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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

A LEADING Turkish newspaper in Constantinople is publishing an elaborate attack on Christianity. It assigns as a reason for the publication the fact that "the missionaries are gaining an influence among the people which is dangerous, and which makes silence on the part of Moslems a confession of impotence."

AMONG the martyr Churches of Europe, none was more cruelly treated or more unsparingly exterminated by the Church of Rome than were the Reformed Churches of Bohemia and Moravia. For many years they seemed to be exhausted, but within a few years have revived, and now the Protestant population of these two countries amounts to about 150,000.

SPAIN appears to be quiet again, after an ugly spasm of insurrection. Reports are abroad that atrocious cruelties were exercised in some cases in suppressing the insurgents. It is now again announced that King Alfonso will visit Germany and interview the Emperor—a proceeding by no means grateful to France. At last advices he was at Madrid.

THE cholera epidemic in Egypt is losing its force, and the total number of deaths is daily decreasing, though the scourge is by no means under control in Upper Egypt. Of the 17,000 deaths on a recent Saturday 129 took place in Upper Egypt. The disease has almost disappeared in Cairo, or at least the element of fatality. It is reported that cholera has broken out in Sumatra.

THE statistics of liquor drinking in Illinois are frightful. The annual cost of the liquor consumed in that State is put at \$60,000,000, of which \$32,082,750 is expended in Chicago, which is more than \$50 per capita for every man, woman and child in the city. The proportion of drinking saloons in Chicago is one to every 150 of population, and in the State of Illinois there is one retail liquor dealer to every 170 inhabitants.

THE "Christian World," London, is publishing letters from a gentleman who is visiting the theological seminaries of Germany. He reports that the lectures of the professors accepting the destructive criticism attract few students. Wellhausen lectures to only seven or eight students. At Jena, where heresy of the most unblushing type prevails, he found barely fifty students in Haackel's lecture room, twenty-three in Lipsius', and only seven in Hilgenfeld's.

THE number of students at the German Universities has increased more during the current summer semester than for many years past. During the summer term of 1882 there were 23,834 students in all; during the present term 25,084 an increase of over five per cent. The largest increase was in the medical department, following which was the philosophical. The students of Evangelical Theology rose from 3,097 to 3,558, of Catholic Theology from 758 to 811.

THE influence of the French attack upon the native Christians of Madagascar must be bad, although the reports of the care with which the French in Antananarivo were sent down to the fleet are most encouraging. The August "Chronicle" of the London Missionary Society says that at Tamatave the attendance at the schools and at public worship had much decreased, and the work almost ceased before M. Shaw's arrest, while some upon whom Christianity had a slight hold had relapsed into heathen practices.

A LONDON, England, correspondent learns that one of the most eccentric of the American millionaires of the day intends to take to England a dozen intelligent Huron-Iroquois Indians, who have shown their ability by their proficiency at native schools, and have them educated at Eton and Oxford at his expense, with the view to their entering on a special mission, partly religious and partly educa-

tional, among the red tribes of Canada and the United States.

"THE Rev. Mr. Thornton, of Glasgow," says the "Belfast Witness," "has accepted the call presented to him by the Camden Road Presbyterian Church, London, and the translation has been granted by the Free Church Presbytery of Glasgow. Mr. Thornton is considered as a very important addition to the strength of Presbyterianism in London." Mr. Thornton's many friends in this country will wish him a large measure of success and comfort in his new field of labour.

A CORRESPONDENT of the "Interior," writes from Canton, China, that the decline of idolatrous worship is so evident as to be observed by non-Christians as well as by Christians. The decrease of worshippers at the prominent temples is marked. These temples are leased to companies who receive the proceeds of worship, paying sometimes six or seven thousand dollars yearly rent. Now the leases go a begging, so great has been the decline of income. The widespread preaching of the Gospel is affirmed to be the cause of this change.

IN criminal matters Canada stands well as compared with Australia. In Canada the proportion of offences against the person in 1881 was 1.53 in the thousand, in Victoria it was 5.28; in New South Wales, 13.22; in Tasmania, 5.07, in New Zealand, 4.20. In Canada offences against property were 1.20 per thousand of the population; in Victoria they were 5.05, in New South Wales, 9.52; in Tasmania, 7.60; New Zealand, 5.13. Other offences in Canada, 6.95 per thousand of the population; in Victoria, 26.97; New South Wales, 26.03; Tasmania, 46.32; New Zealand, 21.86.

A MOST singular fish has been dredged at great depth in the Mediterranean Sea. It is called *Euphranta peluonoides*, from its enormous mouth. The head is short, occupying about an inch and a quarter out of the more than nineteen inches of the length of the fish, yet the mouth is capable of enormous dilatation from the structure of the jaws. The suspensorium of the jaws is exceedingly long, and the mandible, of two pieces, is about four inches in length. Thus the articular angle lies far back, along the side of body. The upper jaw consists of a long and slender stylet, probably the intermaxillary.

ONE of the astronomers at the Greenwich (Eng.) Observatory claims to have measured the heat from those well known stars—Arcturus, the leading brilliant of the Herdsman, and Vega, the chief star of the Lyre. From a careful measurement of their light, the equal splendour of these stars was long since ascertained; but Arcturus shines with a ruddy, yellow light, while Vega exhibits a colour which has been compared to the gleam of highly polished steel. The estimates of their heat correspond with the aspect of these orbs, Arcturus emitting about twice as much as Vega. Minute, however, is the heat received from either; indeed, these measurements show that the heat received from Arcturus is, sensibly, the same as that from the face of a three-inch iron cube full of boiling water at a distance of 383 yards.

THE phases of the Irish agitation during the past week have included the shooting of several constables, an attack on James Carey's brother, threats, the discovery of a conspiracy, etc., etc. The conspiracy was disclosed during the examination of Dr. Connolly and Patrick Connolly, who were arrested on the evidence of an informer, named Michael Dineen. He testified that the Connollys had compelled him to swear that he would shoot John Carroll, a rent-warmer of the Earl of Limerick, and had promised him that the head-centre would pay him £50 for so doing. He and the prisoners had lain in waiting several times for Carroll, but his (the witness's) courage failed him, and he did not shoot him. The witness testified that the Connollys had also proposed the poisoning of Carroll and his sister. The prisoners were remanded.

REV. DR. NELLES, of Victoria University, has "read with great satisfaction" the pamphlet by Mr. Phipps "On the Necessity of Preserving and Replenishing Forests," written at the instance of the Ontario Government, and he has nothing but praise for the manner in which the document is compiled. In a letter referring to the subject, Dr. Nelles says: "On the whole the Government of Ontario is much to be commended for procuring and publishing the information contained in this document, and both the Government and the general public are to be congratulated on having found so competent a man to write and compile what is here published. The accomplished author I have not the pleasure of knowing, but it is seldom one finds in our 'blue books' (as they are called) so much practical experience and scientific knowledge combined with literary taste and excellence of style."

THE venerable Principal McCosh still retains his position as head of Princeton College. The report of the Board of Trustees upon the question of his retirement has just been published. It states that "the Board being exceedingly desirous of retaining Dr. McCosh at the head of this institution, have unanimously declined to accept his resignation, and with equal unanimity adopted an arrangement acceptable to all, which renders it unnecessary. The duties heretofore devolving upon the President have for the present been divided with a Dean of the Faculty. The President will preside on all public occasions, and be the official head of the college before the public. He will also be charged as heretofore with the general oversight of the various departments of instruction." Dr. McCosh having acquiesced in the report, the matter has ended in his retaining the presidency which he has adorned for so many years.

OUR maritime contemporary, the Halifax "Witness," remarks: "It is 'good news' that the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland will henceforth lend a helping hand in Trinidad. In the New Hebrides we have the co-operation of the Free Church and of a group of vigorous Australasian Churches—bodies in full sympathy with each other. The work which would be too heavy for one Church can be very hopefully undertaken by several Churches. The coolies in the West Indies are becoming every year more numerous. Our Church is not strong enough single-handed to do all that urgently needs to be done; but the co-operation of our Scottish brethren will afford the help that is required. Our Scottish sister has already a deep interest in the West Indies. Her Jamaica mission and her contingent in Trinidad show how much the West Indies already owe her."

WEEKLY HEALTH BULLETIN.—The weather of the week has not had anything markedly different from the normal. Hence, we do not find many changes from the previous week's diseases worthy of note. Exception, however, has to be made in the case of Diarrhoea and Cholera Infantum, which have very considerably increased. It will be remembered that the temperature, though not differing greatly from the average, is considerably higher than that of several preceding weeks. Diseases of the respiratory organs do not hold a prominent position in the week's report. The same may be said of both Rheumatism and Neuralgia. Amongst Fevers, Intermittent, so prominent for some time past, retains its previous position. Enteric (Typhoid), which last week showed a considerable advance, has again slightly increased. Amongst Zymotic diseases of a contagious nature, Whooping Cough is the only one which shows any prevalence, its percentage being 17 per cent. Amongst diseases of which diarrhoea is the prominent sign, Diarrhoea has again shown a considerable increase over its previously high prevalence. Its percentage is 16.6 of the total number of diseases recorded. Cholera Infantum likewise shows an advance amounting to 6.3 per cent. The influence of heat and moisture in aiding the decomposition of organic matter, seems, with such a record, to again imperatively demand notice.