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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE Roman Catholic Archbishop of Paris publishes a letter to the Senate of France, protesting against the educational bills.

OF Talmage the Glasgow "Mail" says: "Compared with Moody he wants earnestness, with Spurgeon originality, and with Gough the knowledge of platform effect. Generally speaking had we not known that it was the celebrated American orator who was lecturing, we might have mistaken him for an ordinary Presbyterian minister making a humorous address at a first-class soiree."

AT the annual general meeting of the Ottawa Ladies' College, the Board of Managers were instructed to apply to the Parliament of Ontario for the necessary Act to give effect to the proposed connection with the Presbyterian Church. 130 pupils were in attendance last term, of whom 37 were boarders. H. F. Bronson, Esq., was re-elected President and a vote of thanks passed to him.

COMMANDER MATTHEWS, U.S.N., informs the "Spirit of Missions" that in a locality within the recent famine district in China, a community has presented a large and magnificent heathen temple to what they call "The Jesus Church," and Dr. Nelson, in a letter published in the same paper, speaks of the baptism, in the same district, of 300 persons at one time by two of the London Society's missionaries, who have, besides, 1,000 candidates.

THE English "Inquirer," a Unitarian paper, says that the efforts of Unitarianism among the working-classes in Birmingham, Wolverhampton, and many other large centres are little short of failure. Correspondents of American Unitarian journals also state that Unitarianism in Britain is very feeble and has been losing prestige. The reason assigned is, that in other religious bodies many of the views for which Unitarianism has been wont to contend are now prevalent.

THE elders of the Rev. David Macrae's church, Gourrock, locked the doors, and refused admission to the Rev. Mr. Boyd, who had been chosen to intimate the Synod's decision. Mr. Boyd protested, and read the decision in front of the church, afterwards conducting service in an adjoining field. A strong guard was stationed inside the church, and a patrol of elders and leading gentlemen of the congregation were on

the alert outside to resist a forcible attempt at entry. The congregation has resolved to separate from the U. P. body, and call Mr. Macrae as pastor.

THE Rev. Fergus Ferguson, who was arraigned before the Synod of the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland last year and admonished, in a recent sermon thus stated his belief on one of the doctrines in question, viz., everlasting punishment:—"The punishment of unforgiven sin is everlasting in the sense of entailing upon the sinner an irreparable loss of the highest kind—namely, the loss of that life in God into which those only are admitted who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ now." He stands squarely with the Rev. David Macrae, who was recently deposed, on this doctrine.

"SUNDAY EXCURSIONS"—this was the "heading" in large, distinct letters. The sub-headings were "A Fight," "Drunkenness and Profanity." A little further down is a description of the "Fight," which was accompanied with a flood of "obscene language." On another boat a drunken man was knocked down by the "bar-tender." On another there was fighting "all the time," and one man "fatally shot." This is the Sabbath as it is spent in the waters around New York. A traveller in Scotland, whose words have just met our eye, describes the scene quite the reverse: "Here one realizes the proverbial sanctity of a Scottish Sabbath morn, as you see the people from distant parts gathering in groups around the church, and then joining in worship just as their fathers did a hundred years ago." Which of these is to be the Sabbath of Canada?

FOR many years the Provinces of our Dominion have been flooded with impure literature emanating from the United States. Our own Governments have endeavoured to prevent the importation of such matter, but with only partial success. We rejoice to find that steps are being taken by the American Government to shut off this deleterious stream at its source. A publisher who has been in the practice of disseminating literature of an improper kind throughout the United States and Canada, has recently been sentenced to thirteen months' imprisonment; and although the case was appealed to the President, and much pressure brought to bear upon that functionary to have the sentence commuted, he inflexibly sustained the decision of the court and left the culprit to undergo his well-deserved punishment. We hope the example thus made will have a beneficial effect.

THE "Religious Herald" reminds city churches of their relation to their sister churches in the country in the following vigorous fashion: When a favoured city church which draws its spiritual strength largely from the smaller rural churches, gets proud and high-minded, and stands aloof from the helpful offices of Christian fellowship and co-operative effort, absorbing in itself all it can command of culture and talent in the pulpit, and of money and efficiency in the pews, and caring little or nothing for the general thrift of the sisterhood of churches to which it nominally belongs; we are reminded of the quaint, laconic, but exceedingly apt reply which President Lincoln made to one who said to him in those dark days of disloyalty at the North, "New York is about to proclaim itself a free city like Hamburg." To this the jaded, harassed President responded in a tone of mingled mirth and sadness, "As to that, I think it will be some time

before the front door sets up housekeeping on its own account."

WE regret to announce, says the Belfast "Witness" of the 1st instant, the death of the Rev. Dr. Lorimer, Principal of the Presbyterian College of London. The deceased gentleman had been at Workington three weeks ago at the induction of a new Presbyterian minister there, who had been one of his students. Afterwards he went to Whitehaven and stayed with Mr. Kitchen. There he was taken somewhat seriously ill, but seemed to have partly recovered. He was again seized with illness, and before medical assistance could be obtained, the rev. gentleman expired. He will be taken to Edinburgh for interment. The deceased gentleman has been connected with the Presbyterian College in London since its commencement, and for the last year and a half he has been its Principal. Formerly he was Professor of Biblical Criticism. He is the author of several works, one of the principal being a memoir of John Knox. Deceased intended to have been present at the Evangelical Alliance meeting in Switzerland. He has two children, one being Dr. J. A. Lorimer, of Farnham, in Surrey, and his daughter Annie is married to Mr. James Austin, barrister. Deceased was 67 years of age.

FROM the report of the Tamsui Mission Hospital, Formosa, for 1878, it appears that 738 new and 462 old patients attended sometime during the year. These numbers are smaller than the corresponding numbers for 1877. For the decrease in attendance Mr. McKay gives three reasons: (1) the almost uninhabitable condition of the building, which was allowed to fall into bad repair in the prospect of securing a site whereon to erect a new building in the course of the year, the negotiations for which site have been so far fruitless; (2) the occasional absence, on professional engagements, of Mr. Ringer, the resident medical practitioner at Tamsui, on whose gratuitous services the hospital is entirely dependent; (3) the increase of medical work in the rural districts resulting from the larger number of stations and the growing skill of the helpers in relieving sickness. Could a site be procured, there is no further obstacle in the way of the erection of a commodious hospital; for, as our readers are aware, Mrs. McKay, of Windsor, Ont., has already furnished the funds for that purpose. Even as it is, much suffering has been relieved and much prejudice removed. Mr. McKay states that in the course of his almost continuous travel through the country in the prosecution of his great work of evangelizing the inhabitants, he often hears of the good impressions made by the successful operations in the hospital. He has also found his own services as a physician and dentist in great demand on his journeys, having in the course of the year dispensed medicines to 2,916 persons and extracted 1,436 teeth. The hospital accounts show a balance of \$382.74 on hand. The British residents in Tamsui have, as usual, subscribed liberally. The drug account, \$767.56, has been paid out of the Foreign Mission Fund of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. Mr. McKay regards this expenditure as large, but states that fifteen up country stations had been supplied, and that a good stock still remained in the hospital at the end of the year. Money expended in this way is well invested, as it provides one of the most effective means for the removal of prejudice and for the opening up of the way for the introduction of Christianity among the heathen.