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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THERE are in France 250,000 men of all ages required for the regular service of the Catholic Church who will be liable, if Gambetta's proposition goes into effect, to proscription for military duty.

WE direct the attention of our readers to the advertisement of the Canada Business College, Hamilton, Ont., which will be found in this issue. The proprietors, Messrs. Tennant & McLachlan, have been successfully engaged for many years in the work of imparting to young men and boys a practical business education.

IT is reported from Calcutta that British troops were soon to attack Ali Musjid, a strong fort in the Kyber Pass. Infantry and artillery are said to have entered the latter highway. It is rumoured that the Russians have occupied Yarkand, the capital of Chinese Turkestan. The Ameer is taking precautionary measures. He expects to find allies among the Indian princes.

AN English paper says: "It is confidently affirmed that a new movement of deep significance is about to be made in the Free Church of Scotland hostile to the views of Professor Smith and Dr. Dods, and those who are supposed to sympathize too strongly with them. The lay element is to take the lead, it is said, and the movement will probably take the form of a protest and petition to be signed throughout the Church and presented to the next General Assembly."

THE report read at the recent anniversary meeting of the American Board of Missions states that ten missionaries died during the year, eighteen retired from the service, eighteen visited the United States for rest and recuperation and health, twenty-one returned to their different fields of labor, and thirty others will leave in a few weeks, leaving fewer foreign missionaries at home in connection with the board than for many previous years; nineteen new missionaries have gone out during the year, including five representatives of the Woman's Board.

DR. HOWARD CROSBY writes to the New York "Tribune" that Governor Robinson has pardoned a liquor dealer lately convicted through the efforts of the Society for the Prevention of Crime. He pertinently asks: "What can this society do for the cause of order when the Chief Magistrate of the State stands ready to thwart all its efforts?" and declares "the knowledge that the Governor will pardon emboldens every Excise law-breaker, and would paralyze the

efforts of those anxious to enforce law if they had not an abiding faith in their fellow-citizens for the ultimate issue."

AT the General Conference of Seventh-Day Adventists just held at Battle Creek, Mich., the secretary reported that more than thirteen million pages of tracts and reading matter had been distributed during the year in this country and nearly 80,000 in Europe, besides 162,198 newspapers. Twenty-five thousand missionary visits had been made and 21,326 letters written. This work had all been done by unpaid missionary workers. The Publishing Association now has a net capital of nearly \$100,000, the net gain for the year being \$19,536. During the year \$19,000 was raised for tract work.

MONSEIGNOR DUPANLOUP, Bishop of Orleans, is dead. He was born in France, in 1802, and became Bishop of Orleans in 1849, after holding various important positions. He was active as an educator, took a prominent part in the politics of the country, and was a strong supporter of the temporal power of the Pope. He opposed papal infallibility in the Vatican Council; but was among the first to accept the dogma when it was promulgated. He was a member of the National Assembly, the leader of the clerical party, and was in favor of a constitutional monarchy. Among his published works was a "Life of Christ."

THE Sultan has received information that the Russians have recommenced marching on Adrianople. All the foreign military attaches have left Constantinople to verify this intelligence. The Turks occupied Babaeski when it was evacuated by the Russians. General Todleben now summons the Turkish commander to withdraw from the place, threatening to take it forcibly. Safvet Pacha has consequently ordered its evacuation and the Russians will reoccupy it. The Turks have mounted guns on the Constantinople lines. Austria proposes to occupy further posts in the Turkish provinces, in spite of the Sultan's protest.

A CABLE despatch from Glasgow says the report of the condition of the City of Glasgow Bank confirms the worst charges against the directors, of neglect of duty and culpable mismanagement, if not malfeasance, for the last five years. The newspapers hope the directors will be called to account. This failure is followed by a succession of financial bankruptcies and general uncertainty, amounting almost to a panic throughout the kingdom. The most serious of the failures thus far reported is that of Balfour & Co., one of the largest India importing houses of Manchester. Their liabilities are nearly \$10,000,000. Added to the apprehensions of a war in India and a possible re-opening of the Eastern question in Europe, this financial uncertainty and peril has had a most disturbing effect upon business.

THE Presbyterian Synod of China, at its recent meeting, considered the question, Is it right or wrong for the women of China to compress their feet in order to render them permanently small? A native pastor moved, "Whereas, foot-binding is contrary to the spirit of the Gospel, we exhort the churches within the bounds of the Synod to use their influence to do away with the evil practice." Then we are told that Mr. Zia, one of the oldest native pastors, in seconding the

motion, remarked that the practice was "sinful, because small feet are so much admired by the opposite sex, and it is placing a temptation in their way." After several hours' debate the resolution was carried. Finally, a native elder, in a telling speech, said that binding the feet was not the only thing of the kind to which exception might be taken. Cutting the hair, shaving the head, piercing the ears, and compressing the waist, might, he pointed out, be put in the same category.

SPEAKING of the Pope's action on the subject of the massacre of Roman Catholics in the Balkans, the "Pall Mall Gazette" calls attention to the fact that Catholics are "the least protected in a temporal sense of any denomination. Protestants in trouble can be sure that one, if not three, first-rate Powers will be ready to take up their quarrel—England, America and Germany having each and all stood forth in our own time as champions of Protestantism. Members of the Greek Church again, as Europe has too much reason to know, never lack the most zealous of defenders. At all events they know that their wrongs, real or imaginary, will always be welcome pretexts for giving employment to Russian generals. There is no Israelitish empire, but the Jew may be said to be under the protection of every Stock Exchange in Europe—no bad protection either. Moslems may, with more or less confidence, look up to the Empress of India; while Buddhists, again, might in perilous times derive some confidence from the fact that Britain is, in one sense, the greatest of Buddhist Powers. But Catholics, as such, have at the present moment no prince or commonwealth particularly eager in their cause. The Eldest Son of the Church is no more; the Catholic King is not powerful; the most faithful King less so; the Austrian Cæsar exercises but a feeble sway over a house divided against itself; and since the last Belgian elections there remains not a single Ministry in Europe which even its enemies could style 'Clerical.'"

ROBERTSON SMITH'S case continues to occupy the attention of the Aberdeen Free Presbytery, all the particulars of the second charge having now been disposed of favorably to Prof. Smith. At the meeting held Sept. 24th, the fifth particular, relating to the Professor's views upon the Canticles, was discussed and finally declared irrelevant by a vote of twenty-five to twenty-two. Two days later another meeting was held, when the three remaining particulars, "sexto," "septimo" and "octavo" were taken up. These charge the Professor with entertaining opinions (6) "which contradict or ignore the testimony given in the Old Testament, and also that of our Lord and His apostles in the New Testament, to the authorship of Old Testament Scriptures. (7) Which disparage prophecy by representing its predictions as arising merely from so-called spiritual insight based on the certainty of God's righteous purpose, and which exclude prediction in the sense of direct supernatural revelation of events long posterior to the prophet's own age. (8) That belief in the superhuman reality of the angelic beings of the Bible is matter of assumption rather than of direct teaching; and that angels are endowed with special goodness and insight analogous to human qualities appears as a popular assumption, not as a doctrine of revelation." They were declared irrelevant after protracted discussion by a vote of twenty-five to seventeen on the sixth particular; twenty-nine to nine on the seventh, and twenty-eight to ten on the eighth.