

BRITISH AND FOREIGN.
PRINCIPAL RAINY is to be the moderator of next assembly, Free Church.

DR. PERCIVAL, president of Trinity College, Oxford, has accepted the headmastership of Rugby.

THE first Presbyterian minister who gathered together a church in the modern city of Rome, was the late Rev. Mr. Lewis, formerly of Leith, Scotland.

MR. PETER MACKINLAY, M. A., has been appointed to the rectorship of Edinburgh training college, vacant by the death of Dr. Currie.

THE annual report of the Universalist General Convention lately held at Akron, Ohio, shows 900 Universalist churches in this country, with 35,214 members and property worth \$7,000,000.

THE title of the forthcoming history by Rev. A. H. Drysdale of Rochdale is "Presbyterians in England: their rise, decline, and revival." It is nearly ready for publication.

THE union of the Waldensian Church and the Free Italian Church has been virtually accomplished—Miss Lennox, who recently died in New York leaves £23,000 to the Presbyterian schemes.

MISS SEWARD, M. D., a member of the American Presbyterian Mission in India, has taken charge of the hospital for women in Allahabad, provided by the scheme which owes its origin to the Queen and lady Dufferin.

THERE are in connection with the Free Church of Kilmadock, Doune sixteen members whose accumulated ages reach the great total of 1,362 years. The ages are 90, 89, 86, 86, 86, 85, 85, 84, 84, 84, 83, 83, 82, 82. A record like this must really be very rare.

THERE is a growing desire for co-operation, if not union, among all branches of the Methodist family in England. Dr. Antliff has been preaching the anniversary sermons in the Wesleyan Chapel, Long Eaton. The fact of an exchange of pulpits between Primitive Methodists and Wesleyans is significant.

ONE of the last acts of the Queen before leaving Balmoral was to call at Crathie manse and say "good-bye" to the minister and Mrs. Campbell. During her brief sojourn at Holyrood Palace Her Majesty received the widow and two daughters of the late Norman Macleod and the wife of the Rev. Cameron Lees.

DR. WAYLAND of Philadelphia, the Baptist editor, says he cannot comprehend the laxity in doctrine, which is making its appearance among the American Congregationalists, and especially as they have been the most liberal of all the denominations in regard to foreign and home missions.

WITHIN the last three months there have sailed from the United States for foreign mission fields, ninety-nine men and women—some for Africa, some for India, some for China and Japan, some from Siam, etc. Among the rest were twelve from the United Presbyterian Church of America, five for Egypt and five for India.

PRINCIPAL CUNNINGHAM, in his inaugural address at St. Andrews, said that if the reason why no Government grants were allowed to the theological chairs was because the professors were bound to the Established church, he would throw them open to all theologians. He added that they should also be set free from all the creeds.

MR. GLADSTONE, is reported as saying that there are now in the Universities ten times as many infidels and atheists as when he was a student; but that there are, on the other hand, twenty times as many devout and earnest seekers after truth. This seems to us a judicious presentation of the case as regards Christianity in the present day.

THE statement is made that the Parsees have had three large and thirty-three smaller fire temples in Bombay, India, and that they have just instituted another. They use 1,001 pieces of fuel, sixteen different kinds, to obtain the sacred fire, which is thenceforward fed with sandal wood. The process of getting this fire, with attendant ceremonies, cost about \$12,000.

AT the celebration of the ministerial jubilee of Dr. William Grant, of Shoalhaven, New South Wales, where he has been pastor for upwards of thirty years, Dr. Steel recalled the days when Dr. Grant, as one of the Disruption heroes, preached in a tent and sometimes on the snow near the Pass of Killiecrankie. Dr. Grant is the father of Illawarra presbytery.

THE late Rev. William F. Keen left by his will \$3,000 to the Trustees of the Western Theological Seminary, for the founding of a scholarship therein, which is to be called the "William F. Keen Scholarship;" to the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church, \$2,500; to the Board of Foreign Missions, \$2,500; to the Board of Church Extension, \$1,000; to the Board of Education, \$500; for the relief of disabled ministers, widows and orphans of deceased ministers, \$1,000; to the Trustees of the General Assembly for Freedmen, \$1,000.

THE Rev. Dr. George Hutchison, of Banchoory Ternan, Kincardineshire, is to be the next Moderator of the Established Church Assembly. He has been in the ministry for more than forty

years, and is regarded as the leading ecclesiastic in the important Synod of Aberdeen. In eminence, however, he is not, says the Christian World, to be mentioned in comparison with the man whom the Free Church has chosen for a similar honour. The choice of Principal Rainy is significant on more grounds than one. He is the first of the ministers ordained since the Disruption to be called to the Moderator's chair.

REV. WILLIAM S. SWANSON, who has been selected to fill the Moderator's chair at the next meeting of the English Presbyterian Synod, with one exception, that of Rev. George Smith, is the Church's oldest China missionary. Mr. Swanson arrived in China in 1860, and returned home some three years back, since which time he has been engaged in secretarial and visitation work. Mr. Swanson, who is a capital speaker and a man of rare common-sense, has intimated his acceptance of the nomination, and his occupancy of the chair next April, cannot fail to give an impetus to the foreign mission work of the Church.

THE PEACE SOCIETY have just issued a useful paper in which the question is put, "Where are the millions gone?" Referring to the tremendous sums spent every year upon the army and navy, they point also to the charges of extravagance lately made, and to the little hope there is of these abuses being remedied. "Any real progress towards pacific retrenchment," it is added, "must come from the people's determination." It is suggested that it would be well to form a network of local Leagues for promoting that administrative reform which, at one period, the late Mr. Samuel Morley and a few others were anxious to bring about, but which neither they nor any other Englishmen have yet been able to secure.

IN a letter to the rector of Chislehurst on the subject of holding missions, the Archbishop of Canterbury writes:—"There are two subjects of prayer which I especially desire to suggest to you at the present time (1) the morals of our people and our own class. I do not compare the past with the present, or judge which is better or worse; but you will feel with me that there is a need to pray that God would guide us, clergy and laity, men and women, old and young, to make Temperance, soberness and chastity, the absolute rule and cherished principle of our society; (2) unbelief, free though as it is called, is not free. It is a tyrannical fashion in some circles, and many who would condemn its results are helping it on by carelessness in religious observations, carelessness in teaching their children or their dependants the truth of God. They think of all the concessions they can to the indifference, stillness, spirit of the world, and then wonder that it grows stronger."

THE Missionary work of the American Sunday-school Union during the past year has been crowned with many tokens of God's favour. Many hundreds of souls have given evidence of conversion; 1618 new Sunday schools have been planted where but few religious privileges of any kind had before existed; over 60,000 scholars were gathered into these schools during the year, and nearly 150,000 in other Sunday schools were aided. The calls for enlarged work have been so urgent and necessitous, that it would have seemed heartless to deny them, but in consequence of this, and the falling off in receipts from legacies, the Society has become so much embarrassed that the Managers are seriously apprehending that it will be painfully necessary to discontinue the work in some important mission fields, or to reduce the already small salaries of the missionaries. We submit this simple statement to the sympathy and prayers of Christian people all over our country, with the confidence that it will call forth a generous response. J. M. Crowell, Sec. of Missions. Contributions may be sent to Richard Parkhurst, Treasurer 1122 Chestnut street, Philadelphia.

THE recent Pan-Psalmody Council, or Conference, that met in Glasgow, Scotland, that had first been called to meet in Holland, was not attended by any delegates from America. Letters of regret were sent by those appointed, on account of their inability to attend. Three meetings were held, and the following paper was adopted as a basis of action to be reported to the several Churches represented for their approval: 1. That an Association be formed, and be designated "The Psalmody Alliance." 2. That the objects of this Alliance shall be to sustain and promote the Exclusive Use of the Psalms in the praise of God. 3. That the membership of the said Alliance shall consist of all delegates nominated by the Churches that are exclusively Psalm singing, and by all Associations formed in connection with other Churches that fully approve of the objects of the Alliance. 4. That the Alliance Executive Committee shall have power to invite, as associates, such ministers and other office bearers of Presbyterian Churches as are known to them to be in full sympathy with the aims and work of the Alliance. The Executive Committee was clothed with power to call another conference within two years at such place as may be deemed advisable.

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