

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

TWO Chinese students have entered Lane Theological Seminary to fit themselves to preach the Gospel to their countrymen.

A TINNEVELLY Christian, David of Rasamanniparam, has undertaken to build a little church in his own village, at a cost of nearly \$500.

MR. CARLYLE has recovered sufficiently from his recent illness to superintend the preparation of his biography. The book will be written jointly by Mr. Froude and Mrs. Alexander Carlyle, a niece of the author. Mr. Carlyle, it is said, will contribute several chapters himself.

A SMALL tablet of Italian marble has been shipped from Auburn, N.Y., to Gaboon, Africa, to mark the grave of Dr. Albert Bushnell, who died on shipboard while returning to his missionary work in that country. The stone has been paid for by the sale of "A Consecrated Life," a story of his career.

THE son of an Indian Brahmin, bearing the name of Puran, now living in Boston, was recently converted. His father, a man of wealth, sent him to America to be educated, so that he would be better prepared to answer the missionaries. He wrote of the blessed fact of his change of views to his father, who at once disinherited him.

THE Bishop of Lincoln has received two addresses, signed by about 2,000 clergymen, thanking him for his services in opposing the Burials Bill and it is intimated that more are coming. A large number of the Dorsey clergy have addressed a protest against the Bill to the Archbishop of Canterbury. They say the Bill is opposed to the mind of the Church.

MR. R. L. STUART, of New York city, has just presented Princeton College with the sum of \$100,000. It is to be held in trust for the support of such Professorships as are not now endowed, or only partially so. The same gentleman has also presented the Princeton Theological Seminary with a like sum of \$100,000, partly for the endowment of a new Professorship, which Rev. Dr. Patton, of Chicago, has accepted.

ONE of the outcomes of the recent secession to Unitarianism is likely to be a series of essays by Mr. Matthew Arnold, claiming liberty within the Church for those who deny (as Mr. Matthew Arnold emphatically does, though he is still a member of the Church of England) all belief in the miraculous. Several eminent clergymen, among them Dr. Abbott, the author of "Philochristus," have already shewn that it is not necessary to teach miracles for remaining members of the Church.

THE religious revolution goes forward in Rocca, Italy. The Bible is read in the whole neighbourhood; the parish church is empty, the Evangelical church crowded with the *élite* of the population, as well as the women and children; baptisms are frequent, and various districts around Rocca ask for the Gospel preacher. "This is religion, this is true communion," said an old man of eighty, lately, when leaving the Lord's table; "I wish to know no other on my death-bed. No Christ of flour and superstition for me."

THE Archbishop of Canterbury, in the course of a visitation address at Canterbury, observed that the bishops were bound to see that the ritual of the Church was not altered in a manner calculated to interfere with its general teaching, but he thought that if the clergy were permitted to more freely state their private opinions from the pulpit rather than through the symbols of public worship, no great harm would arise. Care, however, must be taken in order to prevent contradictory statements to the formularies being made.

WE are glad to see that the Church Missionary Society is not at all dismayed by the tidings from Uganda that Mtesa has returned to his heathenism, and dismissed his Christian teachers. The Society has just commissioned an ordained missionary, who is also a physician, and a graduate of Oxford, to join the Nyanza mission, and he is to be accompanied by a layman, a Christian soldier. A clergyman has also been employed by the Church Missionary Society to accompany the Waganda Envoys on their return to their home in Central Africa.

EIGHT Presbyterian churches in the United States report over 1,000 members. They are as follows: Lafayette Avenue, Brooklyn (Rev. T. L. Cuyler, D.D.), 1,702; Tabernacle, Brooklyn (Rev. T. DeWitt Talmage, D.D.), 1,647; Third, Chicago (Rev. A. E. Kittredge, D.D.), 1,639; Fifth Avenue, New York (Rev. John Hall, D.D.), 1,613; University Place, New York (Rev. Robert R. Booth, D.D.), 1,304; Brick, Rochester (Rev. James B. Shaw, D.D.), 1,289; Bethany, Philadelphia (Rev. James B. Dunn, D.D.), 1,126; Brick, New York (Rev. L. D. Bevan, D.D.), 1,082.

MR. JOSEPH THOMPSON, the African explorer, has returned to his home at Gatelawbridge, Scotland. Mr. Thompson accompanied Mr. Keith Johnston as an assistant in the expedition of the Royal Geographical Society, and on the death of that gentleman assumed command of the party, including 170 blacks, and completed the task appointed. He is an abstainer, and travelled 6,000 miles without needing to be carried once, though often enfeebled by fever. A bottle of brandy was taken by the expedition, lest it might be required as a medicine, and it was brought back unopened.

IS the fine address of the black man, the Rev. Mr. Hood, of Liberia, at the Pan-Presbyterian Council, there were sentences of genuine eloquence, e.g., "Christian brethren of this Council, we do not ask you to come to Africa with the emblem of the cross, but in the power of the cross—not to preach a crusade to recover the land of the cross, but to preach a crusade to recover the land to the cross." "It is not nations that make Presbyterians what they are, but Presbyterians who make nations what they are. Witness what the Reformed did for Holland, the Huguenots for France, the Covenanters for Scotland."

THE opium traffic continues to be encouraged by the Government of India, which has lately ordered the large extension of the poppy cultivation. An Indian paper makes a solemn protest against this "suicidal policy." It fails to see that expediency is a justification of wrong-doing. It calls upon the Government to retire as speedily as possible from the poppy-planting business, and do its best gradually to free the Indian revenues from their perilous dependence on this nefarious source of income. No matter if it does cost England a little more at first for the maintenance of her Indian empire. The nation that paid twenty millions to free itself from complicity with slavery can afford an equal or a greater sum to get rid of this iniquity, and in the end it would pay well even from a financial point of view.

THE project of a line of rail across the Desert of Sahara to Soudan, in Central Africa, seems to be growing on the French. The Minister of Public Works has recently made a report to the President of France in regard to the expeditions sent out to reconnoitre in regard to a line from Algiers to Senegal, on the west coast, where the French have a settlement. Four surveying parties went out, of which one was waylaid and plundered, and forced to turn back. The three others were successful, and make favourable reports. One of the engineers made a special study of the sand dunes, which were much feared. These, he says, can be safely met and reduced, or where they are too high, it is almost always possible to avoid them and find level land by a slight detour. Some of these parties have just gone out again, while others are en-

gaged in Algiers in special studies and preparations. We may, therefore, confidently look for some interesting work soon in the matter of opening up Africa by rail.

DR. PRESSENSÉ thus refers, in the London "Christian World" to the Jesuits recently expelled from France "These are the men who reduced Port Royal to ruins; who, in the eighteenth century, pursued the Jansenists to the very bed of death, to make them give their adhesion to the bull Unigenitus. These are the men who, after procuring the revocation of the Edict of Nantes, stirred up the most odious persecution and bloody proscription against the Protestants, carried out at the point of the sabre, by the dragoons of Louis XIV. These are the men who, in our own day, threw the Madiai into prison, and sent Matamoras to the galleys, and who have obtained in the Syllabus the very religious code of persecution. It ill becomes such, surely, to assume the attitude of victims of intolerance, because they are simply forbidden to form themselves into corporations which are virtual hotbeds of conspiracy against the republic."

THE "Report" of the English Baptist Missionary Society for the past year is very full, and represents the missions of the Society generally as in a very satisfactory condition. It is interesting to note that in the column of amounts raised at the various mission stations India heads the list with \$28,125. The total is \$35,000, which does not include the contributions of the churches in Jamaica, now independent of the Society. This amount, which is included in the receipts of the year, makes one-seventh of the income of the Society, and indicates progress toward self-support. The Society has 33,805 members and 5,141 scholars in day schools. The baptisms of the year were 2,181, and the net increase of members 2,224. In Jamaica, where the oldest station dates from 1816, there are no less than 123 churches, with about 23,000 members. The table for India shews that there are 35 missionaries, 136 evangelists, 110 stations and out-stations, 90 chapels, and 3,796 members, of whom 626 are Europeans. During the past year 182 persons were baptized, 56 restored, and 14 received by letter.

THE following extract from an article in "Vanity Fair," is an admirable satire upon the oracular assumption of modern scientific writers and philosophers: "Science is now a goddess throned among stars. She must needs sit on a throne and talk oracles. Let me follow her. A man with good faculties spends twelve years studying the muscles of a caterpillar. Another uses up his life in naming a set of mollusca which do not need his labels. Another gentleman grubs his life away in caves and *tumuli*. We will not be hard on mechanical science, but when it comes to abstract philosophy it is another pair of sleeves. Among 'subjects' and 'predicates,' and 'majors and minors,' the human intelligence, it is said, exerts its noblest capabilities. We will not believe this. Mr. Mill was once thought to be logic incarnate, now it is proved that Mr. Mill had an essentially illogical mind. Comte was believed to be only inferior in intelligence to the Creator, a biologist now informs us that Comte was a blatant character. Mr. Darwin was once the greatest of the human race! A German person (who is now the greatest of the human race), tells us that Darwin proved nothing. Systems come and go. The philosophers are children in a skittle alley. They fiddle about with terms and names. When they are shewn to be fiddling against the rule of the game, there follows a great babblement, and amid the noise the essential gets forgotten. These people with their 'tumuli' and their 'predicates' go about expecting us to be taken with wonder and terror when we see them. They tell us to make the best use of our capabilities, and they ask us at the same time to nullify our chiefest capability. On the whole we think they had better carry their eloquence somewhere else."—This is an amusing, but not exaggerated, picture of the "confusion of tongues" prevailing in scientific circles, arising from men leaving the true region of science for that of theories and guesses.