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Notes of the Week.

THE venerable Principal Brown, of Aberdeen, at the English Presbyterian Synod, congratulated them on the conclusion of their labours on the new Confession, and said he had great confidence that they would arrive at something more than they had done—a genuine attachment to the doctrines of faith on the one hand, and larger and more liberal interpretation of these doctrines.

THE Dods case came again before the Free Presbytery of Edinburgh lately. The question of further procedure, under the libel prosecuted by the Rev. M. Macaskill and others, formed the matter of consideration. By a majority of twenty-five votes to eleven the Presbytery agreed to receive the libel under reservation of all questions relating to it, and to refer the application, with the libel, to the General Assembly.

ONE of the most pleasing episodes, says a contemporary, at the meeting of the English Presbyterian Synod was the introduction of the successful candidate for the Hebrew chair, the Rev. John Skinner, by the defeated candidate, the Rev. W. A. Walton. Mr. Walton's speech was perfect, both in expression and feeling, nothing too much and nothing too little, and will serve to add to his already high claims on the confidence and respect of the Church.

THE Christian Life and Work Committee of the Established Church of Scotland, of which Professor Charteris, D.D., of Edinburgh, is Convener, has resolved to start a Deaconesses' Home in Glasgow. A house has been taken in the suburb of Dennistoun, and arrangements have been made with the governors of the Royal Infirmary to have the inmates trained in that hospital. The ladies are to be instructed not only in sick-nursing, but in the varied duties connected with district visiting and general Christian work. A Deaconesses' Home on these lines, and under the care of this committee, is already in existence in Edinburgh.

AT last week's meeting of the Toronto Ministerial Association a lengthy communication was read from the Single Tax Association presenting a number of arguments in favour of a tax on land values, and asking that the ministers endorse their views. Discussion on the question occupied nearly the whole of the meeting. The members were about equally divided as to whether the Church should aid in the settlement and the carrying out of the views, to some extent, of the society. A committee, composed of Rev. John Burton, Rev. Dr. Hunter and Rev. W. A. Hunter, was appointed to consider the matter and report at the next meeting.

THE Assembly opening sermon at Saratoga, preached by the retiring Moderator, Rev. W. C. Roberts, D.D., LL.D., from Luke xii. 48, was a full and clear exhibition of the privileges and consequent obligations of the Presbyterian Church. After a lucid statement of the principles contained in the text, Dr. Roberts advanced the position that amongst the privileges were a government more in keeping with the teachings of Scripture than that of any other branch of the Church; a clear-cut, strong and Scriptural creed; the Presbyterian Church has championed the cause of education, and is possessed of superior missionary appliances. The consequent obligations impose on the Church her fullest development in accordance with the principles she professes, and for this she will be held responsible.

THE new Moderator of the United Presbyterian Church in Scotland is the Rev. James Fleming, of Whithorn. Though according to the testimony of Dr. Andrew Thomson and Rev. Thomas Dobbie, his proposer and seconder, Mr. Fleming is in every way worthy of the honour conferred on him, and is well fitted to discharge the duties of the office, his election is in a sense a new departure. Hitherto the Moderators have usually been chosen because of the prominence of their charges or the activity they have displayed in church court proceedings. For some time the feeling has found expression that the ministers in smaller towns or country charges

should not be entirely overlooked when the highest honours at the disposal of the Synod are awarded. In deference to this feeling, Mr. Fleming, who has been forty-eight years in the ministry, has been unanimously chosen Moderator.

WE regret to see, says the *British Weekly*, the announcement of the death of Dr. Wylie, the well-known Protestant champion. He had reached the advanced age of eighty-two, and was still busy with literary work. Dr. Wylie was a native of Kirriemuir, and, although his anti-papal views may be called fanatical, he was one of the very few anti-papery lecturers who, through a long career, deservedly retained the esteem and confidence of the general Christian public. No one could bring the slightest imputation on Dr. Wylie's antecedents, or character, or life work, and he had far greater literary ability than he was usually credited with. Some of his essays were really eloquent. He was a man of wide reading, and on certain questions at least of a tolerant spirit. For example, he broke away from his friend, Dr. Begg, on the question of union between the Free and United Presbyterian Churches.

IN connection with the difficulties in the Theological College of the United Presbyterian Church, the following deliverance has been submitted for the consideration of the Synod: That the Synod, having heard the report of the College Committee, and the relevant portions of the report on supervision and tenure, and the overtures of Presbyteries with regard to the Hall, recognize the propriety of occasional review, and, if necessary, revision of its arrangements for theological training, and resolves, without in any way reflecting upon the able and learned men who now occupy the position of professors, to appoint a special committee to inquire and report, first, as to the range and distribution of instruction, with special reference to its adequacy as a means of preparation for the practical work of the ministry; second, as to the relation of the College Committee to the Synod, the Senatus, and the students; and, third, as to all matters affecting the work and discipline of the College. A committee composed of twelve ministers and twelve elders, none of them connected with either the College or Senate, was appointed to consider the whole subject and report to next Synod.

THE memorial drawn up by several prominent office-bearers and members of the Scottish United Presbyterian Church deprecating agitation of the Disestablishment question, to which reference was made recently, was thus disposed of by the Synod's Committee on Bills and Overtures: In presenting the report of the Committee, Dr. Blair stated that the Committee took up a memorial from members of the Church disapproving of the action of the Disestablishment and Disendowment Committee. It had been moved and seconded that the memorial be not transmitted, as it did not come through the recognized channels, and was contrary to the rules of the Church with regard to the transmission of documents. It had also been moved and seconded that, though the memorial has not been transmitted through the usual channel, it be transmitted to the Synod with an expression of the opinion of the Committee. On the vote being taken, it was found there was a majority not to transmit the memorial to the Synod, and the Committee decided accordingly.

THE annual meeting of the Toronto Humane Society was held last week, Mr. W. R. Brock presiding. Mr. J. J. Kelso, secretary, read the various reports, which showed that the objects for which the society was formed were meeting with success. The financial statement for the past year showed that the receipts amounted to \$2,506.78, while the expenditure was only \$933. This leaves a balance to the credit of the Society of \$1,573.78. The fines imposed for cruelty during the year amounted to \$800. The following officers for the year 1890-91 were elected: Mr. W. R. Brock, president; Mr. J. George Hodgins, LL.D., Mr. James H. Pearce, Mr. W. H. Howland and Rev. D. J. Macdonnell, vice-presidents; Mr. John I. Davidson, treasurer; Mr. J. J. Kelso, secretary; Rev. Canon Dumoulin, M.A., Rev. Joseph Wild, D.D., Miss E. A. Gwynne, Miss Dupont, Mr. Mervyn Mackenzie, Mrs. S. J. Brett,

Miss Leigh, Mrs. McMaster, Rev. A. H. Bahlwin, Mr. J. Kidston Macdonald, Mrs. C. B. Grasett, Mrs. S. G. Wood, Mr. T. McCausland, M.D., Mrs. J. C. Clapp, Miss M. C. Elliott, Miss Workman and Mr. A. G. Strathy, Advisory Committee; Messrs. Beverley Jones, F. M. Morson and C. W. R. Biggar, solicitors; Dr. Andrew Smith, veterinary surgeon; Inspector Archibald and Constable John Willis, prosecutors. Rev. Canon Dumoulin, in the course of a brief address, spoke in high terms of the good the Society had accomplished. Rev. D. J. Macdonnell was in thorough accord with the objects aimed at by the Society.

LAST week the twenty-sixth annual business meeting of the Toronto Young Men's Christian Association was held, at which there was a large attendance. The president, Mr. Robert Kilgour, was in the chair, and in his opening remarks referred to the growing popularity of the Association. The membership is constantly increasing, and the work is ever branching out in new channels. In conclusion he urged the young men to introduce new methods of working, no matter how original, and throw aside anything like form or conventionality. Secretary McCulloch read the annual report containing an exhaustive synopsis of the work during the past year. There has been an increase in membership fees of \$865, showing that young men are awaking to the advantages of the Association. In the physical department, under the care of Mr. H. C. Thompson, the gymnasium has never been better attended. Special classes for business men, ministers and students were in operation, and nearly two hundred examinations were made and detailed reports prepared of the condition of the men when they entered. Shorthand, drawing, elocution, political economy and penmanship classes were well attended, while 28,627 took advantage of the reading room. No less than seven Bible classes were held every week during the winter besides Hon. S. H. Blake's Sunday school teachers' class, which has had an average attendance of 200. Assistant Osborn undertook a special feature, that of looking after young men and dealing with them personally. Out of 200 whom he has spoken to, many were converted and have joined churches. The class for deaf mutes has been wonderfully successful and the mutes have sent in a donation of \$25 as an acknowledgment of their appreciation.

IN the report of the year's work of the Toronto Y. M. C. A. it is stated that an average attendance of ten has marked the work of the Chinese class, and an earnest band of devoted ladies have laboured faithfully for the spiritual welfare of the class. The Boarding House Committee has visited fire halls, police stations and livery stables, and has distributed 60,000 religious papers. Boarding houses were secured for 900 young men, and situations for 133. Over three thousand letters were written at the correspondence table, writing material being supplied by the Y. M. C. A. Over 9,000 visitors looked around the building during the year, and the total attendance at all meetings was 110,000. During the year 646 young men made application for membership, which totals now 1,427 in the central association. In the branches there are 314 members. The Northwestern Branch and the Rescue Brigade had also favourable reports. The financial statement was read by Dr. J. J. MacLaren. The report shows that \$4,324 had been received in membership fees, \$3,166 more came in as donations, not including \$187 for railway work alone. Incidentals such as rents, etc., bring the total receipts to \$13,583. The expenses amounted to \$7,391, and after paying interest, insurance, etc., there is still a balance on hand of \$139. The balance sheet shows that the assets in total amount to \$108,243. The liabilities, which consist chiefly of mortgage debts, are \$47,627, leaving capital of \$61,615. Mr. A. Weir, secretary of the West End Branch, reported that they expect to open their new building, Dovercourt Road and Queen Street, next September. Mr. Kilgour was unanimously re-elected president, and the following directors were appointed for three years: A. Kent, H. B. Gordon, T. Gibson, William Blackley, W. G. Matthews, F. B. Whittemore, J. C. Copp, J. Donagh. The auditors appointed were J. O. Anderson and A. Rose.