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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

DR. HALL, of New York, made a good point in his Sabbath school speech recently, when he said: "Many people made an excuse for not attending to their religious duties by saying, 'O, my father and mother were so strict when I was young in all religious observances that I have now had a reaction and turned away from them.' Such people he generally asked, 'Well, I suppose your father and mother were also strict in teaching you to be honest and truthful, and pray, have you also had a reaction in those respects?'"

THE Rev. George Dodds writes from France: "The Evangelical work has doubled in three years and four months the number of its stations. We have just opened a new meeting at Versailles, and M. Reveillaud gives us most welcome help from week to week. The work has succeeded beyond all expectation at Roubaix and Croix. These towns, along with Lille and Tourcoing, are the centres of industry in flax, cotton, and silk, and the people are either Flemish or of Flemish origin, much quieter and less demonstrative than the people in Lyons and Bordeaux, or even our audiences in Paris." Audiences of upwards of four hundred workingmen meet to hear the Gospel, and to join in singing the hymns.

PLOTS and rumours of plots continue to frighten the Czar and his proteges and supporters. A mine containing thirty-seven pounds of gunpowder was discovered under a stone bridge leading to a steamboat landing. Two lieutenants of the navy, suspected of nihilistic proclivities, were arrested at Cronstadt on the charge of stealing dynamite from the Government stores. The Czar is said to have nearly perished by poison on Thursday, May 19th, arsenic having been sprinkled over a bowl of salad by a servant in the palace. Prince Gortschakoff, the aged statesman and diplomat, has been called by the Czar to St. Petersburg to resume direction of the Foreign Office. Russia refuses to return Merv to the Shah of Persia, and is trying to bend the natives to submission.

THE Synod of the Presbyterian Church of England held its annual session at Newcastle-upon Tyne. One of the noteworthy things about the meeting was that Dr. Collingwood Bruce, a ruling elder, occupied the Moderator's chair. We believe, however, that he is a licentiate who has never been a pastor, and as is customary in the British churches, has been elected ruling elder. He is well known as an antiquarian. This church has a name among all the churches for good financial management. By its Sustentation Fund every minister receives a stipend of at least \$1,000, and as much more as his church may raise. This must be the result of a good plan well executed. The "Old Defoe" church at Tooting, England, was received into union with the Presbyterian body. "Disestablishment" was the most exciting matter before the Synod, but after a sharp debate the Synod resolved to make no deliverance on the subject.

HERE, according to the New York "Evangelist," is one way to promote temperance—to buy out the liquor-sellers, and to persuade them to stop their wretched business. In Clayton, N.J., the proprietor of the only hotel in the village was willing to sell out his stock of wine and liquors, but would not throw it away. Upon learning the fact the people formed a Temperance Hotel Company with a capital of \$8,000 divided into 80 shares, bought the public house and all its belongings, including the liquor license. The people then gathered in a vacant lot behind the town hall, the doxology was sung, and the liquor poured upon a blazing bonfire! At Berwick, Pa., a similar purchase was made by the Jackson & Woodin Company, who employ more than a thousand men in their mills and car shops. They called the saloon and hotel keepers together and offered to pay them what profit would accrue on their liquor sales for the coming year if they would abstain from selling; it was

estimated at \$6,000. The liquor-dealers finally agreed to do this, and the money was paid over.

How gifts and acquisitions may be made useful to the Church and the cause of Christ has been made manifest lately in Scotland, as follows: "There happened to be in Edinburgh a considerable number of Professors who had no pastoral charges, and who thought they might give a considerable portion of their time to do that which was the Church's work, and a small beginning was made last winter. Those Professors did the work quietly; they drew out a short course of Christian evidences, dealing somewhat with critical and scientific matters. Those lectures were delivered in a hall which was crammed by two thousand people, and hundreds could not gain admittance. The elders at Glasgow were so much struck with the arrangement that they sent a deputation to Edinburgh asking that the work should be carried on in all great centres. With a courage which was thought somewhat approaching to daring, they took the largest hall in Glasgow, capable of holding five thousand persons, and the hall was crammed when the lectures were delivered."

THE anniversary of the National Temperance League was held in Exeter Hall. The Rev. Canon Farrar, D.D., presided. The Secretary (Mr. K. Rae) read an abstract of the report, which alluded to the fact that it was within a few weeks of fifty years since the Society held its inaugural meeting. The British Medical Temperance Association embraced in its membership upwards of 250 medical teetotalers, and 200 medical men attended a conference at Cambridge. One hundred and fourteen illustrated lectures had been delivered to 24,000 children in London schools. The Admiralty have stopped entirely the issue of a rum ration to boys under twenty, and are offering a ration of soluble chocolate as a substitute for spirits to men who, being total abstainers, do not take up their grog. The number of naval temperance branches in active working order at present was stated to be 139; the number of abstainers in the navy being estimated at from 9,000 to 10,000 men; and the officers' branch had about 150 members. Numerous meetings had been held and regimental branches formed at the chief military centres, and there had been 194 meetings in London garrisons. The number of abstainers in the army was estimated at 20,000, including 8,252 in regiments stationed in India. The International Temperance Congress was held at Brussels, where the League representatives gave a "wineless banquet" to the leading members, and were permitted to present a number of temperance publications at a private interview with the King of the Belgians."

AFFAIRS in Russia are steadily going from bad to worse. Nihilism is spreading with alarming rapidity, and the conspiracy pledges itself to the continuance of efforts for the liberation of the people, the Baltic provinces are in a state of incipient revolution, floods have devastated prosperous districts, and epidemics are ravaging others, the Czar has given over the promised reforms, and grasped absolutism with a firmer hand; and, to crown all, a formidable uprising of the peasantry of southern Russia against the Jews is reported, which seems likely to assume frightful proportions. The dwellings and stores of the Hebrews are looted and burned, their owners driven off or killed. The destruction of property is already enormous, and thousands of families are scattered. Thus far the Government seems unable or unwilling to cope with the mobs. It is declared that no religious animosity animates the persecution, but that it is purely social. There are nearly 3,000,000 Jews in Russia, the greater proportion of whom are crowded into the towns and cities of the south and west, where in many instances they compose the majority of the population. In the Ukraine, as in other places, they have by their hereditary vocations of money lending, spirit-dealing and trading, made themselves masters alike of the indebted landlords and the unfortunate peasants. It is the deep rooted animosity of the

peasantry for this class of people that has led to the outbreak—a repetition on a larger scale of the recent persecution in Germany. Whatever the outcome, it can only add to the long list of disturbing elements which must culminate some day in a general upheaval and disruption of Russian institutions.

Two or three weeks ago, a Chinaman called Ley Teep, was murdered in New York city. He was a quiet, inoffensive man, and gave no offence to the rowdy who stabbed him. His murder was of a kind with others which have disgraced some western cities, and is the natural result of the method adopted by some who discuss the Chinese question. Recognizing this, several New York ministers, among them Drs. Hall and Crosby, announced that they would attend his funeral. This was held on Friday, May 6, at the Reformed Church, on Twenty-third street, New York, where Ley Teep had attended Sabbath school. The pastor of the church presided, and a number of addresses were made. Dr. Hall said it was sad that Chinamen who came to this Christian country should have to write home and tell of so dreadful and unchristianlike an act as the one which had laid Ley Teep low. He hoped the tragedy would excite pity for the Chinese who had come to earn their bread. They are charged with being uncivilized and immoral; but the people who preferred these charges were often themselves iniquitous. If this was to be called a free country, all should have equal protection under the law, be they black or white, Mongol or Indian. Rev. Dr. Howard Crosby asked who had killed Ley Teep? The rowdies. And who had made the rowdies? The grog-shops. And who established the grog-shops? Apathetic Christians. It was a shame and a curse upon this fair city that murder should be manufactured in it. And there would be no change until conscientious Christians took the matter in hand and uprooted the evil. To attain this result something besides praying must be done. Yes, and we fear, something more effective than "moderate drinking" too.

THE seventy-seventh annual meeting of the British and Foreign Bible Society was held in Exeter Hall, the Earl of Shaftesbury presiding. Among those on the platform were Lord Cairns, the Bishop of Rochester, the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, the Bishop of Liverpool, and the Bishop of Sodor and Man. The Secretary read the annual report, which showed that the free income of the Society for the year ending March 31, 1881, had amounted to £114,382 13s. 8d., while the sum received for Scriptures sold, both at home and abroad, has been £90,015 14s. 8d., making, with £121 os. 11d. received on account of the Roxburgh Fund for Indian colportage, a total of £209,519 9s. 3d. The expenditure, including £309 12s. 2d. for the Roxburgh Fund, has been £190,043 4s. 10d. The issues of the Society for the year were as follows: From the depot at home, 1,499,946; from depots abroad, 1,369,083; 2,846,039 copies of Bibles, Testaments, and portions. The total issues of the Society from its commencement now amount to 91,014,448 copies. With respect to the revision of the authorized version, the report said:—"The question as to the proper course for this Society to take in reference to the revised version of the English Scriptures has already engaged the careful attention of your committee, regard being had to the regulation which provides that the only copies in the language of the United Kingdom to be circulated by the Society shall be the authorized version. On the publication of the New Testament, the desirableness of so modifying this rule as to admit of the new version being circulated concurrently with the old will be considered, and it is probable that the committee will shortly deem it necessary to call a general meeting of the Society for that purpose." Earl Cairns moved the adoption of the report, in the absence of the Archbishop of Canterbury. The other speakers were the Bishop of Rochester, the Bishop of Moosonee, the Rev. Joshua C. Harrison, of Camden Town, and the Rev. Silvester Whitehead, Wesleyan missionary for China.