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Notes of the Week.

At a meeting of the Irish General Assembly's Committee in Correspondence with the Government, held in Dublin—summoned specially by the Moderator of the General Assembly—it was agreed to present an address of welcome to his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, on the occasion of his assumption of office at Dublin Castle.

THE seventh annual convention of Christian Workers in the United States and Canada is being held in Boston. Efforts have been made to gather active Christian workers from every portion of the United States, Canada and England, and it is expected that the exercises will be not only extremely interesting but very valuable.

If church government means anything, says Professor Charteris, then in Scotland it has been proved that Presbyterianism is stronger than Episcopalianism is even in England. The Scottish dissenter claims to be a stronger Presbyterian than the State churchman, whereas in England the dissenter has set up another form of church government.

THE Rev. William B. Greene, D.D., of Philadelphia, has been chosen to the chair of Apologetics and Ethics in Princeton theological seminary, made vacant by the death of Dr. Aiken. Dr. Greene graduated from Princeton in 1876, and from the seminary in 1879; was for two years pastor in Boston, and then succeeded Dr. Henry A. Boardman in the Tenth Presbyterian Church, of Philadelphia.

THE third annual meeting of the Young Men and Women's Guild of the United Presbyterian Church met in Edinburgh recently. The previous evening Rev. J. B. Hastings preached the sermon in his church in Palmerston Place. Mr. Peter Esslemont, M.P., presided at the annual public meeting, and Professor Marcus Dods, Rev. Dr. A. R. MacLewen and Mr. Shaw, M.P., were among the speakers.

MR. MOODY, interviewed by the *Christian Commonwealth* on the subject of his Scottish mission, said he had always liked Scotland, which he thought the most remarkable part of the world. No other nation had turned out so many great and good men. He did not find the Scots less impressionable and slower to respond than the English. He had done his best work in Scotland, and his very best in Glasgow.

A FORMER minister of the English Presbyterian Church, Dr. Robert Steel, now of Sydney, N. S. W., writes to a London relative: "I am at present in Adelaide, South Australia, attending the Assembly of the Presbyterian Churches of Australia and Tasmania, with a view to making one Presbyterian Church throughout all these Colonies. We have had a pleasant meeting, and received great hospitality. The weather is springtide, and the country is like a meadow." "The new world" may not only "redress the balance of the old," but show the way to a union between all the Presbyterian Churches of Scotland, with the English, Irish and Welsh Churches having a similar government. The reasons for such a union are much stronger than for the present divisions.

THE visit of the Rev. Dr. Clark, founder of the Society of Christian Endeavour, to New South Wales ended in September. Since the 13th, when he arrived from San Francisco in the *R. M. S. Mariposa*, on which he received a hearty welcome from Endeavourers, headed by the Rev. W. Scott, the President of the N. S. W. Union, Dr. Clark has had a busy time. Each day has been crowded with meetings and each meeting crowded with ardent Endeavourers. Almost every denomination in the Colonies has adopted the "Christian Endeavour." In a short time the Australasian membership will be close upon 20,000. Dr. Clark has the other colonies,

to visit. He sailed for China and Japan on October 19, then visits India, and the stations of American missions in Turkey in Asia and Europe. He finally visits England *via* Italy, where he hopes to arrive before June of next year.

PRESBYTERIANS in London, writes a correspondent, are very much exercised about the vacancies in their two most prominent pulpits, Regent Square and Marylebone. I am given to understand that no one is in view for either of these churches. Presbyterianism, like the sister denomination, evidently suffers from the want of front rank men. Good preachers are abundant, good scholars thicker than autumn leaves, but men of individual culture and force are exceedingly rare. Yet they are no doubt preparing themselves. Men are wanted fit to undertake great responsibilities, and to carry them quietly and without complaint for a long term of years. The circumstances at present are certainly such as may very fitly kindle a noble and worthy ambition in the breasts of young students for the ministry. The next great preacher, perhaps, will be a man who has read no sermons.

THE Young Men's Guild in connection with the Church of Scotland is now represented in seventy-seven out of the eighty-four Presbyteries of the Church. Out of the 21,621 members 700 are total abstainers. A proposal to have a travelling secretary is under consideration of the central committee. The magazine has a circulation of over 8,000, the Edinburgh branches taking most copies. Mr. Innes Wright is going as lay assistant to Kalimpong, Eastern Himalayas. Next conference is to be held in Edinburgh. At the recent meeting Professor Charteris said that when young he was very fond of dancing and has never seen anything wrong in it, but that it is a striking and deplorable incongruity for a morning fellowship class to be closed with a dance. He congratulated the Young Men's Guild on opposing gambling, which he would have put down with a strong hand at church bazaars, and advised them to study social questions instead of debating the never-ending question of Queen Mary's guilt.

THE *Scottish American* says: The congregation worshipping in the Broadway Tabernacle, this city, were deeply grieved last Sunday week when a letter from Rev. Dr. William M. Taylor, pastor, was read, announcing that, while his health had been benefited by the six or eight months' rest which he had enjoyed from ministerial labours, he had, after careful consideration, resolved to resign the pastorate of the church. A strong bond of love has always existed between Dr. Taylor and his people, and his intimation caused quite a gloom of sadness to rest heavily on all, and they sincerely sympathized with him in his trouble. Dr. Taylor has been minister of the Broadway Tabernacle for over twenty years. He was called there from the Presbyterian Church at Bootle, England. At first his congregation here only numbered about 400; now they number 1,200, while the church has always been regarded as one of the most prominent in the city. That speaks volumes for his success as a pastor, and the separation about to take place is very keenly felt by both minister and people. As is well known, Dr. Taylor is a native of Kilmarnock, Ayrshire.

THE *British Weekly* says: In an able and vigorous sermon on Sunday morning, Dr. Monro Gibson, of St. John's Wood, London, spoke impressively on the relations between the Church and the working classes. He urged his hearers with great emphasis to frown upon everything that increased the alienation already so deplorable, and discussed the duty of the Churches, and particularly the Presbyterian Churches, in the matter. Dr. Gibson lamented that his own Church had done so little for the people, and expressed his desire that strong working men's churches, with membership of a thousand or so, should be established in places like Fulham, Battersea and Kilburn. In Kilburn this result may be said to be almost within sight. As yet the Presby-

terians have been successful mainly in cases where only a little preliminary help is needed, the congregation soon gathering in such numbers and wealth as to make further assistance superfluous. Dr. Gibson saw no necessity for the Presbyterians racing other Churches in the slums where the agencies already at work overlapped each other. There is great good sense in this view. Presbyterianism has undoubtedly laid a good foundation, and it is time it were appealing more directly to the masses.

THE thirteenth annual report of the Toronto City Mission was read at their meeting last week in the lecture room of the Central Methodist Church, Bloor Street. Dr. W. B. Geikie, president, gave a brief outline of the great work done by the mission since its organization. For 122 nights out of the year they had never been out of workers, and a splendid service had been done in reclaiming drunkards and outcasts of the city. The mission had been represented at the Toronto Exhibition and the Woodbridge fair, where they had crowded meetings. Mr. Robert Hall, the missionary in charge of the Gospel work, read the financial statement, which showed the mission to be in an exceedingly promising state indeed. He also gave a short outline of the work done during the year, and had a word of praise for the willing workers who assisted him. The Rev. J. V. Smith of the Metropolitan Church said he thought Mr. Hall eminently fitted for the work, and he knew of no one who had the confidence of the Christian public more entirely than Mr. Hall. He hoped the time would come when they would have a dozen Gospel carriages in the city. The Rev. Dr. Gordon, of Boston, was then introduced to the meeting, and spoke in an exceedingly interesting manner for nearly an hour of his own mission work in Boston and of the founding of a drunkards' home that has for years been doing effective work there. He gave many impressive incidents of the good results accomplished, especially among the foreign element of Boston's population. The meeting was a large one, and seemed thoroughly imbued with the spirit of the kindly work that the mission has in hand.

THE *British Weekly* says: A High Church Society has been formed within the Church of Scotland, and the prime mover is one of the most eminent and saintly theologians of this country—Professor Milligan, of Aberdeen. The veneration and affection with which we, in common with all who know his work, regard Dr. Milligan, and our strong sympathy with some of his views, incline us to regard this society with considerable favour. That a contingent of snobs and weaklings will be found with the better class of members is inevitable. All that can be done is to keep them in their place. If this were a movement towards Episcopacy or any form of magical religion, it would be condemned by the strong sense of the Scottish people. But we do not believe Dr. Milligan would lend himself to the disparagement of Presbyterian orders, and he knows that every tincture of grace must be denied these before there can be any union with Anglicanism. The good side of this movement is that the chief promoters are sensible of the serious and awful side of religion. That is what wants emphasizing in Scotland—not the high church, nor the low church, nor the broad church, but the deep church. So much energy has been expended on theological discussions and ecclesiastical debates, and so much genuine force has been given to preaching made easy, racy preaching, new preaching and the like, that the old, profound, reverent, severe and compelling religion of the past has largely disappeared. Yet it is in this form and no other that religion has ever ruled, and it has often commenced with externals. The teaching of Bishop Butler's first charge should never be forgotten. The great reasoner for Christianity perceived that by reasoning alone its empire could never be regained, and he assigned no mean place to the duty of seeing to the restoration of the outward solemnities. Of course such a society may very readily pass beyond Nonconformist sympathy, but we have confidence that Dr. Milligan will do his best to keep flunkycism in its place.