to the churchyard, as the Rev. Carr Glyn, Vicar of Kensington, is finding out. This gentleman is lessee of a house in Kensington, the lessors being the vicar and curate of another London parish. Mr. Glyn has turned the house into a boys' coffee palace, and, it will hardly be credited, the reverend lessors have begun an action of ejectment against him for so doing. It is pretty well understood that if Mr. Glyn, who is one of the most hard-working clergymen in London, had stuck to questions of candles, ornaments, and vestments, instead of trying to do some real good in the world, he would have been free from such annoyance and parsonic opposition.

THE Pope's new organ, "The Aurora," announced some time ago, has made its appearance in Rome. The salutary, according to a cable despatch, sets forth its programme as follows: It proposes to defend the liberty of the Holy See, to combat error, to re-

spect persons, and to maintain justice and right. In another article it answers a Russian gentleman's exhortation to the Pope, advising him to give up Rome to the secular power, and, accepting Sardinia in exchange, to crown King Humbert Emperor of Italy. "The Aurora" demonstrates that Providence has destined Rome, not Cagliari, as the seat of Christ's vicar. "Italian traditions, from Dante to Foscolo," it says, "uphold the principle of the Pope's residence as sovereign at Rome."

IN addition to the depression in manufactures and trade, Europe throughout is experiencing the severest winter with which it has been visited for nearly a century. In Paris the streets were blockaded for two weeks with snow of such a depth that locomotion was impeded, and several of the theatres closed their doors. The cold was so intense that several persons were frozen to death in the streets. The public hospitals having been filled to overflowing, temporary ones were erected. The Chambers voted \$500,000 for the relief of the poor. In Italy the snow fell in such masses that it crushed in the roof of the Central railway depot at Milan. At Rome it snowed three days without intermission, and heavy snows fell in Naples and even in Sicily. In Ireland, Silesia, and many parts of Italy people are reduced to the verge of starvation by the failure of the crops, and their inability to obtain the means of existence, from the want of employment.

THE December number of "The Missionary Record" of the Church of Scotland contains an account of the baptism of a Brahmin at Calcutta, which is full of interest. Bisheswar Roy is about thirty-eight years of age. He was sent to the Church of Scotland's Institution at Calcutta when a boy, and subsequently to that of the Free Church. In the latter he received spiritual instruction from Drs. Duff and Ewart. He heard unwillingly, however, and would absent himself, sometimes for a week or so, to avoid hearing about the Scriptures. About nine years ago, some years after he had left the school, he became alarmed for himself, upon the thought of death. Circumstances threw him in the way of the Brahmo Samaj, whose religious system he carefully examined. He could not find that the Brahmos had any knowledge of the state of the soul after death. Mr. Sen admitted to him that he was collecting principles of morality from all religions and creating a new faith for India. Mr. Roy thereupon turned his attention to Christianity, and after four years of instruction decided, finally, at the cost of separation from a beloved wife and four children, to make a profession of Christianity.

A PETITION signed by Christians of all denominations in Ceylon is about to be sent to the Archbishop of Canterbury, entreating that Bishop Copleston be recalled. This bishop who brought an element of discord, with his arrival in Ceylon, into the missions of the Church Society, has become even more offensive to the native Christians. The latter have held a conference, and resolved to appeal to the Archbishop of Canterbury for relief, declaring they will no longer pay allegiance to Bishop Copleston, who seems to be taking measures to make the diocese completely ritualistic. In their appeal the native Christians say: "We beg to remind your Grace that we are inhabitants of a country still to a great extent heathen; that many of us were brought up as worshippers of idols; and that, therefore, the placing in churches of things which appear to be intended as objects of material worship is more offensive to us than it might be did we not see those around us bowing down to wood and stone. We would also inform your Grace that in heathen worship flowers and lights take a prominent place, and that their intimate connection with devil worship renders them, in our view, a most undesirable adjunct to the service of the Church."

THE New York "Observer" gives the following item concerning Dr. Hall's church in Fifth Avenue, New York which disproves the assertion that that church was only meant for the rich, though many rich are

there: "The poorest class of people have no trouble in getting good pews at as low rates as they wish. To our personal knowledge, servant girls here good seats in that church at lower rates than Roman Catholic girls have to pay for one service a day in their churches. We have been requested to say, and have so advertised, and we repeat the advertisement now, that in the most expensive Protestant churches in this city the poor are welcome, and are furnished with eligible seats at such prices as they are able to pay, and free if they can pay nothing." And what is true of the fine Protestant churches of New York is equally so of those in different parts of Canada which are sometimes represented as only intended for the well-to-do classes of Christians, who can afford a pretty liberal sum in the way of pew rent, or quarterly subscriptions. In the very finest churches in this Province there is no difficulty in even the poorest finding accommodation, and that not as paupers, but on perfectly equal terms with their wealthier brethren.

WITH singular patience and devotion, the Moravian missionaries have been working at Kyelang, in the Province of Lahoul, India, and waiting for an opportunity to enter Chinese Thibet. There has not been much encouragement for the missionaries, though their labours have not been wholly without results. Two small congregations have been gathered, one at Kyelang and the other at Poo, in the Province of Kunawur. Starting from Kyelang, as a centre, the missionaries during the last decade have made seven long journeys, preaching and distributing reading matter in the Thibetan language. They always visit the Buddhist convents and leave books and tracts, which they are sure will be preserved, because of the respect with which Buddhists treat all writings. There is no open hostility to the missionaries, save from the Mohammedans; but the Buddhists are difficult of access in the provinces of Lahoul and Kunawur because of the system of caste which they have. In the past ten years nine persons have been baptized, of whom six were natives of Ladak, in Kashmir. Among these converts was a Lama, a native of Lhasa, of high rank. Several attempts have been made to enter Chinese Thibet; but the officials always turn the missionaries back. Permission has also earnestly been sought for the opening of a station in Ladak; but it has not yet been granted.

A WEEK or two ago the daily papers mentioned that Dr. Koelle, of the Church Missionary Society, and a Mussulman priest who had been assisting him in translating some Christian books into the Turkish language, had been arrested by order of the authorities in Constantinople. The following somewhat full account of the matter is from the "Missionary Herald": "The priest is a member of the sacred order of the Ulema and claims still to be a sound Mohammedan. The work in which he was engaged was the English Prayer-Book, and a tract entitled 'Christ as the Word of God.' The priest was treated with great severity. After several days' imprisonment, he was tried in the Palace of Sheik ul Islam, in Stamboul, secretly, on the charge of aiding in an assault upon the Mohammedan religion. He defended himself with ability, shewing from Mohammedan law that he had committed no offense and had done no more than the Porte had in giving permission for the circulation of the Christian Scriptures in the Empire. The court, however, which was composed of bigoted Ulemas, who, doubtless, had the priest in abhorrence as a reformer, found judgment against him and notified the Sultan thereof. He was returned to the Palace while the Sultan considered his case, occupying a kind of dungeon, with no floor and no furniture save a bed. No communication with him was permitted. The cable has informed us that sentence of death was passed upon the unfortunate priest; but the British ambassador interested himself in his behalf, and, under threats of quitting Constantinople, he induced the Sultan to recall the sentence. The case is rather one of the civil rights of an Ottoman subject under Ottoman law than one of religious liberty."