

witnesses before their ecclesiastical courts. This matter must be watched. If an attempt of the kind is made, it must be promptly met and opposed. Such a measure would virtually put the sword into the hand of the church. A bill of like character was introduced into the British Parliament by Lord Belhaven, but the opposition from the Free Church and the United Presbyterian Church was so strong that after passing the House of Lords it was withdrawn.

THE BIBLE WOMEN IN LONDON.—The *London Times*, in an article of some length, bears testimony to the value of the labours of the bible-women in London, and other large cities. In London alone 160 are employed. Referring to this agency, the *Times* says: "Such a message knocking at the door of sickness must be welcome. It is human nature in its finest and purest type, giving off its sympathy and sacrifices, and services, to those who rarely hear a kind, and never an encouraging word. Since the institution of this new class of labourers in the service of sorrow and suffering, about three years ago, 27,000 Bibles have been sold among the very poorest."

INDUCTION OF PRINCIPAL CANDLISH.—The induction of Dr. Candlish as Principal of the New College, Edinburgh, is appointed to take place on the 3rd Nov. The Principal is to deliver the introductory lecture on the 5th Nov.

EVANGELICAL CONFERENCE.—There was lately held at Barnet, Middlesex, near London, a Conference of Evangelical Christians. The Conference embraced many who are actively engaged in advancing the cause of the Redeemer, including Captain Trotter, Lord Radstock, Rev. Denham Smith of Dublin, and the Rev. Grattan Guinness. Several days were spent in conference. At the close about six hundred Christian men and women of various denominations united in partaking of the Lord's Supper. The scene is described as one of peculiar solemnity and interest.

DEATH OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.—Intelligence has recently been received of the death of Dr. Sumner, Archbishop of Canterbury. Dr. Sumner was one of the oldest and most influential of the Evangelical party of the Church of England. There is a probability that Dr. Tait, the Bishop of London, may succeed him.

ITALY.—DEATH OF GENERAL BECKWITH.—Letters from Northern Italy express the general grief felt at the death of General Beckwith, so long known as the "benefactor of the Vaudois." His death took place at La Tour, on 19th July. General Beckwith devoted himself for many years to the advancement of the prosperity of the Vaudois. His name, with that of Dr. Gilly, will long be associated in modern Vaudois history.

GENERAL SABBATH SCHOOL CONVENTION IN LONDON.—A General Sabbath School Convention was lately held in London. Many persons interested in Sabbath schools on the Continent and in America, as well as in Britain, were present. In Britain it is stated that about 3,000,000 of the rising generation are weekly receiving religious instruction. The proceedings of the meeting were highly interesting.

CHRISTIANITY IN INDIA.—A Brahmanic lady at Mahamad has lately made a profession of Christianity, and has been received into the Church. This is the first fruit of any female day school in India.