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### NOTES AND COMMENTS.

The National Zeitung of Berlin states that the whole course of Papal diplomacy is regarded as a "specimen of cunning duplicity.'

Every one wants the easiest place, and we justle one another around in the strife for it, till we make all the places hard. - Holston Meth.

The United States Supreme Court has decided that the Alabama law forbidding the marriage of white to black persons, is constitutional, as it punishes both alike.

"We have some excellent preachers that are not pastors," is what an intelligent layman whispers in our ear through the mail. This is simply a hint to the "excellent preachers." Raleigh Adv.

Spurgeon pleasantly rebuked, not long since, ministers whose "words are buttered and toasted before being served, like the venerable divine who said Jonah was three days and three nights in the -society of a fish !"

Australian papers state that Dr. Moran, Roman Catholic Bishop of Dunedin, New Zealand, has announced himself as a candidate for a seat in Parliament, his object being to promote the movement in favor of denominational education

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A converted Hindoo is reported to have said at a public meeting in India: The very lowest caste in India is the cobbler caste, and it is remarkable that a cobbler from England. William Carey, should bring them the first tidings of the Gospel."

Dr. Crosby says that he would like to have the Presbyterian Church in America adopt such an addition to its Confession of Faith as was adopted by the United Presbyterians of Scotland, and which shall "bring out more cleare ly the side of man's free will.'

The politician says you must not bring the temperance question into politics in Virginia; it will ruin our party prospects. Ah! there's the trouble: social order, the well-being of society, the salvation from ruin of the young, must all give way to rum and ruin for the sake of party. - Richmond Adv.

An equity suit has been brought in Philadelphia to compel an owner to cut down a tree whose roots were undermining an adjoining dwelling. Would not an equity suit be just as righteous against a man whose sale of liquor was " undermining " the moral character of his neighbor, the happiness of his wife, and the future prospects of his children !- Presbyterian.

"Two words ruled the life of Mr. Dodge-conscience and Christ." When a great corporation proposed to drive traffic on the Lord's day, he fearlessly said to his fellow directors: "If you break God's law for a dividend, I go out." He gave more than money, he gave himself to Jesus, for Jesus, to his fellow-men. - Rev. J. W. Horne. in Zion's Herald.

Again the eloquent lecturer told us that "We are living in a period of it has always general unsettling." seemed to me that the unsettled are the most impressed with the " unsettling." They multiply to such, as rapidly as the man who enlisted and deserted often enough to make a brigade. Because the tempest is in their tea-pot they think it universal. -In Central Adv.

The Church Times still keeps up the lamentation over the neglect of reading on the part of the clergy. If a parish priest or a curate whose work lies within a small circle, and whose tenminutes sermons can be either written cannot find time for reading, what are Methodist circuit ministers and superintendents of large circuits to do ? Resolution, sir, resolution !- London

About this season of the year many people are asking what is it that determines the date of Easter. The answer is that it is the moon of March. The old rule is that Easter shall fall on the Sunday after the full moon which comes after the vernal equinox. That brings Easter this year on the 25th of March. In 1818 it fell on the 22nd of March, the earliest date possible. It will not fall on that date again in this or the following century.

The right sort of a pastor blossoms out into increased pulpit power and pastoral efficiency under the effect of kind treatment from his people just as surely as an apple-tree blooms in snow and pink when the spring sun shines of almost miraculous facilities, from and the south winds blow. If the taking its King's proclamation to every pastor is not of the right sort, good creature in very nearly, if not quite treatment may reform him ; or if that the same time ?

be impossible, it is well to "keep your hand in" for the next man who will be worthy. - Nashville Adv.

The Rev. Dr. J. M. Scudder, of Vellore, India, wishes that every missionary in that land were a medical man, and urges the home societies not to send out any workers who have not at least, a slight knowledge of medicine. He visited two towns for several years in succession without gaining the least hold, apparently, upon the people, when a slight surgical service on his part opened both their hearts and homes. It also opened his eyes to the value of medical knowledge.

Notice was last week given in the English House of Commons by Mr. Kennard that he intended to question the Government as to what steps had been taken to recover the surplus of the "Alabama" Award. This implies that there is a surplus, and this implication is correct, after all legitimate claimants are paid. The proper thing for the United States to do is to return this surplus to Great Britain, and not give it away to those who have no claim to it.—N. Y. Independent.

The Geneva correspondent of the Daily News says : The Synod of the Reformed Church of Basle has resolved by a majority of two to one to cancel the regulation making baptism a condition precedent to admission to the Holy Communion. This measure, tantamount to a declaration that the rite of baptism is a work of supererogation, has been long under debate, and marks a distinct advance in the direction of free thought, towards which all the Swiss Churches are tending.

Lord Stanhope's bill to prohibit the payment of wages to workmen in pubic-houses provides that "no wages shall be paid to any workman at or within any public-house, beershop, or place for the sale of any spirits, wine, cider, or other spirituous or fermentment, or any office, garden, or place belonging or contiguous thereto, or occupied therewith." The Bill passed its second reading in the English Parliament by a majority of nearly three

"Major" Tucker, who led the eighteen members of the "Salvation Army" arrested for walking through the streets of Bombay, has been sentenced to a month's imprisonment. without the option of a fine : to four others the option was given of a fine or a week's imprisonment; and the rest were discharged. And this in British India! Mr. Under Secretary Cross has stated that, in the matter of the Salvation Army in Indore, a native state related to the Indian Gov ernment, anything arising will be 'a nestion for the local police."-Meth.

Strange how the brethren fail in heir strength sometimes. The good brother in the last "fair" or " Church social" carried at one time some fifty pounds of crackers, a lot of sugar, a bag of oranges, besides other heavy responsibilities; and now the pastor by no dint of persuasion can get him to move two pews in front in the revival service. He has so failed in strength that his new spring overcoat keeps him in his seat, or mayhap his wife's shawl has fallen across his lap. He must not be underrated, for his strong point is his social standing. - Western

Mr. J. H. Shorthouse writes in Macmillan of Washington Irving as one who, within the lines which he set himself and which he never overpassed, was perhaps the most perfect humorist that ever wrote. charm of humor," says Mr. Shorthouse, " consists not merely in laughor bought according to convenience, ter, or even in joy, but in the stirring of those sympathies and associations which exist invariably in the race, for we inherit a world-life and a religion, the earth's springs of whose realities lie, perchance, too deep for laughter, but not, Heaven be thanked, too deep

Dr. W. P. Mackay, preaching one day to some British soldiers, put the question: "If Queen Victoria were to issue a proclamation, and placing it in the hands of her army and navy, should say, 'Go into all the world and proclaim it to every creature,' how long do you think it would take to do One of the men, accustomed to obeving orders without questioning or delay and at the peril of their lives. replied (he was a grave and intelligent officer), "I think we could manage it in about eighteen months. And who can doubt it? Or what shall hinder the Church, in this day

people had better be careful of words and deeds when little eyes are upon them and little ears are listening. A friend, who is pious enough to ask a blessing at his table, the other day was either hungry or in a hurry, and went through the ceremony in very fast time. Before he could handle the carving knife, his youngest boy put on the brakes with the question Pa, do you want to scare God? That is the way the blessing sounded to him, and with all the unspoiled honesty of seven years of age he spoke it out. The little fellows may not always tell just how things look to them, but we may rest assured they are looking all the same. - Texas Adv.

The custom of decorating our churches at Easter with the choicest flowers of the newly risen year is a beautiful and expressive one. So long as the flowers are the free-will offerings of members, it is all right. But when they are bought out of the funds of the church or Sunday-school, funds raised for quite different pur-poses, then it is all wrong. The display of many dollars' worth of flowers in church may become nothing but an expression of culpable extravagance, misappropriation of funds, or even of actual dishonesty. A church that has not paid its debts has no right to buy flowers for decorative purposes. A church that neglects its poor has no right. A church that is too poor or too selfish to give its full share to the collections for our missionary and other general causes has no right. First pay your just debts to God and man before indulging in luxuries and ornamentation, lest even these become a shame and a reproach to you,-Moravian.

### INPLUENCE.

Two men own farms that join. There is no line fence between them. Some where within a strip a rod wide is the at liberty to sow just what they choose on either side of the line; one wishes to sow some choice wheat on the principles of the Moslem system his side, the other cught not to sow he met with an experience that showbuckwheat on his side; it will reach over on to the other's sowing and spoil all that wheat next to the line.

Our lives in this world run side by side. They cross and re-cross each other; they are inextricably mingled -" No man liveth unto himself." We are to-day in a great measure what the influence of others in the past has made us and we are acting to-day under impulses received (unconsciously perhaps) from those who have been long dead. So shall it be with us: though dead we shall influence others. and when there shall be no one on earth that knew we ever lived some shall be acting under the impulses which were received from us. It is said that when the mosque of St. Sophia at Constantinople was built the mortar was charged with musk and that to-day this perfume fills the air though hundreds of years have passed away. So remaineth our influence. Theodore Parker, dying in Italy, said "There are two Theodore Parkers." One is dying in Florence, the other is planted in America." He died in Florence but how he has grown in Y. Independent. America! More than the giant intellect of Joseph Cook is necessary to combat the influence of that man's teaching! It will never die. Our influence will not be so great as his and

Visiting the "Sandstone quarries" are all given to the world and self, all ramble all over the universe; you'll man persisted in asserting that Fath-members that we are dust.

righteously or wickedly, now are we can safely leave some petitions to be be really Catholic priests. For the leading some up to the entrance of offered when alone in your closet. facts stated above I can vouch. As eternal blessedness or down to the Don't pray in public if you are prayer. to the rest, the papers which these gates of woe. Husbands are keeping less in secret; such prayer prevails gentlemen carry with them are so well wives out of the kingdom of Jesus neither with God or man. Pray in and west versa. Parents are standing the Holy Ghost .- Congregationalist. in the way of children. And brothers and sisters are hindering each other. Friend is holding back friend.

Short indeed is the path from now to the edge of time from whence we leap into Eternity. All are pressing forward to this verge of time and every one is influencing others into the way he himself is going, and these in turn have laid hold of others ; every individual is followed by a longer or shorter procession of individuals and where he leads they will follow. Let us lead them heavenward.

A HELPER. A comewhat remarkable man has recently been removed by death from the exvice of the Western Turkey Mission of the American Board. Born in the tent of a Kurdish nomad, of the of Abu Bekr, the companion lineage of Abu Bekr, the companion of Mahammed, he was as a prince amour his people. He was early edu-cated in the science of robbery, in athletics, and in the use of arma.

Breaking away from this kinu of lift, he pursued, in the face of the greatest difficulties and through the greatest Moslem theology. Just as he was beginning to feel that he had mastered

ed him that his life had been sacrificed in studies of a dead unfruitful wisdom. A fire worshipper, who had never seen a missionary, showed him a Christian Bible, and convinced this Moslem by argument and comparison of texts. that, if he would have truth, he must look for it in that book. In time the result of that conversation in the interior of Persia brought this man to the feet of those who were glad to ing. -N. W. Adv. instruct him, and, at the same time, to utilize his talents for Christian objects. Thoroughly versed in the Oriental languages and the Moslem philosophy, endowed with a fine literary taste, and truly in sympathy with the objects of the missionary enterprise. this man has been during eight years | charge is made against two clergymen a most valuable assistant in all literary travelling on the Continent. It is in work for the Turkish-spesking races. fact that they have been in the habit He was never baptized; yet his simple of palming themselves off as Catholic faith in the Saviour testified to on his priests, and in that character asking death-bed, gives cause for hope that to be allowed to celebrate mass. He he has truly found rest at last. Among is corroborated by the prior of the both Moslems and Christians this man Benedictine Monastery at Einsiedeln. has lett a cherished memory as of a who makes the following statement: simple-hearted, wise, pure man. -N. " During the summer of 1882 there

# HINTS ON PRAYER.

Allow us to offer a few hints to those who lead the worshippers of God in yet we exert an influence and it will public or social prayer. Don't shout; the hearer of prayer is not deaf. Don't mumble; you do not "lead" those Portland, Conn., one day several who cannot hear what you say. Don't years ago, I was much interested in whine; it disgusts sensible people. what I saw. The surface soil and clay Don't preach; if you are a minister had been removed from a portion of you have a time set apart expressly the underlying rock, and on this ex- for that ; if you are not, no one will posed flat surface of rock were marks, blame you for omitting that part of the some deep, some mere scratches, as if service. Don't inform the Lord about a mighty hand had grasped a great things; he knows more about pretty iron comb with some of the teeth larger | much everything than you do. Don't and longer than others and had drag- pray at people; scolding isn't prayriver. My mind went back to a per- when it is foisted into a prayer, and abbot, in which it was said that Fath. tific than the action of the child who iod of which no man knoweth—yet the scolded think you are telling the er Joseph had allowed the bearer's confidently appeals to a father in heahere were evidences of a "Glacial Lord that about them which you dare friends to say mass, and it was asked ven - Principal Dawson. period," when a great river of ice not say to their faces. Don't pray to that the same favor might be shown holding in its frosty grasp rocks large your audience; it is a waste of time to the bearer himself. The right and small moved down that valley. and a mockery; they can give noth. reverend abbot was away from home. Bible is this "Underneath are the When we are gone our influence re- ing back. Don't talk with the Lord when this gentleman came, and so the everlasting arms." What a vivid maining, good or bad, will be evidence as you would chat with your neight letter was delivered to me. My and idea it gives of the divine support that we once lived. If our energies bor; true prayer is reverent. Don't swer to it was of course plain, but the God knows our feebleness. He is

Children see things, and grown up withheld from Christ, our influence not get back in time. Don't try to er Jeseph had allowed his friends to must be evil; is it pleasant to think get everything in one prayer; you will say mass. Whether this be true or that after we have dropped out of this most likely have another chance. not I do not know, nor can I now aslife we shall be drawing others down- Don't pray so long as to tire out all certain, since he died in September. ward whither we have gone? and that the hearers; that isn't the meaning of 1881. But of this I am confident, that drawing shall continue always? | the command to "pray always" and that if he brought them into the sa-But now are we influencing others "to pray without ceasing;" and you cristy it was because he took them to

### YOUR CHILDREN. Pending this harvest time, encour-

age the children to enter the church if they express the least even the least-disposition to do so. It is very ly very indolently dangerous, to say, equally magnanimous toward your them." boy or girl. He does not "wait," but will persistently plant his seeds and wield the influences which pros per tremendously while you are waiting for those years of discretion to come to your child. The enemy of souls prefers to strive during years of ndiscretion. Christian parents should never permit such risks. Let the little pilgrim join the church on probation, and fight out the battle on that safe ground. We have no right to leave the little darlings on any supposed neutral grounds. There is no neutral ground! The children belong to Christ, and while life lasts, the church is the fold. We believe that the question, "What proportion of tens of thousands of Christian parents transgress in their neglect of this reply was, "What proportion ought home on a wintry night and crying at your door to be let in out of the storm. has not to us half the pathos there is in the picture of a little one making timid queries about the church, and religion, and Jesus, and being roughly, or even tenderly, told to "wait awhile." Swing wide open, beautiful. divine gates, and let the children enter. Those rough disciples whom Jesus rebuked were more nearly right than you, dear parent, when you check even the prattle of the youngster upon whose tender heart the Spirit is mov-

## DISHONESTY.

The London News recently publish-

ed a letter from the Rev. Arthur W.

Hutton, a Priest of the Oratory at

Birmingham, in which a very grave came here two Anglican clergymen habited in cassocks. They said they progress is unchristian Christianityoccasion Father Joseph had allowed -Joseph Parker, them to say mass at the altar of St. Henry. Again, about the end of October last, or perhaps in November. there came another gentleman of dignified appearance, with a long white not answer prayer is that One who

calculated to mislead that one might easily suppose them to be what they profess. As a rule in such cases one looks only at the name, the seal and the signature, and in truth I must confess that had not Father Gabriel called my attention to the case which occurred in the summer, 1 certainly fear that I should have been deceived easy, apparently discreet, and certain- by the gentleman who came in the autumn. I have not kept the letter "wait awhile." Unfortunately and he brought, and the names I have foroften fatally! Satan, meantime, is not gotten, if indeed I ever really knew

### HOW THRY TURN OUT.

In Dr. Natlack's sermon about the education of theological students, and ' how they turn out," he answers objections in the following incident given in the sermon :-

Sometime since a leading banker of New York met me and said : " I am growing aceptical about the work of your society. So much is said of the unemployed and unsuccessful men in the ministry. I wish you would call at my office and talk over the matter." I made the call, and was greeted with your young men turn out well?" My know." " O! yes you do ; you know better than I. You have been a banker in Wall street for half a century. What proportion of bankers have been necessful within that time ?" Very, very few." "You have known nearly all the leading business men in New York : what proportion of them have been successful ?" "Not three per cent." "You have several thousand lawyers in New York; to how many could you with perfect confidence consign an important case !" "Not fifty." "You have several thousand doctors; to how many could you apply with the same confidence in case of dangerous illness?" " Very few, indeed."

"In the light of these facts of our experience, what proportion of my men ought to turn out well ?" If you get one third I will be perfectly satisfied." "I will say, as an honest man. If I did not get two thirds I would give up the work."

My friend opened his check-book and drew me a check for a thousand dollars, saying, "I think you have the advantage of the argument."

The great hindrance to Christian were Catholic priests, and wished to Christian doctrine without a Christian say mass. Father Gabriel, our libra- practice. The chief priests, scribes rian, who had shown them over the and elders were religious after an irremonastery, then asked to see their ligious kind. They mumbled the right papers. Learning thus that they words, but they did not live the right were Anglicans, he told them that life or develop the right spirit. It was such a thing could not be permitted. religion gone sour—the wine of piety Thereupon they said that on a former turned into the vinegar of resentment.

Are we to suppose, then, that the only Being in the universe who canbeard, and also wearing a cassock. He slone has all power at His command ! brought with him not only his Angli- The weak theology which professes to can letters of orders, but also a note believe that prayer has merely a subof introduction to the right reverend jective benefit is infinitely less scien-