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IMPROVED CLASS ROLL

For the use of Sabbath School Teachers.

IMPROVED SCHOOL REGISTER

For the use of Superintendents and Secretaries.

Both the above have been carefully prepared, in response to recent demands for something more complete than could heretofore be obtained, by the Rev. T. F. Fotheringham, M.A., Convener of the General Assembly's Sabbath School Committee. These books will be found to make easy the work of reporting all necessary statistics of our Sabbath Schools, as well as preparing the returns asked for by the General Assembly. Price of Class Rolls 60 cents per doz. Price of School Registers 30 cents each. Address—

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Notes of the Week.

THE requisition to Mr. D. L. Moody, which Rev. John Smith, M.A., carries to Northfield, asking the American evangelist to revisit Scotland, bears the signatures of Lady Aberdeen, Lord Polwarth, Sir William Muir, Principals Brown, Cairns and Rainy, Professor Charteris, Dr. Alexander Whyte and many others in all parts of Scotland.

MR. STEAD offers to provide his *Review of Reviews* gratuitously for the next six months to missionaries of all denominations, Roman Catholic or Protestant, in active service. The same generous offer is extended to the keepers of lighthouses and lightships and to several other classes of public servants who live far removed from the news agent and the bookseller.

THERE was a curious scene in St. Paul's Cathedral, London, one Saturday afternoon not long since. A large congregation, chiefly Jews, assembled under the dome to hear the Rev. Gordon Calthrop on "The Jewish Question." Converted and unconverted Jews mingled in the audience, and joined at the close in singing the hymn, "O Praise Our Great and Glorious Lord."

AT the Free Presbytery of Selkirk Mr. John Fraser was taken on trial for license, and the license granted. Mr. Fraser's case is peculiar. He has been blind from childhood, but by close application has managed to spend eight years at the university and divinity class. He has written out for himself a Greek and Hebrew dictionary. He has written the exercises before the Presbytery in the usual punctured characters used by the blind, and passed with much credit.

FATHER CURCI, a reformer who followed in the footsteps of Savonarola by holding that reforms must come from within the Church, is dead. For declaring that the temporal power had been justly withdrawn by Providence he was expelled from the Jesuit Order; and for a work in which he described the Vatican regime as the canker-worm of the Church he was suspended from his priestly functions, proscribed from receiving the sacrament, and reduced to absolute beggary. In 1884 he recanted, and since then has dropped from public notice.

FROM the new English Catholic Register for 1891 it appears that the Roman Catholic hierarchy in England now includes one cardinal (Manning) and fourteen bishops and archbishops, while Scotland has two archbishops and four bishops. The United Kingdom has forty-one Peers or members of the Upper House of Parliament, the Lower House having seventy-six. However only six of these represent English districts, the others being Irish. The number of Catholic houses of worship in England and Scotland is about 1,300; the number of priests, 2,800. The Catholic population is claimed to be ten millions, and half of these in Ireland.

IT is reported that as a result of the great assistance given to the famine-stricken people of Shantung, China, in 1889, when over \$200,000 were distributed and over 100,000 lives saved, a great many have been drawn to pay especial attention to Christianity as the religion which influences people for such deeds of kindness and mercy, and during 1890 it is said that over a thousand persons were

baptized whose attention was drawn to the religion of Christ by the fact that the missionaries were so prominent in securing this aid and distributing it. Not by any means were all these recipients of aid, but they saw what was being done for their fellowmen, and compared the fruits of Christianity with the fruits of heathenism.

PROFESSOR LINDSAY, D.D., speaking at the meeting of the London Missionary Society, thus defined the problem presented by India: There were a hundred Indias, with a hundred different languages, and representing every stage of civilization, from the most primitive to the most advanced. Such differences formed a great part of the problem of mission work. Hinduism included only about a third of the 260,000,000 inhabitants of India; there were about fifty million Moslems, six million Sikhs, Parsees and Christians, and about twenty millions of aboriginal tribes. The number of Pariahs, outside caste, was, he thought, from forty to sixty millions, and these were practically for mission purposes outside the great realm of Hinduism.

THE Niagara Bible Conference begins its meetings on the 9th inst., and continues till the 16th. The topics for consideration are announced as follows: The Holy Spirit, The Kingdom, Typical Men in Genesis, and Themes for the Times. The following brethren are expected to lead in the study of the topics: Messrs. Brookes, W. J. Erdman, A. Erdman, S. H. Kellogg, Moorehead, Parsons, Pierson, West. The sessions of study will begin daily at ten a.m., and hold for two hours in the forenoon and for one and a-half in the afternoon. The meetings at night will be for the consideration of special subjects of importance as indicated in the programme. Tickets at reduced rate to go and return by boat from Toronto can be procured at Toronto Willard Tract Depository, corner of Yonge and Temperance Streets, Toronto.

THE ministers and other Christian workers of America are to have a rare opportunity during the months of July and August to hear two of the most eminent preachers of Great Britain. Rev. John Smith, of Edinburgh, Scotland, who has come into prominence so rapidly in that country and exerted such a widespread influence among the ministers, is to be at the Bible Institute in Chicago from about the 10th of July to the 5th of August. Immediately following him Rev. F. E. Meyer, of London, England, will speak at the Institute through the remainder of the month of August. Mr. Moody sends out a cordial invitation to all Christian workers to spend their vacation listening to these able men. There is no charge for attendance upon the lectures. Further information can be had from R. A. Torrey, 80 West Pearson Street, Chicago.

LADY ABERDEEN tells a good story in the June number of her magazine, *Onward and Upward*. The day after she and the family arrived at Hamilton, in Canada, on their visit to the Dominion last year, a boy of about thirteen came up to Lord Aberdeen as he was walking in the grounds of Highfield and asked: "Is Lord Haddo at home?" The Earl replied: "Well, no, he is not, but I am his father. What do you want with him?" "Well, I wanted to interview him and ask what his lordship thought of our city, and I wanted to put the interview in my father's newspaper." In spite of having become somewhat familiarized to the interviewing system, Lord Aberdeen was rather startled to find his eleven-year-old son called upon to give his opinions, and tried to explain to the youthful journalist that in the old country boys were not expected to air their views so soon.

THE late Rev. R. W. Barbour, of Bonskeid, has bequeathed to the Foreign Mission of the Free Church of Scotland \$50,000 for the support of a missionary and a similar sum to the Foreign Mission of the Presbyterian Church of England. With reference to the bequest to the Free Church Foreign Mission, it is believed to be for the permanent endowment of a medical missionary in India. The

missionary appointed in 1888 was the Rev. Dr. Sandilands, M.B., C.M., a graduate of Glasgow University, now at Bhandara, India. Since beginning work at Bhandara the Rev. Dr. Sandilands has shown himself a zealous and devoted missionary, preaching in the Marathi language and conducting the hospital and dispensary. The \$50,000 left by Mr. Barbour to the English Presbyterian Church is for a like purpose, namely, the permanent support of a medical missionary. In 1888 Dr. Russell was sent out to Formosa, Mr. Barbour paying all the initial expenses as well as providing the salary; and his legacy makes provision for the continuance of his support and that of his successors.

THE Belfast *Witness* says: The Assembly that has just concluded its sittings was no ordinary one. The spirit that animated its proceedings was admirable, the platform was never manned with a better array of speakers, the debates were most ably conducted, the legislative measures adopted were wise, while the action taken on matters of public interest, such as the education question, was calculated to lodge some new ideas in the mind of Mr. Balfour, for which we trust he will endeavour to find room among his mental furniture. In addition to all this the Assembly of 1891 has the credit of having given another five years' *quietus* to the long-standing controversy on Instrumental Music. This year we were threatened with a resurrection of this vexed question, but on Friday morning last, when for an hour or two it did "revisit the glimpses of the moon," and showed its ghostly face among us, it was quietly reposed in its resting-place, swathed with a few additional bandages in the form of a new set of resolutions, and all parties in the Church seemed inclined to write over it the epitaph, *requiescat in pace*.

THE *Christian Leader* says: The High Commissioner declares that the regulations by which British subjects are prevented from selling firearms or firewater to the natives in the Western Pacific are based on a high moral ground and that he will never relax them. The French and Germans have adopted the regulations within their own territories, and have agreed to extend them to their subjects throughout the Western Pacific as soon as all the great powers are willing to do the same. The only one of these that refuses to do so is America. It is suggested by the *Sydney Presbyterian* that the Federal Assembly and the General Assemblies of the Australasian Churches, together with the Free Church of Scotland and the Presbyterian Church of Canada, both of which are interested in the New Hebrides mission, might unite in rousing the Presbyterian Churches of the United States to approach the American Government on the subject. If all this machinery were set in motion and a united effort were made, it is beyond doubt that the authorities at Washington would give way and do this righteous and humane thing that is required at their hands.

THE *Christian Leader* says: Mr. J. Spencer Curwen must have been intensely gratified by the meetings held in Edinburgh and Glasgow last week to celebrate the jubilee of that system of notation by the establishment of which his father did so much to further the popularizing of musical science in Britain. Mr. A. T. Niven, ex-Convener of the Church of Scotland Psalmody Committee, who presided at the celebration in the Scottish metropolis, said that in view of the splendid results now attained it was hard to realize the opposition the tonic sol-fa system encountered at the outset, or to imagine the jealousies that retarded its progress. Rev. James Rennie declared that its correct educational and scientific basis was the principal aid to its triumph. At the Glasgow as well as the Edinburgh meeting the merits of the system from an educational point of view were affirmed by experienced authorities, and still more effectively perhaps by the practical illustrations furnished by school board children. Mr. Spencer Curwen was amply justified in his declaration that the musical work accomplished by the system could not have been so thoroughly achieved under any other.