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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 frequent 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 20 cents each. Address—

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## Notes of the Week.

THERE are at least two ministerial clubs for Presbyterians in London. One of them, "The Theological," meets monthly at the Church offices, and includes elders who take their due share in writing and reading papers. The other, "The Clerical," exists more for social purposes, and meets at the Holborn Restaurant.

THE Swedish Bible Society at its annual meeting, in April, reported during the year 8,000 copies of the Bible printed, 6,272 Bibles, 6,517 Testaments, and 875 Psalters sold and distributed. Since its organization the Society has printed 355,227 Bibles, 743,722 Testaments, 875 Psalters, and 601 copies of the Gospel of Matthew in the Lapp language.

THE *Daily Chronicle* ranks Edinburgh first in the reading population of Britain; Glasgow, Manchester and Leeds follow in order; Dublin is almost nowhere. "Scotsmen read most, Englishmen and Welshmen take a good second place, and Ireland makes a bad third." In New Zealand, it may be added, the Scotch city of Dunedin used to be ahead of the others in book enterprise.

LAST Synod revealed a serious divergence of opinion in the English Presbyterian Church on the merits of the "Revised Directory of Public Worship," which is still lying on the table of the Supreme Court unapproved of. An effort is to be made by conferences in the various Presbyteries to arrive at some basis of agreement. The Presbytery of London South has already moved in the matter.

DR. WILLIAM WRIGHT says that Prof. Sayce believes he has succeeded in deciphering the Hittite inscription discovered at Hamath in 1873. The reference to the Hittites in the Bible is considered by Dr. Wright correct, although no mention of that remarkable people occurs in classical works. Those who believe not Moses and the prophets are, he says, now being confounded by bricks and stones.

THE Rev. J. G. Sutherland, of Beith, has informed Irvine Presbytery that his experience as a representative to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland told him that the idea of Presbyterian parity was one of the wildest delusions, the princes of the Church monopolizing the whole time. The yearly changing of representatives also strengthened the hands of those who got appointments every year.

THE Rev. R. Borland, of Yarrow, was the preacher at the service at Drumclog on the anniversary of the battle. He defended the Covenanters from modern traducers, but contended that there is a development in religious thought and each age has its special problems. A congregation estimated at 3,000 assembled on the field from far and near, and after the sermon a characteristic address was delivered by Prof. John Stuart Blackie.

THE *British Weekly* says: The numbers at Regent Square keep up well. On Sunday Professor Candlish preached, and there was a good attendance, although the rain no doubt explained some empty pews. Dr. Candlish preached on Mark x. 45, and took up the subject of the Atonement. He said,

"If Christ had only left the example of His perfect life, that would have been a noble work. But a thousand years of sad and bitter experience had shown that the law could not work its own fulfilment. All men had sinned, and unless they could be freed from the paralyzing power of past guilt, they could not enter on the path of holiness. Sin can only be put away by its desert being paid, and hence the sacrifice of Christ was needed." Mr. Macaskill would not have complained of Dr. Candlish's treatment of this doctrine.

THE New Hebridean correspondent of the *British Weekly* writes: Our new church in Futuna was opened on the 3rd of February. There was a pretty large attendance from the different districts, and several natives gave interesting addresses. On the 17th we were visited by a very severe hurricane. The hurricane of 1889, which passed over Futuna and Aneityum, destroyed the mission premises in Futuna, threw down the large new church at Aname. Aneityum, and a number of schools in out-districts. But the hurricane was much more severe this year, and there was greater destruction of fruit-trees and plantations. The new dwelling-house and church bore the strain well and sustained no harm. The hurricane was most severe on Futuna, Tanna and probably Aniwa, and less so on Aneityum. About a fortnight later the communion was dispensed, and a few more natives were admitted as members of the young Church in Futuna. I hear that there is a proposal in Queensland to renew the Labour Traffic for another ten years and recruit labourers as before in the New Hebrides. If so, mission work will be seriously interfered with, and it will be scarcely possible for the traders and planters in the islands to obtain assistance, and trade is bound to fall off. The Labour Trade has already done immense harm in the New Hebrides. It has been one of the chief factors in the great decrease of population going on in these islands.

THE income of the Free Church of Scotland for foreign missions from all sources during the past year has been \$495,215, of which \$85,450 are from collections at home, \$24,035 from donations, \$33,890 from legacies, \$46,625 from the Ladies' Society for Female Education, \$70,130 from Government grants-in-aid, and \$88,410 from school and college fees. The negotiations with regard to a union of the colleges in Calcutta, supported by the Established and the Free Church, resulted in the approval of a plan, on a basis proposed by the missionaries themselves, the sole condition being that each Church should have a share in the management. Two especial lines of work have been carried out in India, one among the villages and the other among the Pariahs, both of which have shown excellent results. The colleges at Madras, Bombay and Nagpur, as well as Duff College at Calcutta, have had a year of gratifying success. In South Africa Lovedale, the greatest missionary institution of the continent, celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in July, and Dr. Stewart has been engaged in establishing a new institution of the same kind at Kibwezi. The Livingstonia mission has been passing through a serious time during the transition from native to British administration. The Keith-Falconer Mission is being carried on at Skeikh-Othman, but the missionaries hope to find a healthier centre somewhere in the interior, and with this view they have made tours in Yemen. There has been an organized attempt to visit the different congregations throughout Scotland and to bring all into communication with the Foreign Mission Board. The students' movement, also, has been most prominent, sixty-three students having expressed their desire for foreign work.

THE New York *Independent* says: Among the most prominent indications of the growing dissatisfaction with the Church of Rome in Italy, inside as well as outside, is the number of important books that have been published within the last few years by men in the Church. These books, touching upon the management of the Church, have been read by people on every hand, and the sale has been so great that the attention of the Curia has been

aroused. All the books have been placed in the Index, and the authors recalled to obedience by the threat of excommunication. Inasmuch as they are all priests, the threat means submission or starvation. Among the prominent books are "The Tyrants of the Church," by a priest in Venice, in which he discusses the abuses of Church government and the tyranny of the Jesuits. Canon V. Marchese, a parish priest in Piedmont, dares to attack the doctrines of the Council of Trent, presses for reform in the lives of the clergy, and discusses the social question in "The Reform of the Clergy," "The Council of Trent," "The Catholic Diaconate" and "The Social Question." Another priest, Don Pianciani, in "The Rome of the Popes," denounces the immoralities countenanced by the Church, but which are gradually disappearing under the present Government. Perhaps, however, the most important one of the whole is Bonghi's "Life of Jesus," 35,000 copies of which had been sold when all Italy was surprised by learning that it had been proscribed. Signor Bonghi, a distinguished statesman as well as university professor, has a wide reputation. In this remarkable book he presents the "Life of Jesus," compiled, as he says, from the four evangelists alone, without any aid from tradition or the Fathers. In order to bring it within the reach of as many as possible, it was issued in popular form and at a low price. Coming out within a few months of Signor Sonzogno's cheap edition of the Bible, the two books helped each other's circulation. While the other books referred to are mostly personal in their attacks, the "Life of Jesus" is entirely of a different nature, and those interested in Italian life will watch with considerable interest to see what position the author will take in view of the condemnation of his book.

THE University Extension Movement, which has proved so successful in England, and which has been begun in Canada, is being energetically forwarded in the United States, as the following will show: The rapid progress of the movement known as University Extension, and its adoption within the last two years in nearly every State of the Union, have made clearly manifest the need of better opportunities for training and preparation for those looking forward to the work of Extension lecturing. In answer to many demands the American Society for the Extension of University Teaching has accordingly resolved to open in Philadelphia on October 1, 1892, a seminary for the study of American educational problems and for the training of University Extension lecturers and organizers. The work of the seminary will include the whole range of University Extension teaching so presented and discussed that the members will be prepared to judge wisely as to the methods best adapted to any given set of conditions, under which they may be called to work. In addition to this technical instruction there will be given a series of lectures on the educational system of the United States. The aim of this part of the work is to offer for the first time in the history of American education an opportunity for the man or woman who desires to be a real leader in educational thought and action to put himself in touch with the latest and best thought. The seminary will be under the direction of Professor Edmund J. James, President of the American Society, assisted by leading educators of this country and Europe. Among those who will lecture before the seminary are: Hon. William T. Harris, U. S. Commissioner of Education; Dr. James McAlister, President of the Drexel Institute; Dr. Charles DeGarmo, President of Swarthmore College; Dr. Isaac Sharpless, President of Haverford College; Professor Simon N. Patten, of the University of Pennsylvania; Principal George M. Phillips, State Normal School, West Chester, Pa.; Mr. A. E. Winship, editor of the *New England Journal of Education*; Mr. Ray Green Huling, editor of *School and College*, and Rev. Hudson Shaw, of Oxford University, England. More than a hundred leading American colleges and universities are co-operating in the work of the American Society, and are looking to it for such a solution as here presented of the various needs of Extension Teaching.