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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

IN 7,000 churchyards of England it is still impossible for a dissenting parishioner to be buried by his own minister. Were we not familiar with the fact we should have thought it impossible that any Church in Christendom could refuse courtesy and conciliation to mourners for the dead.

CHURCH discipline seems to be an easier matter in Egypt than in this country. Dr. Lansing, one of the United Presbyterian Mission, writes recently of one of the native deacons at Su't, some sixty miles south of Cairo, who had suspended ten of his members "for such crimes as bad dispositions, vanity, stinginess, and not allowing their wives to go to weekly prayer-meeting."

THE Sultan has complied with British demands and liberated the Turkish priest convicted of circulating pamphlets for the dissemination of Christianity, and has restored the papers of a missionary which were seized for the same reason. The Turkish Government, however, declares that it takes its action merely out of deference to the request of Great Britain, and affirms the right to punish missionaries and priests for the propagation of the doctrines of Christianity.

THE South Country, or Negeb, of Palestine, and the regions adjoining the western shores of the Dead Sea, are inhabited by rather local yet nomadic tribes of Bedwan Arabs. Along the borders of both these districts toward the high land of Palestine proper, there is much fine pasturage in spring time, to which the *fellahin*, or native peasants, descend; but, in order to share it peaceably with the Arabs, they enter into an arrangement with some one of the tribes, by which they are protected from the rapacity of others, or from losses by strangers. In this, as it appears to Lieutenant Conder, the old system is perpetuated under which David's band refrained from and protected the possessions of Nabal. (Cf. 1 Sam. xxv. 7, 15).

PROFESSOR CANDLISH is evidently to have some trouble from a section of the Glasgow Free Church Presbytery. At the meeting of that Court, on 4th of February, Rev. Geo. Campbell (formerly of Free North Church, Aberdeen) proposed that a committee be appointed to investigate the nature of the views promulgated by the Professor in his address at the opening of the session of the Glasgow College. A resolution was proposed by Rev. Dr. Adam, and seconded by Rev. A. C. Fullerton, refusing the committee, and censuring Mr. Campbell for the injurious irregularity of the course he had followed. Rev. Mr. Gordon alleged that there was considerable feeling abroad as to the writings of Professor Candlish, and the state of their colleges. The resolution of Dr. Adam was adopted by sixty-nine to eight votes, and the minority protested and appealed to the Synod.

WE learn that there is much religious interest among the students at Princeton College. A correspondent writes that, for some time previous to the day of prayer for colleges, a very earnest spirit of prayer prevailed; that about one hundred of the professors of religion connected with the well-known Philadelphia Society, publicly rose and pledged themselves to renewed fidelity and Christian effort among their fellows. On the day of prayer for colleges, Rev. Dr. Kempshall, of Elizabeth, addressed the students in the afternoon and evening. The meetings have been continued with great interest, and the work still progresses quietly, without special excitement, but with the appearance of such depth and power as to indicate the special presence of the Holy Spirit. Quite a large number in the Scientific Department, and in all of the regular college classes, have hopefully passed from death unto life, and the work still goes forward.

MR. JAMES LENOX, the founder of the library called by his name, died in New York on the 17th ult. He was the son of Robert Lenox, a native of Scotland, was born in New York in 1800, inherited from his father a considerable property, and by the increase in the value of his real estate became a rich man. He used his money wisely in fostering important charities and educational institutions. It was owing to his exertion and liberality that the hospital on East Seventy-first street was built, and he had the main part in founding and sustaining the Presbyterian Home for Aged Women. Probably it is by the Lenox Library that his name will be longest remembered. For this he gave the land, the building, and his magnificent collection of books relating to American history and his fine collection of pictures. The value of the gift is estimated at one million dollars. Mr. Lenox was a devout and active member of the Presbyterian Church.

A STRONG proof of the progress made by Protestantism in France is given in an article describing the "Religious movement at St. Just (Oise)." In the public square of the city is a spacious and imposing church, where, till a few months ago, the Catholics worshipped. As this church is replaced by a new edifice, they do not occupy it any longer, and the municipality disposed of it at its pleasure, and the Protestants have engaged it for their services. M. de Pressensé and M. Dhombres have preached there to a thousand or twelve hundred listeners crowding in the hall. As the latter was recently preaching on the distinctive characteristics of Protestantism the large audience listened with great satisfaction, and at every instant they applauded his sentiments. When his discourse was at an end M. Dhombres said: "Gentlemen, I am going to do an act of courage and of Christian fidelity. I invite you to stand up and to join in the prayer which I am about to address to our Heavenly Father;" and lo, the entire assembly stood up, and a thousand Catholics joined in an evangelical prayer, offered with deep emotion in the French language, under the astonished vaults which for centuries have been the witnesses of Roman ceremonies.

A GENEVA paper says a temperance movement has been started in Switzerland. M. Bodenheimer, formerly of the Federal Assembly, has been delivering lectures in Neuchâtel and other places, exhorting the people to take measures to prevent the further spread of drunkenness, which is increasing at an alarming rate. The number of distilleries has increased enormously, especially in the cantons of Argau, Soleure, and Lucerne, while in the canton of Berne alone there are 12,000 stills. There are stills in nearly every farmer's house and peasant's cottage, alcohol being made from potatoes and beet root; while from Germany is imported a quantity of so-called "mixed brandy," which possesses the most deleterious properties. M. Bodenheimer suggests that the most effectual means of meeting the evil would be to increase the duty upon alcohol, which at present amounts only to thirty-five centimes per head of population, while wheat is taxed at the rate of forty-four centimes per head, or twenty per cent. more than alcohol. In other words, the duty on alcohol imported into Switzerland is less than a thirtieth of the amount levied in England; while there is no restriction upon the number of distilleries, which do not require a license and pay no tax.

THE secession of the Rev. Arthur Wagner, a Ritualistic clergyman of Brighton, England, of some local reputation, is less significant than the terms on which he is to be admitted to the Roman Catholic Church; these latter indicate the influence which the mild progressiveness of the present Pope is having upon the historic faith and traditions of the Romish communion. Mr. Wagner is married; the Pope cannot divorce him even if he were willing to be divorced; but, if the cable reports are to be trusted, he is to be received into the Roman Catholic priesthood, reordained, and allowed to assist in priestly ministrations

in the Roman Catholic Church in mass and preaching; the only priestly function denied him will be that of hearing confession. It is reported, further that the principles on which Mr. Wagner is to be admitted to the Roman Catholic Church have been definitely settled upon as a precedent for the future, and it is not unreasonable to hope that a considerable portion of the High Church Anglicans of the Mac-konochie, Tooth and Wagner stamp will find this doorway wide enough to admit them to the Roman Catholic priesthood. It is also reported that the newly converted clergy will be allowed to retain the vernacular in the mass as well as their wives in their homes.

ADVICES received state that in Uganda the French missionaries still enjoyed the protection of King Mtesa. The English, for unknown reasons, were about to leave that region. In Ulundi the French missionaries had erected a station, where they rescued abandoned infants. The Belgian explorers had reached Tabara, two of their four elephants surviving this experimental journey. Dr. Van den Henven was there awaiting the two other Belgian explorers, who left Brundisi last month, while Captain Popelin had gone on to Tanganyika to rejoin M. Gambier. Two new members had reached the English mission at Ujiji, but the third had died *en route*. M. Debaiza, after long absence in search of his baggage, left at Simba, had returned to Ujiji. Mr. Stanley's expedition up the Congo, Captain Carter's arrival at Unyanyembe with the elephants sent by the King of the Belgians, and the impending arrival of a caravan of Algerian missionaries, with Belgian and English auxiliaries, were known at Tanganyika. The death of Mirambo was positively asserted, but required confirmation. The Algerian missionaries were enraptured with the kindness of the English encountered on their route. Missionaries of the Church Missionary Society gave them oxen and sheep, the Uganda English lent them a sailing boat to cross the Victoria Nyanza, and the Tanganyika English lent them their warehouses, thus following the example set by Dr. Kirk, the Consul at Zanzibar. One of the Algerians, on the other hand, cured an English missionary of a wound in the hand, threatening mortification.

THE American Missionary Association records a good year's work in its thirty-third annual report. The debt of \$37,389.79, with which it was burdened at the beginning of last year, has been paid, and for the first time in sixteen years the Association is free from that incubus. Its work among the Freedmen, the importance of which is not at all understood by the majority of Northern people, has been carried on with energy and wisdom. The report says very suggestively: "The only permanent guarantee against the abuse of any race or class, either North or South, is the diffusion of Christian intelligence among the abused, and of the spirit of Christian love among those who abuse them." The Association has 8 chartered institutions, 12 high schools and 24 common schools under its charge in the Southern States, with 163 teachers and 7,207 pupils. To these must be added 5,265 Sunday school scholars. These institutions are all schools of training in Christian knowledge and character. Of 52 graduates of Atlanta, 50 were professing Christians at graduation. Churches to the number of 67 are kept in active operation, with a membership of 4,600, of whom 745 were added during the past year. Three new churches were established during the same period. The work in Africa has made similar progress. The Association has decided, on the condition of the receipt of £3,000 from Mr. Robert Arthington, of Leeds, England, and of £3,000 additional through the efforts of Dr. O. H. White in England, to establish and permanently sustain a new mission in Eastern Africa. The twelve schools for the Chinese which the Association carries on on the Pacific Coast have done good work and promise the most substantial results. The total income of the year was \$215,431.17, an increase of nearly \$20,000 over that of the previous year.