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LOOK AT THE LABEL.

Every subscriber of *THE PRESBYTERIAN* is requested to look at the little label by means of which his name is affixed to every number of the paper, where each one can see the precise date to which payment has been made; and all who discover that the time for which they have paid has expired, are asked to send the amount due as soon as practicable. To those who are two or more years in arrears we are compelled to say that prompt payment must be made. The names of all parties owing more than TWO YEARS will be struck off on the FIRST OF AUGUST, and the accounts placed in other hands for collection.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

PROFESSOR ROBERTSON SMITH has consented to deliver a series of lectures in Inverness, on "The Spirit of Hebrew Poetry."

THREE million copies of the Revised New Testament of the Oxford and Cambridge editions are reported as sold within ten days of publication.

PROFESSOR ROBERTSON SMITH has, it is stated, intimated his intention not to enter a pulpit till the General Assembly's decision in his case has been reversed. Two of his principal lay supporters have left the Church, or are about to do so.

THE idea of uniform Sunday school lessons originated with Dr. Vincent in 1865, was adopted throughout the United States in 1872, and became international by the acceptance of the scheme in Canada, England and Scotland, in 1875.

THE Pope has issued an encyclical letter dealing with recent attempts on the lives of sovereigns, in which he declares that the precepts of Christ are eminently fitted to comprise both those who obey and those who command, and to produce between the two sections of the community that unity of purpose which renders public tranquillity.

PROFESSOR SWING does not want so much Bible. He says: "There should be in the new version eliminations of whole chapters and whole books, on the ground that they make the sacred volume too large to be printed in good type and still be portable. A small Bible always means that the type is almost microscopic. A popular Bible should be at once portable and of fair, clear type; and to make this possible a large part of the Old Testament should be omitted from the editions of the future."

THE Transvaal, it seems, is to be retroceded to the Boers about the beginning of next month. Instead of that step ending the difficulties in that quarter it will only be the beginning of greater ones than have yet been encountered. The Boers have tried to impress upon the native tribes both in the Transvaal and in the surrounding country that they have entirely defeated the British, and already they are assuming the airs of conquerors, and are continuing to act as they have always done as the oppressors of the black man, who is bound to shew that he won't submit to that.

ANENT the Bulgarian troubles, a correspondent at Giurgovo, after describing the terrorism exercised by Prince Alexander at the recent election for members of the Assembly, states that even the Bulgarian newspapers published by American missionaries at Constantinople were prohibited from circulating. A despatch from Sistova says: "The roads converging on Sistova are guarded by batteries of artillery. The prospect of a revolution is openly canvassed. The motto is violence against violence. The Prince's candidates elected to the Assembly have been taken

from the most ignorant classes. Half of them are unable to read or write."

THE progress toward convalescence of President Garfield during the past week has been all that could have reasonably been expected. The doctors will not yet say that he is out of danger, but the likelihoods are that this may with safety be said very soon. Mr. Garfield's complete restoration to health will cause greater joy and call forth more devout thanksgiving among a larger number of people than almost anything else which could be mentioned. He will have a mighty opportunity for doing good, for he will have almost unbounded influence, and influence which nothing but an amount of personal folly and wrong doing not to be expected from such a man will either impair or destroy.

AMONG the latest acts of the President before he was struck down by the bullet of Guiteau, was the appointment of the Rev. Dr. Henry Highland Garnett as Minister Resident and Consulate-General to Liberia. No better appointment to the position could have been made. Dr. Garnett has for many years been one of the ablest and most respected leaders of the coloured race in the United States. He is at present pastor of the Shiloh Presbyterian Church, New York, and on the 26th of February last celebrated the twenty-fourth anniversary of his pastorate of that church. His grandfather was carried away from Africa as a slave, and his daughter is now in Liberia as a missionary.

THE Rev. Theodore Cuyler, who is now travelling in the East, writes as follows: "The most prosperous missionary operations I have yet seen - I have not been to Beyrout - are those of the United Presbyterian Board in America which are now established in Egypt. For twenty-five years they have been successful in planting several healthy churches and about forty preaching stations. I was greatly pleased with their schools in Cairo, for there, as everywhere else, the chief hope rests with the young. Neither here nor in Egypt have two dozen Musselmans been converted. The Upas tree of Islam is not dying out yet by any means. If any man dreams that it is let him go and visit in Cairo the immense Mohammedan University of El Azrah, with its ten thousand students, all busy over the Koran and preparing to be priests and missionaries. Moslem is still an aggressive force."

THE placing of Father Curci's book, "New Italy," on the Index has led, it is stated, to a heavy and constant demand for it. The first edition of 7,000 copies was exhausted in two weeks and a new edition was ordered. Says a despatch to the London "Daily News": "The condemnation appears to have been wholly arbitrary. Knowing that it would be impossible to convict Father Curci of heresy, if fairly tried before the Congregation of the Index, 'New Italy' was summarily and mysteriously condemned by the Inquisition, without any notification to the author of the errors detected in it. This sweeping sentence overshoots its mark, for, in submitting, to a conviction for unknown errors, Father Curci may console himself with the reflection that they are merely due to the printer. Anyhow, it is understood that the condemnation was wrested from the Pope greatly against his will, he having been moved to tears by Father Curci's severe but faithful representations of the decay of the Church and religion in Italy."

THE world is nearly all open. China and Japan, that long closed and barred their doors against foreign intrusion, have now commercial, diplomatic and social relations with those whom they once considered "outside barbarians." Only the peninsula of Corea still blockades itself against the spirit of the age. Its despotic Government has hitherto been able to restrain its population of 12,000,000 within its own bounds, forbidding any subject to leave his own country, and not allowing any Chinese to settle there, although it is a tributary of China. The insidious approaches of Russia, however, have alarmed the King, who evi-

dently sees that he must now strengthen his relations with other powers, if he would not be absorbed by Russia. He some time since secretly despatched a mission of seven Koreans of high rank, but when it was known the tumult was so great he was obliged to recall it. Late news from Japan reports the arrival there of sixty noblemen and gentlemen, who are to examine the results of the opening of that empire. It is not too much to expect that their intelligent investigation will result in removing the embargo that has so long existed, and in opening the Corea to the influences of modern civilization and Christianity.

THE Police Commissioner of Calcutta has got into an awkward case by forbidding the missionaries preaching on the streets and finding them not disposed to obey the order. The "Friend of India" says the authorities are "no doubt aware that the missionaries, whether they have been well or ill advised in the course of action they have adopted, are resolute men, who have counted the cost, and will not flinch from any consequences that their action may entail. They do not desire to exhibit themselves in the police courts; nobody can say that they are men who have ever been known to court notoriety; they are the most unobtrusive and inoffensive of citizens. But they manifest no reluctance to appear before the magistrate, as summoned by the authorities, and then we presume the course of the magistrate will be clear. There will be no denial, no need to call witnesses. The offence, such as it is, will be admitted, and the magistrate will, we presume, have no option but to inflict a fine. Thus far the procedure will be simple enough; but it does not need any gift of divination to foresee that at this point the difficulty of the situation will begin to develop itself. The missionaries do not draw the money of their Societies to expend in this particular manner, and it is certain that they will refuse to pay the fine. Are the authorities prepared to go so far as to imprison them? If sent to gaol, they will go without resistance, but in the meantime what will the public say, and what will be the effect of the news in England? Have the authorities a case which will stand against the criticism which the public opinion of England will apply to it? It seems to us that they have never had the shadow of a case at all."

IN India there are now 689 Christian, European and American missionaries representing thirty-two societies. This is an increase of 67 since 1871. Of these, England sends 244; Germany, 131; the United States, 117; Scotland, 67; Ireland, 19; Canada, 17, etc. No less than 30 of these are the sons of missionaries born in India. The oldest of these missionaries, Mr. Pearce, arrived in the country in 1826, and has thus been 55 years in the field. The largest number sent by any society is 43 - the Church of England. There are 389 native missionaries, an increase since 1871 of 164. The increase of native Christians since 1871 has been 52 per cent. The following table gives a relative statement of the various societies:

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| Church of England..... | 75,998 |
| Am. Bap. Miss. Union..... | 55,633 |
| Gospel Propagation Society..... | 51,391 |
| London Miss. Society..... | 50,098 |
| Gossner's Miss. Society..... | 29,285 |
| American Board..... | 13,485 |
| Leipzig Missionary Society..... | 11,951 |
| Eng. Bap. Miss. Society..... | 10,000 |
| Basel Miss. Society..... | 7,337 |
| Methodist Episcopal Church..... | 5,855 |

These, with others, give a total of 340,623. Besides these 340,000 native Christians there are thousands of adherents - people who are almost Christians in various stages of education and of nearness to Christ. Of these there cannot at present be reckoned fewer than 150,000. The communicants representing the adult community have in ten years grown from 52,816 to 102,444. The following comparative table of progress speaks for itself.

| | 1850. | 1861. | 1871. | 1880. |
|---------------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|
| Foreign missionaries..... | 339 | 479 | 622 | 689 |
| Native missionaries..... | 21 | 97 | 225 | 389 |
| Native Christians..... | 91,092 | 138,731 | 224,258 | 340,623 |
| Communicants..... | 14,661 | 24,976 | 52,816 | 102,444 |