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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

MOST of the congregations in London support and work one or more modern missions. Especially is this true of such congregations as Dr. Dykes', Dr. Fraser's, Dr. McEwan's, and Dr. Edmond's. Dr. Dykes' congregation conduct a children's mission in Somerstown Board School. There are nearly 1,000 scholars and 140 teachers. Four gatherings take place on the Sunday, one of which takes the form of a children's church. This is one of the most interesting religious efforts in London.

REV. FATHER STAFFORD, the late parish priest of Lindsay, by his zeal and energy in the cause of total abstinence won the title of the Canadian Father Matthew, and the popular appellation was as appropriate as it was deserved. Cut off in the prime of life, it seemed as if a career of great usefulness was before him, and by his comparatively early death the Roman Catholic clergy of the Province loses one of their brightest ornaments, and the cause of total abstinence one of its warmest friends. He was greatly beloved and esteemed by his people, who on more than one occasion testified their appreciation of his labours. His liberality in promoting the educational interest of his parish was exemplified by the munificent gift of \$7,500.

THE funeral of Rev. Mr. Dodds in Paris was exceedingly affecting. The circumstances of his sudden and distressing death we have recorded. The pastors, Recolin, Th. Monod, and Hitchcock, spoke at the Church of the Oratoire; the text, "Jesus wept," had been given by the widow. Rev. R. W. McAll was chief mourner. At the grave in the Cemetery of Passy, pastors Hocart and Th. Monod again spoke and J. P. Cook prayed. The favourite hymn of the deceased was sung around the tomb by all those of the hundreds of weeping people who could command their voices, "For ever with the Lord!" (*Pour toujours avec Lui*) lately translated into French. It is a blow that stuns. Love and admiration surround his memory. Who will take up his mantle and come forth to help France tenfold?

IN the Edinburgh "Daily Review," Rev. A. B. Campbell, Free Church, Markinch, gives an interesting sketch of a visit he paid lately to the north of Italy. At Milan, which has been called the "moral and intellectual capital of the land," various agencies for the promotion of Christ's kingdom are at work, and genuine spiritual fruit is being reaped. Fourteen or fifteen years ago he had witnessed a glorious work of grace at Venice, when hundreds of people were turned to the Lord. They were deeply in earnest about Divine things, and suffered much for Christ. He had watched the early growth of the first regularly constituted church, and was now naturally concerned to see how the work had been maintained. There had been ebbs and flows, ups and downs; but to the glory of God's grace the work had been maintained, and is still carried on with vigour, and simple-hearted trust in God.

PROFESSOR PARK, says the N. Y. "Independent," told the Congregational ministers of Boston, lately, at one of their Monday meetings, that, "the neglect of systematic theology is one of the most fearful signs of the times." Certainly the neglect of systematic theology is one of the signs of the times, whether fearful or not. Here is Andover Seminary hard at work searching for a master of systematic theology, and cannot find him! Who is there to be found! We have plenty of young men who have given themselves to the careful study of Hebrew, of the Greek Testament, of ecclesiastical history, of philosophy, but who is there who has been carefully studying systematic theology and has made himself a master of it? If there be such a man, we doubt not the Andover Trustees would like to hear of him. We do not see but that they will have to settle down on some pastor of good common sense and native ability, who has never cared much about any science of theology,

but has been content with simple Bible truth, unless, indeed, they import some Dr. Christleb from Germany.

THE Prince of Wales has sent his two sons, who lately returned from their long trip around the world, to Lausanne, in Switzerland, so that they may learn French and other modern languages. The choice of Lausanne as a place in which to acquire a good knowledge of pure idiomatic French has naturally awakened a discussion in the columns of European newspapers. The French spoken by the Swiss is grammatically correct, but it is not the French of Paris. To go to Switzerland to learn French is like going to Cuba to learn good Spanish, or to the Highlands of Scotland to learn good English. Three languages—French, German, and Italian—are spoken in Switzerland, but none of them with the perfection with which the best speakers in France, Germany, and Italy speak. A sojourn in each of those countries would do the young princes more good than three times as long spent at Lausanne among people who speak all three languages imperfectly.

SPEAKING at a meeting of the British and Foreign Bible Society, at Waterloo, the Bishop of Liverpool said he was glad to meet ministers of other denominations in order to show to the sneering world that all their differences of opinion did not prevent them meeting on a common ground in order to make them wise unto salvation. He was amused at the furious attacks made upon him while in Scotland. Finding no Church of England, he did not feel the smallest hesitation in working in a Presbyterian church. The clergyman asked him to take the service and preach for him, and he did so. He took the whole service and conducted it according to the custom of the Church. He wished he did nothing worse than that, and he was not aware of any law he had broken. There was no Church of England place to go to, and he had a perfect right to worship in a Church where the Queen worshipped while in Scotland. He had that respect for the Queen and the Crown that he was not ashamed to testify his respect for the Church of Scotland by taking part in the service while there.

THE following is a copy of resolution passed at the first organized meeting of Toronto Branch, Dominion Alliance for the Total Suppression of the Liquor Traffic: "That the Toronto Branch of the Dominion Alliance regards the action of the licensed victuallers, in seeking the influence of Sir John A. Macdonald, for the extension of the hours of Saturday night liquor selling with great concern and indignation; and hereby assures the Dominion Government, that any attempt to relax the present license laws in the direction of further opportunities for the sale of liquor, will meet with the strongest expressions of disapproval on the part of the Christian and temperance people of the country; and this meeting, representing all temperance societies in the city of Toronto, hereby pledges itself to give the most practical and earnest support to the Provincial Government in their efforts to restrict the liquor traffic. In order that immediate action may be taken in this direction, this question is now referred to our committee on legislation. Resolved that a copy of the resolution be sent to Sir John A. Macdonald and to the press."

REFERRING to Queen's College, the "Canada School Journal" says: "Under the energetic superintendence of the Rev. Principal Grant there is little danger of Queen's standing still. Whenever he wants funds he makes a point of saying so, and he generally manages to say it in such a way that the money is forthcoming. He is equally prompt and impartial in securing good men to fill vacancies in his staff. A few months ago the chair of classics, rendered vacant by the lamented death of the late Professor Mackerras, was filled by the appointment of John Fletcher, M.A., a Canadian with an Oxford training. Recently two more appointments have been made which can hardly fail to raise the reputation of Queen's. The venerable Dr. Williamson, who has long filled the chair of

physics, having retired from active service in connection with it, his place has been taken by D. H. Marshall, M.A., F.R.S.E., who comes with the very highest recommendation, and with a good deal of professional experience. After serving for some time as assistant to Professor Tait in Edinburgh University, he spent seven years in the Japanese Imperial College at Tokio. Professor Dupuis, who has had for some years both mathematics and chemistry under his charge, is relieved of the latter by the provisional appointment of George McGowan, F.R.S.E."

THE Bible Revision Committee had a reception given them last week at the residence of Mr. Elliott F. Shepard. It was a fine thing in him thus to do honour to these devout scholars and their holy work, on the occasion of their autumnal meeting; and it was finely done. Seldom has so thoroughly representative an assemblage been gathered. The two hundred guests comprised not only leading clergymen, theological professors, and laymen prominent in Christian work, but judges, lawyers, physicians, teachers, city and federal officials, merchants, bankers, publishers, politicians, "railroad men," society men, literati, and millionaires. It was a peculiarly impressive tribute alike to scholarship and to the Bible. It typified the universal claim and adaptation of the Word of God to all classes of men and all pursuits in life: not one of those prosperous people, who could afford to forego its riches of grace, or to forfeit its honour and immortality; not one so full of cares and responsibilities, but he must take time to transact the business which it requires of him; however highly esteemed by others or themselves, these men were all condemned by its holy law and to be saved only through its blessed Gospel. Most of these revisers, too, were very plain and simple men, with small store of worldly goods, little calculated to shine in society, utterly unfitted for Wall Street, little at home in Fifth Avenue. But merchant princes, and party chiefs, and money kings, and society leaders, all felt themselves honoured in doing honour to the exact and conscientious learning which they represented.

SPEAKING at Newcastle recently on the subject of Temperance, Cardinal Manning was well received. He said: "We are a vast people and a wise and understanding people, too. We have taught the world the manufacture of machinery. We have taught the world the application of physical science to the industries of the world; we have taught the nations to use steam by land and sea; we cover the whole ocean in all its seas by our commerce and our carrying trade. We are a great people, and a great empire. So was Rome once; and so was Spain a little while ago. Have we a perpetuity for our imperial greatness? Is there no worm at the root, and is not the drunkenness that is spreading among the millions—is not that worse than any worm at the root? Can any man be a Christian, can any man be a citizen, can any man be a member of the commonwealth, and not have not only a shame but a fear when he sees these things? There was a time when the port of Rome had quays of marble—of the most costly marbles in Egypt and the east; when great galleys full of wealth were moored along those quays. What is it now? The river is choked by sand; the quays are gone; the wreck of those marbles is hidden; the mud of the Tiber has covered all its greatness. Why should not the mouth of the Tyne one day be so? Human things are all mutable; and the day may come when your busy city of Newcastle may be like that port of Rome, when Tyneside, with all its wealth and all its activity, may lie dead and dormant. Assuredly it is righteousness that exalteth the nation, and there can be no righteousness without temperance. Temperance is government. When the people are temperate they can govern themselves. Men that are intoxicated cannot govern themselves. The time has come then to stay this evil by all the might and all the wisdom we possess; to stand between the living and the dead and stay the pestilence, lest the hour should come when the judgment should fall, because we have not known the day of our visitation."