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Notes of the Week.

THE last number of the *Free Church Monthly* calls attention to the "Scottish Mothers' Union," which has been formed with the view of awakening among mothers a sense of their great responsibility in the training of their boys and girls, and of uniting them in prayer for that end. The Union is divided into six centres, the president of the Edinburgh section being the Hon. Mrs. Claud Hamilton.

THE Women's Missionary Association of the English Presbyterian Church, which last year had an income of \$17,315, continues to grow. Seven new branches have lately been formed in connection with congregations in the Presbyteries of Newcastle and Darlington. Recent subscriptions include the sum of \$1,750 from Mr. J. T. Morrison for the Association's work at Rabat, in Morocco.

THE Glasgow *Daily Mail* reports that at last monthly communion fifty-two new members were received into the fellowship of the Church in the Gorbals Free Church, Glasgow. This makes, we are told, a total of 1,000 who have been enrolled since Mr. Robertson's induction last year. Whole families, who formerly neglected ordinances, are now said to be constantly worshipping under Mr. Robertson's ministry.

DR. JOSEPH PARKER says that Lord Ashburnham's ignorance of any vows that can impair the loyalty of a Roman Catholic confirms his suspicion that popular ignorance is the very life and strength of Popery. Personally the Roman Pontiff might be the most excellent of living men, but officially he could only be regarded as the prince of usurpers, and the greatest hindrance to the largest and best progress of the world.

UNDER the impulse of the Forward Movement, the London Missionary Society's finances have arrived at a condition hitherto unprecedented during its whole history. Its income for the year has increased by \$175,000. It will be recollected that by the new arrangement ladies are now admitted to the directorate. No fewer than twenty-five of them have been elected, of whom one only, Mrs. James Henderson, of Dundee, represents Scotland.

MR. RAM CHUNDER BOSF, a Christian Hindu, who attracted a great deal of attention in a visit to America some years ago, and who was a convert of Dr. Duff, has recently passed away. For some years he was headmaster in the London Missionary Society College at Benares; then he was in the educational service of the Government in Oudh. While in Oudh he became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but the last year of his life was spent as a member of the Church of England. He was a fine speaker, using excellent English, and was a vigorous writer. Most of his writings, however, were strongly controversial.

MR. MOODY'S visit to Cardiff awakened intense interest in the Free Churches of the town. Vast congregations listened to the preacher on Sunday in the Roth Road Wesleyan Chapel, the Park Hall, and an open space in the centre of the town, called The Hayes. In the afternoon and evening of Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, services, attended by large crowds, were held in the large

Congregational Chapel, Wood Street, capable of seating 2,000. Mr. Moody finds no heartier welcome anywhere than in the Principality. The spiritual results of the visit are spoken of as most gratifying.

ACCORDING to the recent census of the religions of Australia, the Church of England has by far the most numerous following in the population; the Roman Catholics come second, the Presbyterians third, and the Wesleyan Methodists fourth. Of the Episcopalians there are 503,084, Roman Catholics, 286,917; Presbyterians, 109,383; Wesleyan Methodists, 87,489. There are other Methodists to the number of 22,589, with 24,113 Congregationalists and 13,118 Baptists. The greatest gain exhibited by any denomination is shown by the Church of England, which has increased from 342,350 to 503,084. Among the returns are 34 agnostics, infidels, sceptics, socialists and free-thinkers.

THE *Montreal Herald* says: The Principal of Queen's College, the Rev. Dr. Grant, struck the right note on the bi-lingual question at the evening session of the Educational Association on Thursday week. He said. The fact that Canada is bi-lingual is the greatest obstacle to its unification, but what is the glory of man found in so much as in overcoming obstacles, and if ever this obstacle is to be overcome Quebec must show us the way. It can be done if only the leaders of the people accept their environment and do their duty like men. Every child whose parents destine him for a university course should be taught from infancy to speak French and English with equal fluency. Yea, more; in every common school of this Province French and English should be taught.

DR. MATHESON, of St. Bernard's Parish Church, conducted the evening service at the opening of South Morning-side Free Church, Edinburgh, on a recent Sunday. At the close of his sermon—which was a brilliant and penetrating analysis of the character of Simon Peter—Dr. Matheson said that he had come there that night partly in the interests of evangelical union. He did not understand why, although they did not see eye to eye, they could not work hand with hand. Isaiah had told them that the union of the eye would come to an end, that it should be some time before "all flesh should see it together," but that meanwhile they might unite in making "the rough places plain." "I have preached," continued Dr. Matheson, "for Congregationalists and Baptists and United Presbyterians and Wesleyan Methodists and Free Churchmen, and these have preached for me. And I would preach for Episcopalians if they would let me, but the time of figs is not yet."

THE Chicago *Standard* says: The question of a \$5,000,000 appropriation for the World's Fair is now before the United States Senate. Upon the proposal that, in granting this, ten million half-dollars of "souvenir coin" be issued, a sharp debate occurred the other day. The proposal was warmly sustained by Senators Palmer, of Illinois; Allison, of Iowa; Stewart and Peffer, but opposed by Mr. Sherman, of Ohio. An amendment was offered by Senator Quay, of Pennsylvania, making the appropriation conditional upon a rule by the directors that the Fair be closed on Sunday. Mr. Quay, as his only argument for the amendment, which he also termed an "unanswerable" one, had the Clerk read from the Bible the commandment, "Remember the Sabbath Day, to keep it holy," etc. The senators are said to have listened to the reading "in reverent silence." Let us hope that they will consider the argument not only unanswerable, but sufficient.

THE New York *Independent* says. Dr. Deems who delivered the address of welcome at the Christian Endeavour Convention in behalf of the pastors of New York, has endured considerable bantering because he was asked recently to help an old man on with his overcoat. Being inquisitive by nature, the pastor of the Church of the Strangers asked the venerable friend his age. "I am fifty-eight";

"and I," said Dr. Deems, "seventy-one." Last year in the West, some one said that if Dr. Deems continued to grow young, as he had been doing for the last twenty years, the Lord would need to add a kindergarten for him to display his youthfulness, should another score of years elapse before he was called up higher. But the last story is the best. It is well known that it was Commodore Vanderbilt's wish that Dr. Deems should be buried on Staten Island, and he gave him a grave there for his personal use. The other day a man who had just heard him preach asked if he would lease that grave for a term of years.

THE University of Dublin began on July 5 to celebrate its centenary. Among the distinguished persons present were, from America, Professors Marsh, Gilbert and Hill, from the National Academy of Sciences; President I. A. Walker, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Professor Peck, of Columbia; Professors Corson and Thurston, of Cornell; Professors Thayer and Farlow, of Harvard; President Gilman, of the Johns Hopkins; President Patton, of Princeton, Professors Jones, Newbold and Billings, of the University of Pennsylvania, Professor Lounsbury and the Rev. S. J. H. Twitchell, of Yale, Professor Briggs, of Union Seminary, Professor Newcomb, of Washington, and Dr. I. H. Hale, of the Metropolitan Museum. From France there are present, Léon Say, Paul Leroy-Beaulieu and Professor Bonet Maury, from Sweden, Baron Nordenskjöld, from Hungary, Professor Vambéry. Among the great Englishmen are Lecky, Lord Roseberry, Max Muller, James Bryce, the Marquis of Londonderry and the Bishops of Oxford and Salisbury.

THE graduating exercises of "Warriner's College of Commerce" were held recently in Jackson Hall, near Bloor and Yonge Streets. The hall was very tastefully decorated with an abundance of flowers and college colours, and crowded with friends of the institution and the public. Every selection given was marked by excellence. The piano duet by Misses Gillespie and Rigney and the vocal solo by Miss Brodie were particularly good. A most interesting and exciting feature of the programme was the gold medal contest in original essays by the lady students, all of the essays submitted possessing rare merit. The judges decided in favour of Miss Kilpatrick, of New Orleans, U.S.A., remarking that her essay would have been given high rank on a more ambitious platform. Professor J. H. Farmer, of McMaster University, delivered a scholarly and instructive address on "Life Thoughts" to the members of the graduating class. The year just closed was remarkable for its success. One hundred and fifty students entered during the year, and twenty-seven were awarded diplomas. No vacation will occur until Christmas. The special summer session opened Monday, July 4.

THE Rev. Hugh Black, M.A., of Sherwood Free Church, Paisley, preached on a recent Sunday in connection with the ordination of Rev. J. L. Craig, M.A., to the pastorate of Free St. George's, Montrose. In the forenoon he took for his text Philippians i. 17: "I am set for the defence of the Gospel." He said he had no faith in quack remedies for the salvation of the world. A few moves on the chessboard of parliamentary reform would not do it. Neither would socialistic nor anarchistic theories avail. Christ alone is the hope of the world, and Christ is the Gospel. In the evening Mr. Black preached a beautiful and telling sermon on the old and the new, the weeping of the old and the buoyancy of the young, from Ezra iii. 12. Mr. Black has, says a correspondent of the *British Weekly*, great dramatic power, with a musical and sympathetic delivery. He has a great fund of humour, and would have rejoiced the heart of Dr. Parker himself when speaking at the induction social meeting. He warned the congregation not to judge of success by statistics, and cited the case of an old soldier who tallied his achievements or misfortunes thus. Battles, seven, wounds, six, children, eight. Total, twenty-one.