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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

CARDINAL NEWMAN, on leaving London (Eng.) the other day, expressed the opinion that he would never see the great city again.

At Cambridge, England, a new Missionary College—the Selwin College, after Bishop George Augustus Selwin, missionary—has just been founded. \$105,000 has been promised, and they only ask for \$25,000 more.

THE Rev. Naryan Sheshadri is by this time at his home in India. He left England last month, and on his way stopped in Paris to join in some of the mission services of Mr. McAll, who has just opened his fiftieth station.

PROTESTANT relics, like those of Rome, have, it seems, the faculty of multiplying. Dr. S. F. Smith mentions having seen two tables, each the very table on which Dr. Judson wrote his translation of the Burman Bible.

THE English bishops, according to the "London Record," have come to the conclusion at a recent meeting that the revised version of the New Testament cannot take the place of the authorized version in public worship.

THE cable reports the formal re-establishment of the native authority and the hoisting of the national flag at Pretoria, the capital of the Transvaal Republic, on the 8th of August, in the presence of a great popular assembly.

AN English exchange states that the income of the Orphanage founded by Mr. Spurgeon was about \$108,000 for the last fiscal year, and the expenditure \$75,000. The buildings now have in them 242 children, and the admissions from the first have been 646.

THE Rev. M. Lorriaux, of the Reformed Church of France, says that body has gained more liberty in the past few months than it gained in three centuries. It has now a perfect synodal organization, and laws are being framed to give it full liberty of meeting and association.

FROM Berlin comes the news of the appointment of Dr. Korum as Bishop of the diocese of Treves by the Pope. The candidate was approved by Germany. This is the first appointment since the May Laws came into force. What it means cannot be understood until fuller information is given.

A RUMOUR has run widely through Europe that the Pope was considering the question of leaving Rome. The only place suggested as the new residence for His Holiness is Malta. The reason assigned is that in Rome the Pope enjoys neither "liberty nor security." The Italians seem to be thoroughly indifferent as to whether he goes or stays. The Vatican is a subordinate element in the policy of the kingdom of Italy.

THE London "Chronicle" reports the murder of native helpers and their families—twelve persons in all—at Kalo, New Guinea. An attempt was also made to kill four native boys who were with the party, but they escaped by swimming. No provocation was given, and it is supposed that the attack grew out of jealousy, because the missionaries gathered thatch themselves instead of buying it of the natives. The Society deprecates any attempt at punishment, preferring to teach a lesson of Christian meekness and forgiveness by enduring the outrage.

A CATHOLIC paper gives the details of a very curious case in Rome. Under the Law of Suppression, the property of the Nuns of the Good Shepherd was sold for the benefit of the State, and each nun, in compensation, was granted a pension of 600 lire. The Royal Commissary, which succeeded the Junta,

declared that this suppression was illegal, and it directed that the property be restored, and the pensions discontinued. To this the Nuns, strangely enough, objected. They appealed to the courts, which have given a decision in their favour and they remain pensioners.

A VERY powerful awakening has occurred in several Spanish villages near Villafranca. In one place the entire community, numbering about one hundred families, is Protestant. In another the Romish church has been specially painted and decorated to attract the people, but the only attendants are one old man, two old women, and five boys. The Government school was closed for lack of pupils, while the one under the auspices of the Free Church of Scotland had sixty-five scholars. Over thirty men attend the night school, and some children travel a league daily in order to be present.

IN a recent issue of the "Pall Mall Gazette" some interesting figures based on the census returns are given in regard to the religious beliefs of the Irish people. There are in Ireland 3,951,885 Catholics, 635,670 members of the Protestant Church of Ireland, 485,503 Presbyterians, and 47,669 Methodists. The Baptists, Quakers and members of other denominations number 37,315. The decrease in the ten years in the number of Catholics and Protestants was about the same—4.8 per cent. The decrease in the number of Presbyterians was 2.4 per cent., while the Methodists have increased 6.7 per cent., 4,228 members having been added to the Church.

LONDON "Truth" doubts whether the hard work is really telling on Mr. Gladstone. "He has so wondrous an amount of intellectual energy that what would prostrate most men is to him but healthful exercise. When the other day he was laid up, and ordered by his medical advisers to remain in perfect quiet, his idea of rest was to take the new version of the New Testament and to collate it with the Greek. While sitting in the House of Commons during the Land Bill discussions he seems to take a positive pleasure in pulverizing his opponents; and this he does as easily as though they were flies. He is only annoyed when no progress is being made, and when time is being frivolously wasted."

A MOVEMENT is on foot in the west of England to mark the tercentenary of the defeat of the Spanish Armada, by the erection of a monument to Sir Francis Drake and his comrades in the defence of England. The site fixed upon is the Hoe at Plymouth, in full view of the Sound, where the English fleet assembled before issuing forth to give battle to the "dogs of Seville." A considerable fund, which has received the support of the Prince of Wales and other prominent persons, has been raised in Devon and Cornwall, and with the object of giving the movement a national turn, a deputation from the original committee is about to visit London and the larger towns throughout the country.

THE mission of the English General Baptist Missionary Society in Orissa, India, is just sixty years old. It was begun in 1821, amid many discouragements, and it was seven years before the first convert was baptized. It was the headquarters of Jaganath idolatry, and infanticide, suttee, meriah sacrifices, and other barbarous practices prevailed. Now these rites are no longer performed, caste has been greatly weakened, and the Bible is taking its place among the sacred books of the people. Fifty-six missionaries in all have laboured in this field, and there have been 1,795 baptisms, not including those of the American Free Baptist Mission in North Orissa. The present number of church members is 1,073, a net gain of eighty the past year. The receipts of the Society for the year for its missions in India and Italy were \$31,864.

IN the "Illustrated Christian Weekly" we find the following pointed sentences: "Those who preach the Gospel of a salvation where none are lost or can be;

a probation without a failure, a law with no eternal penalty; presenting hell as a house of correction, if indeed there be any, may interest the Athenians of society for a season, but when the teaching is received the taught will be pretty sure to abandon the teacher. They will soon receive enough to be assured that they need no more. The history of the Church proves that a diluted Gospel in due time comes to nothing. In Polish Socinianism, in Scotch Moderatism, in old and New England Unitarianism, in German Rationalism, and in American Universalism, the result has ever been the death of faith, the nightmare of piety, the introduction of division, and the ultimate thinning out and dispersion of interested worshippers. Tropical vegetation might as well be expected in Alpine glaciers as aggressive evangelism from an emasculated Christianity."

MR. GRENVILLE MURRAY, in a careful sketch of Leo XIII., "the crowned scholar," thinks that one of the chief results of his three years' reign in the spiritual realm is the new impulse given to the study of the Thomist philosophy. In regard to the dogma of infallibility he has this to say: "The second of the Popes officially recognized as infallible, he has not, any more than the first, made the slightest use of the extraordinary powers vested by the last General Council in the Holy See. He has defined no disputed doctrine. In truth, the Council which proclaimed the Pope infallible when speaking *ex cathedra* has necessarily made the Pope extremely cautious of giving expression to *ex cathedra* utterances. Absolute power has often been remarked to exercise a sobering influence on its possessor. Even so authority to decide the most solemn questions, without appeal, is one which a man who is at once an Italian and a priest, a scholar and a diplomatist, will not be likely to abuse."

THE Rev. S. F. Green still languishes in prison, though his friends have used every means to have him released. His appeal has been dismissed by the House of Lords and the judgment of the Court of Arches stands. The Lower House of the Convocation of Canterbury unanimously agreed on a representation to the House of Bishops praying them to use their influence in putting an end to the scandal of Mr. Green's imprisonment. The bishops replied that, whilst cordially concurring in deploring the fact, they could see no way out of the dilemma except through Mr. Green's loyal submission to the godly admonition of his bishop, as it "must always be quite impossible to exempt either ministers of the Church or ministers of Nonconformist bodies from the usual methods by which both alike are liable, in the last resort, to be prevented from disobeying the order of the Court." They added that they look for some amendment, however, of procedure in ecclesiastical courts from the Royal Commission, now sitting.

THERE are many hearts in this country to which the tidings of Dr. Fisch's death will bring a very deep sense of pain and loss. Little more is as yet known than that, while on a visit to Switzerland, he died last Sabbath at Vallorbes. The work he has done in France is something quite unique in character and marvellous in extent. A long and honourable and most fruitful life has closed in that remote Swiss retreat, and it is not easy to see at present who is to take up the threads of manifold enterprises which he held so firmly and so wisely. Not in Paris or France only, but in this country also, the departure of Dr. Fisch creates a blank in connection with continental efforts; while the charming intercourse with the venerable man will be long felt as a most precious memory. The simple piety and ever youthful enthusiasm of Dr. Fisch were so full of attractiveness that, alike in his private and public life, he was a power for good. Dr. Fisch was often at the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, and was a great favourite with the ministers and people. His earnest pleadings for the mission work in France were ever productive of the best effect. His sudden death will prove a very serious loss to the Church.