

A CONVENTION of "Liberal Leagues" was one of the numerous meetings in Philadelphia from July 1 to 4. Its object, stated in brief, is the "complete secularization of the state." To this end the leagues call for the abolition of Sunday laws of every description, of the public expenditure of feasts and thanksgivings, of the maintenance of religious worship in public institutions, and the expulsion of the Bible from public schools. The members are neither numerous nor influential, but the bold enunciation of this programme is a sign of the times.

ATTENTION has been attracted in Continental Europe to the American and English mode of observing the Christian Sabbath. A Conference of the Evangelical Alliance, under the direction of the British Branch, is announced to be held at Geneva for the purpose of promoting a better Sabbath observance among the people of the Continental states.

It is not usual for a charitable Society in the United States to have an auxiliary in England, but this advantage is enjoyed by the American Missionary Association. It is known as the "Freedmen's Mission Aid Society." At the anniversary held in London, contributions for the year amounting to £2,012 were reported, of which £1,750 had been sent to America. Dr. Moffatt presided on the occasion, and the Jubilee Singers added to its interest by their rendering of American slave songs.

FIVE murders have occurred within one week in the Ottawa district.

The experiment of employing Chinese laborers is not proving successful. A large number will be sent back from North Adams, Mass., to San Francisco.

The Extradition Treaty of 1812 between England and the United States has, in consequence of the result of the Winslow case, been declared a dead-letter.

Great preparations are being made in France for the forthcoming Exposition of 1878.

The twenty-first annual convention of the Young Men's Christian Association of the United States and Canada, met in Toronto on the 12th inst. Russel Sturgis, jun., of Boston, was elected President, and J. V. L. Graham, Baltimore, Recording Secretary. Very interesting public meetings were held, and considerable business transacted.

Disasters are conflicting in regard to the Eastern war, but the general conclusion is that the Turks have not made much progress yet in the reduction of the Servians. European intervention on account of excesses of the combatants, is thought to be probable.

The Governor General is on a trip to British Columbia.

Don Pedro of Brazil was one of the hardest workers in sight-seeing at the exhibition, and one of his aids declared that an American crowd is the best mannered of any he has seen out of Brazil.

Mr. JAMES BARRIE, well known by the manliness of his contributions to the Church of Scotland, died on the 21st inst., at Cambusdown in Ayrshire, at the age of 74.

It was an old statesman who said to a young one, "With the revenues of a whole people for a sea to fish in, you should never be without money." At Rome they have brought this art of drawing in revenue (do they call it there apostolic?) to its highest perfection. In June, 1877, the Pope will have completed the fiftieth year of his accession to the episcopal office. It is proposed to celebrate the event with unusual splendor. The faithful have spread before them the following festival scheme:

1. Ardent and united prayers for the preservation of the precious life of the Holy Father, Pius IX.
2. To prayers alms are to be added for the Vicar of Christ reduced to poverty and made prisoner by the revolution, to be presented to him as an 'obolus' of filial love on the solemn day of his episcopal jubilee.
3. The loving children of Pius IX., in addition to their 'obolus,' are to send gifts, the products of their talents in the art or trade they follow. To receive these offerings a

selection Exhibition will be opened in Rome. Medals and diplomas are to be awarded by properly appointed juries among those who contribute to the Vatican Exhibition."

A Catholic World Exposition, with all the goods and objects of art exhibited turned over to the papal treasury, will indeed solve the griefs of the "Vicar of Christ reduced to poverty and made prisoner by the revolution."

The decree promulgated by President Guzman, of the republic of Venezuela, declaring the establishment of religious liberty and the separation of church and state, is of the most radical character. In some particulars it is extreme, but in all such shows the marks of a deadly conflict with Rome. The

first article establishes religious liberty; the second renits the support of religion to the voluntary contributions of believers. The fourth article declares that Venezuela will not admit "to its territory archbishops or bishops, ecclesiastical chapters, or any ecclesiastical hierarchy, as it considers them incompatible with the rights of independence and the sovereignty of the country." Churches and religious associations are forbidden to acquire landed property. Article six declares that it shall "not be allowable to purchase, circulate, or execute within the territory of the republic any syllabus, bull, brief, rescript, encyclical, pastoral, or edict from any ecclesiastical authorities of any religion whatsoever." The decree has been approved by the Venezuelan Congress.

PUBLISHERS NOTICE.

THIS

Christian Standard,

A CONGREGATIONAL MONTHLY.

REV. CHAS. B. WOODCOCK, Editor-in-Chief.

WITH THE CO-OPERATION OF

Rev. ALEXANDER MCGREGOR, Yarmouth, N. S.
Rev. DUNCAN MCGREGOR, Liverpool, N. S.

The CHRISTIAN STANDARD is issued to meet a want long felt by the Religious public of the Lower Provinces, of a wide-awake religious Journal. No pains will be spared to make the STANDARD first class in every respect.

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The Children's Column will be under the charge of ROY CARTRIGHT, who will contribute a short Serial for the Children.

A short Synopsis of the News of the Month will be given in each issue, carefully compiled by an Attaché of the Daily Telegraph.

The Young Men's Christian Association of St. John have adopted the STANDARD as their means of communication with the public. This Department will be edited by D. M. STEARNS, Esq.

NEWS OF THE CHURCHES.—In this Department items of interest will appear concerning the Churches of all denominations. Each number will contain a carefully prepared synopsis of the News of the Month.

The Housekeeper's Column will contain many valuable Recipes, etc.

In addition to these, many fresh attractions will appear during the year.

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