

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.

THE foundations for the twenty-second Protestant church in the city of Rome was laid a few days since.

THE native Christians of Madagascar have given more than \$4,000 for the spread of the gospel within the last ten years.

DR. HOVD CARPENTER, Bishop of Ripon, has been elected Hampton Lecturer for the ensuing year. The appointment is worth \$3,500.

AN effort is being made to call a convention of the Young People's Associations of all the churches in New York, to meet in September next.

CANON FARRAR asserts that ritualism is more popular now in England than ever it was, and that its leanings toward the Church of Rome are especially marked.

TWO St. Louis gentlemen have presented a large brick house at Booneville, Mo., to the Presbyterian Board of Ministerial Relief as a home for aged and feeble ministers.

THE city of Rome recently celebrated what the historians figure as the 2,637th anniversary of its foundation. All the edifices of the capital were magnificently illuminated.

THE first American legacy Mr. Spurgeon has ever received for any of his institutions has just been intimated to him by the trustees of a gentleman in New Jersey, who has bequeathed \$2,000 for the orphanage.

MRS. TURNER, Liverpool, widow of the late Chas. Turner, B.P., has given \$100,000 to establish a fund for aged English Church clergymen in Liverpool diocese, the sum to be paid to each not to exceed \$1,000 a year.

ON Whit Sunday the Synod of the Augsburg Confession caused to be read in its churches a circular recommending the duty of family worship, and also that prayer should be made in public and in private for the Church.

DRPSENDEN has given £5,000 towards the building of an hospital by the Evangelical Lutheran Deaconesses' Institution, in addition to £15,000 devoted to the same purpose by the Diet of Saxony. The hospital is to be used as a training school for nurses.

THE sixth triennial *St. of the Y.M.C.A.* of French Switzerland was held at Lausanne, May 22nd, in the Ton-balle, Lausanne, for three days. Delegates came from all the affiliated towns, and sermons, reports, banquets, etc., made a very successful gathering.

The *Evangelists of Nimes*, again call upon the authorities to put down bull-fights, those savage, brutal, and illegal entertainments which in the summer months are got up for the people, and which are complacently tolerated by those charged to execute the laws.

AT Old Orchard Beach, from the 2nd to the 12th of August, an undenominational convention, for Bible study and the advancement of Christian work will be held under the auspices of the New York Gospel Tabernacle, and conducted by the pastor, Rev. A. B. Simpson.

A MOVEMENT is on foot to restore the tombstone in Stirling churchyard of Rev. John Russel, the Kilmarnock minister and leader in his day of the Ayrshire evangelicals, who became a victim of Burns' satire. A sculptor has been employed and the work will speedily be carried out.

THE Protestants of Ireland are not the "insignificant minority" that is popularly imagined. The Episcopalians number 600,000, the Presbyterians number 485,000, the Methodists and Unitarians, 110,000, the Congregationalists, Baptists and other minor denominations make up about 60,000 more.

AFTER five years of deadlock between Prussia and England over their respective rights to appointment of the Protestant Bishop of Jerusalem, Prussia has decided to dissolve the compact of 1841, under which the two countries agreed to alternate in the appointment, and to found an independent Prussian Bishopric at the Holy City.

IN Belgium, although much encouragement has been received in colportage and evangelization, the work is very difficult. At Antwerp the pastor seeks in vain a room in which to hold meetings. As soon as it gets to be known they are Protestants, the house, car, and heart are shut to them. Gross superstition reigns, not only in country places, but also in many towns.

AT the 150th anniversary of the Congregational Church in Norwood, Massachusetts, the Rev. Dr. W. Chickering, of Washington, D.C., spoke of himself as the fourth in the line of five generations of Congregational clergymen, his son the Rev. J. W. Chickering being the fifth. Dr. Chickering is the efficient secretary and representative of the Congressional Temperance Society. He was for a number of years a pastor in Portland, Maine.

THE Rev. William H. Roberts, D.D., of Princeton, N.J., has announced his acceptance of the Chair of Practical Theology in Lane Theological Seminary, to which he was elected a few weeks ago. His acceptance of this Professorship will not necessitate any change whatever in Dr. Roberts' official position in the Church as Stated Clerk of the General Assembly, which he will continue to hold and for which he is so eminently qualified.

THE Scotch church of Rotterdam has agreed to present a call to the Rev. John Irwin Brown, M.A., a licentiate of

the Presbyterian Church in Ireland. Mr. Brown, who was licensed last month by the Presbytery of Belfast, is the oldest son of the Rev. N. M. Brown, D.D., of Limavady, County Derry. This church is one of the oldest in Holland, having been founded in 1642. It possesses considerable real property and is endowed by the State.

SOME much needed improvements are to be made in the Fourteenth street Presbyterian church, on Second avenue and Fourteenth street, New York, Rev. F. H. Marling, pastor. The cost of the improvements is placed at \$3,000, and if no unexpected delay occurs the house of worship will be ready for occupancy by September. At a recent communion season in this church two scholars from its Chinese school were baptized with other candidates.

THE Swiss Society advocating the observance of the Lord's Day was held in Geneva, June 23rd. The committee urgently pressed upon all Christians to seek to suppress the public noisy *fetes* held on Sundays. A very successful innovation was made quite recently when the "Tir Militaire" held its grand shooting festival on Thursday instead of, as heretofore, on Sunday. The committee is working for the suppression of postal service on Sunday.

A GENERAL and widespread interest is awakened throughout the North and West Highlands of Scotland in connection with Dr. Somerville's evangelistic tour in those districts. He hopes to begin about July 11th, and has resolved to take the western division of the Highlands during autumn, leaving the eastern district, where railway communication is available, to be taken up later on. Many will follow the venerable Moderator of the Free Church in his mission with deep interest, and there will, doubtless, be much earnest, believing prayer offered on his behalf.

THE Egyptian Exploration Fund has been doing most valuable service, and its last discovery possesses deep interest. The distinguished explorer, Mr. Flinders Petrie, has been investigating a mound which had excited his attention, and which was called by the Arabs, "The castle of the Jew's Daughter." This turns out to be the palace of Pharaoh Psammetichus, in which, B.C. 585, the fugitive daughters of the King of Judah were placed. The whole discovery offers a remarkable corroboration of Jer. xliii., and is still further destined to confirm the historical accuracy of the prophet.

THE Palestine Exploration Fund has given an excellent account of itself at its twenty-first annual meeting. In every part of the Holy Land, in that of the Hittites, in the Sinaitic Peninsula, and in the region of the Red Sea, most remarkable elucidations and corroborations have been given of Scripture history. Recent additions to our knowledge of clean and unclean beasts are confirming the evidence that Leviticus was written at the beginning and Deuteronomy at the close of the Israelitish wanderings, and important discoveries, in regard to certain statements in the gospels, are anticipated in tracing the second wall of Jerusalem.

IT was reported to the Irish General Assembly that "a considerable amount of correspondence passed between the Dublin Presbytery and the Board of Trinity College on the subject of Lectures and Catechetical examinations, and in the draft-scheme which the Presbytery submitted, the Presbytery employed the terms 'Episcopal Church' with reference to the Protestant Episcopal Church, but the Board of Trinity College objected, and asked that the designation 'Church of Ireland,' should be substituted. The Presbytery agreed to the alternation on condition of inserting that title within inverted commas." Was not that reducing the objection to a very fine point?

M. EMPAYTAS, of Barcelona, speaking of the hindrances to the free proclamation of the gospel during the reign of Alfonso XII., says they were caused not so much by the young king as by the intolerance of the party who called him to the throne. If the gospel has not made more progress of late years, it must be attributed to the profound indifference of the nation to anything really serious. Mr. Armstrong is of opinion that with more religious liberty, evangelical work would advance in Spain; he believes that though the recent terrible judgments have not caused a national humiliation, yet that many individuals, especially in the villages, are better prepared to receive the truth.

THE eighty-seventh anniversary of the Religious Tract Society, held a few days since in Exeter Hall, London, showed that the total receipts of the year from all sources amounted to \$1,055,493, an increase over the preceding year of \$21,202. During the year there have been issued 576 new publications, of which 176 were tracts. Up to the present time the society has published in 177 languages. The total circulation from the home depot including books, tracts, periodicals, counted in numbers, reached 66,884,100, of which 26,861,540 were tracts. The issues from foreign depots were, in round numbers, 15,000,000 making a total circulation of 81,884,100, and of 2,450,161,980 since the foundation of the society.

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