

Notes of the Month.

The Temporalities case which was argued before the Judicial Committee by the Privy Council, will not be decided till next November.

The Old Kirk party in Ontario are sanguine of success.

The Governor General has gone on an excursion to the North West, several friends accompanying him. The Rev. Dr. McGregor, one of the foremost of Scottish preachers, is among the number. The press generally has severely condemned the noble Marquis for travelling from Halifax to Quebec on Sunday. There can be no doubt that the feelings of all right thinking people have been deeply hurt; but apart from the religious side of the question our Viceroy by this little piece of snobbery has gained more unpopularity than he can easily ever get rid of.

President Garfield seems to be slowly recovering from the pistol-shot wound by which his assassin sought to take his life. Giteau seems to be a disappointed office-seeker with an ill-regulated brain, partly a knave and altogether a fool.

The French are creating a good deal of discussion by their action in Northern Africa. They landed a strong military force there to punish some marauding Arabs; and are not in any hurry to take their leave again.

The Emperor of Russia is still living, notwithstanding the plots of his Nihilist friends.

The tribes in Afghanistan are still at war with one another. The British forces have left them to their fate. Peace prevails within the territories under the English crown in all parts of the world.

We had no space in our last issue to give any account of the proceedings of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. A matter of some interest was the McFarlane heresy case. A minister of that name in the Presbytery of Glasgow wrote two of the sermons in the book known as Scottish Sermons. For doubtful statements therein he was called to account; and without very much ado, he confessed his error before the Assembly and was cautioned to mind his doctrines for the future. The modern heretic makes a poor martyr. Dr. Cunningham, another contributor to that book was refused an opportunity to lecture to the Divinity Students in Aberdeen. The Theological faculty quietly shut down on him; and after the matter was harmoniously discussed in the Assembly, that venerable court dismissed the whole business. The various Mission Schemes were discussed at length, and signs of progress were shown. Dr. Rankin of Muthul, was sent last summer to enquire into the mission in Africa, under the Rev. Dr. McDonald. He found that that gentleman was ill-qualified for the task of managing men in general, and the children of Ham in particular. The Committee accordingly recalled Mr. McDonald, and a successor has been appointed. The Home Mission Scheme is making great progress, and many new parishes are being constantly endowed.