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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

DURING six years 41,630 volumes have been distributed by Mrs. C. H. Spurgeon's book fund, "mainly to ministers who could not afford to purchase for themselves."

THE Presbytery of Baltimore has dissolved sixty-eight pastoral relations within the past fifteen years, some of the churches having had three, four and five pastors, and there being only two pastorates in the Presbytery whose length exceeds ten years.

THE Canadian Students' Club in Edinburgh, at their first dinner, agreed to present an address of thanks to Dr. Macgregor, St. Cuthbert's, for the interest he has manifested in the welfare of Canada. There are nearly fifty Canadians attending Edinburgh University.

AN extraordinary scene occurred in a Protestant church in Leicestershire, England, on a recent Sabbath. The organist commenced to play the National Anthem as a thanksgiving for the recent escape of her Majesty, but was peremptorily stopped by the officiating clergyman.

DR. GEORGE JEFFREY, in the Glasgow North U.P. Presbytery, made a strong protest against "Sunday desecration" in the form of science lectures, and warned the University professors who countenanced them that the young men destined for the Church might be withdrawn from the baneful influence of their teaching.

The rumour that the Japanese Government is about to establish Shintoism as the State religion, is confirmed by later news. Its object seems to be, by the recognition and elevation of the old religion of the country, to stem the tide of Christianity and Buddhism, which, having been admitted, the Government finds itself otherwise powerless to oppose.

EARL CAIRNS, speaking at Bournemouth on intemperance, said it was an astounding and almost incredible fact that there were spent in Great Britain every year in the purchase of intoxicating liquors 150 millions sterling—nearly twice the national revenue. What was wanted was greater legislative control over the houses, as to numbers and other matters.

GRAY CLOUD, a chief among the Dakota Indians, was sentenced to be hung for his part in the outbreak of 1862, but was pardoned by President Lincoln, and is now one of the most active Christian ministers in that region. These Indian Churches have a membership of 800, with ten pastors. Their contributions average nearly a dollar a month from each individual.

UNDER the head of Established Church news, a Scotch paper of the 23rd ult. contains the following item:—"The committee appointed by the congregation of the West Church, Inverness, to look out for a minister, having agreed to recommend Rev. Gavin Lang, of Montreal, a large meeting of members has unanimously resolved to oppose the recommendation."

It is now announced that the Empress of Austria has made up her mind to visit Canada next fall, after spending the summer in England. Her Majesty, as is well known, is a most indefatigable huntress, and the accounts given her of the wild sports of the West by the young Hungarian noblemen, Counts Sechenyi and Andrassy, who visited Canada and the United States last year, has determined her to come out.

THE Rev. A. J. Bray, of Montreal, is reported as having, in a recent sermon on "Inspiration," expressed his deliberate conviction that unless the orthodox churches gave up their claims to the supernatural origin of religion, Christianity would soon crumble into dust. This "advanced" utterance can be easily accounted for by supposing that the pastor of Zion Church stayed

at home that evening and sent the editor of the "Spectator" to supply his pulpit.

REV. WM. MACLOY, of the Free Methodist Church, Paisley, Scotland, has accepted a call to the New Rothesay parish church. Before going to Paisley he was minister in Ballymena, Ireland, for eighteen years. Owing to the position taken up by the leaders of the Free Church on the Disestablishment question he recently resolved to sever his connection with that body and to cast in his lot with the Established Church.

THE New York "Independent" says: "Senator Hoar's amendment to the Indian Appropriation Bill, providing that two hundred and fifty thousand dollars shall be appropriated for the purpose of establishing an efficient system for the education of Indian children, ought to be adopted by the Senate. The surest and quickest way to solve the Indian problem is to educate Indian children. This will cost far less than to feed and fight Indians as savages."

AT the beginning of the present century the Waldensian people were visited by the Dean of Durham, who discovered a document referring to money which had been collected by Cromwell for the Waldensians. He found that this money had never been sent to them, because Cromwell died, and the money was squandered by his successor. The dean, however, presented the matter to the English Government, and after a discussion in Parliament, the Government, in 1824, paid interest on the money collected by Cromwell.

AT a religious Temperance Conference held in Edinburgh on the 17th ult., under the presidency of Principal Cairns, Provost Moncur gave an account of the work of Mr. Murphy in Dundee, which he described as the most remarkable movement that had occurred there during the last thirty years. Nearly 36,000 persons had taken the pledge; there had since been a considerable diminution of business in the liquor traffic; an extraordinary increase had taken place in the demand for milk; much more butcher meat was now used than formerly, and it had been elevating and beneficial in various other ways. Mr. Maurice Paterson said the news from Dundee sounded like a chapter of romance.

THE Jin-iki sha, or man-power cart of Japan, owes its existence to Mr. Goble, who was formerly a Baptist missionary attached to the American Society. In Tokio alone there are between forty and fifty thousand, giving employment to a similar number of men; and the tax upon them brings into the Government treasury, from Tokio alone, a revenue of over \$75,000 annually. They weigh about one hundred pounds each; yet one of these cart-men can keep pace with a horse and carriage going at an ordinary rate. These conveyances are being introduced into India, and will be found cheaper than an ordinary carriage, and more pleasant than a palanquin. Zenana missionary ladies may find them convenient in the narrow lanes which they have to visit.

A NEW ORLEANS paper reports: "Rev. D. A. Payne, senior bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, lately, in the course of his Episcopal visitations in Florida, was rudely ordered to withdraw from the palace car into the smoking car of the train on which he was then travelling. Rather than submit to this indignity, the aged prelate, the most scholarly and accomplished in the denomination over which he presides, was landed in the woods, and travelled for several miles on foot to his destination; and still this country is supposed by some social enthusiasts to have been dedicated to the freedom of the oppressed!" The Atlanta Methodist Advocate thus comments: "Bishop Payne presided with dignity and ability over the Ecumenical Conference in London, and has been dined by Queen Victoria, but he cannot ride in a 'white man's car' on a Florida railroad! He ought to sue the company for damages."

REV. WILLIAM MACKENZIE, formerly minister of North Leith Church, Scotland, died on the Red Sea, on the 10th ult., while on his way home from Queensland. In 1832, while minister of Comrie, he made the famous motion which led to the Auchterarder case, and culminated in the Disruption. He was born in Inverness in 1804. While at college, the one prize in the Hebrew first class, by a majority of one vote over Wm. Cunningham, afterwards Principal, was given to Mr. Mackenzie. He was at that time asked by Drs. Inglis and Gordon to go to India, but they afterwards fixed upon a student from St. Andrew's, who turned out to be the eminent Dr. Duff. On returning home from his last session at college, Mr. Mackenzie spent six days at Cromarty with Hugh Miller, who was then working as a mason. He was a distinguished scholar, and a preacher of great ability. His favourite study was prophecy, on which subject he published several volumes. In consequence of ill-health he resigned his pastorate in 1857, and for some years resided in the Isle of Man. Ten years ago Mr. Mackenzie with his wife and family settled in Queensland, but his son-in-law, Mr. Lyall, having disposed of his property there, he was accompanying his daughter and her husband and family, on a visit to the south of France, when he died on the voyage and was buried in the Red Sea.

THE Rev. Dr. Jenkins, lately of St. Paul's Church, Montreal, who is now residing, for the benefit of his health, at Hyères, in the south of France, writes to one of his friends in this country as follows:—"This is the 20th day of January. I am sitting in my room with windows open, the thermometer standing at 68°. The heat in the open air is so great that one is glad to take shelter from it; how could it be the time so well, as in writing to one's friends? The climate of the Riviera, to me who am testing it for the first time, is wonderful. I speak of its mildness and dryness. Its results on the health of the invalid are often satisfactory. To secure such results the patient should never be sent here in a condition of body so weak as to disable him from taking exercise, both walking and driving, in the open air. Many, alas! come here too late, and die. I have called the climate 'wonderful' The place abounds in palm trees—some of them as lofty as I have seen in India. The olive, magnolia, arbutus, aloe, and cactus flourish luxuriantly. Orange and lemon trees, with their clusters of ripe golden fruit, are innumerable; every garden, yes, every small plot of ground, is adorned by their richness and beauty. The heliotrope, the geranium, the gladiola, are in full bloom; roses and violets abound. From the garden of this hotel hundreds of branches of violets are daily gathered for the Paris market, and even for the Covent Garden. You never had a warmer or a finer June day in Montreal than we have enjoyed on this 20th of January. There is a French Protestant church here of about forty communicants, and a congregation of from sixty to eighty. The minister is an earnest, well-read, intelligent, evangelical clergyman, who seems to understand his work, and tries his best to do it. His wife is like-minded with himself. Their work is arduous, for the Protestant French are in a small minority—very small; and their battle is with the triple foe of religion—Superstition, Infidelity, and Worldliness. It is cheering, in presence of such influences, as we pass through one of the principal streets, to see an ecclesiastical building dedicated, "Au Christ Redempteur"—to Christ the Redeemer. This is the inscription over the Protestant church. The Church of Scotland has a chaplain here—the Rev. David Scott, B.D., of Dalziel, near Hamilton. He commenced his services in the church to which I have just referred. Soon after, his throat gave such signs of debility, that his medical men forbade his preaching. Since then I have taken the service for him—an afternoon service on each Lord's day. I am very thankful to be able once more to occupy a pulpit. I may say, indeed, that the effect of this delicious climate upon my own health is most gratifying. The benefit is greater than we could have anticipated."