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## Sabbath School Presbyterian.

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## Golden Hours for the Young.

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THE SABBATH SCHOOL PRESBYTERIAN has been received with increased favor during the year, although there are still very many schools in which no copies are taken. It is encouraging to know that the patrons of the paper look with approval upon the efforts made to provide such a publication; and we bespeak largely increased orders for the coming year—promising, on our part, to make the paper more attractive than ever to our young folks.

GOLDEN HOURS, started in January last, will be continued; but as an entirely distinct publication. In reading matter and illustrations it will be quite different from the SABBATH SCHOOL PRESBYTERIAN, so that, if desired, the two papers may be given out to the same scholar alternately—thus forming a fortnightly issue.

### PLEASE NOTE!

Superintendents and teachers will oblige us much by sending in their orders for 1879 as early as possible, so that we may know how many copies to print of the January number.

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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE Presbyterian Sabbath School Convention, for the County of Huron, will be held in Blyth on the 4th of February.

GREECE has resolved to negotiate directly with the Turkish Government, with a view to the settlement of the boundary question, without permitting any third party to interfere.

THE Toronto "Christian Guardian" has entered on its fiftieth or "Jubilee" year of publication. The opening editorial in this week's issue is written by its first editor, Dr. Ryerson.

PROBATIONERS corresponding with Rev. J. R. Scott, Clerk of the Lindsay Presbytery, will please address to Cambray post-office, not Manilla as in printed paper of distribution.

IN the Greenock U. P. Presbytery the Rev. David

Macrae has denounced the proposed "Declaratory Act" as an attempt to preserve an appearance of consistency, and to justify the retention of the Westminster standards by devices essentially Jesuitical."

CANDIDATES for appointment in the English civil service were asked at a recent examination to "give a full account of Dryden's conversion to popery." A row has been made over the wording of the question as objectionable, on the ground of its implied leaning toward religious intolerance.

WE have received a report of the proceedings of the Presbytery of Toronto at its meeting on the 19th ult.; but as the only business transacted at that meeting was that connected with the translation of Rev. Dr. Robb, and as our editorial on the subject in last week's issue covered the whole ground, we deem it unnecessary to publish the report.

WE direct attention to Principal MacVicar's urgent appeal in behalf of the French Evangelization Scheme, which our readers will find in another column of this issue. The work, we needly scarcely say, is most important as well as very interesting, and cannot be carried on without money. We trust the response to this appeal will be such as to render unnecessary any reduction in the number of missionaries employed by Board.

THE tendency in the markets on which the great manufacturing industries of Britain depend is still downward. A reduction of wages has taken place in almost every branch of trade. Some large establishments have stopped work entirely; others are working short time; and on the whole the out-look of the British workman is more discouraging than it has been for many years. Tidings of distress also reach us from Switzerland and other manufacturing countries.

LIQUOR-DRINKING Scotland has been told a blunt truth by the Lord Provost of Glasgow: that the loss of £5,000,000 which has fallen on the shareholders of the City of Glasgow Bank represents but its six months' expenditure for strong drink. He then indicates to his countrymen who are devising means to relieve the calamity, that they could wipe it off by reducing their liquor bills one-half for a year. What if they should make a clean sweep, and with heroic self-sacrifice give up the other half!

"ECONOMY is the order of the day in England," writes a London correspondent of the New York "Times." "If you go to the great co-operative stores of London you find that the provision departments are the chief quarters of business. Among the upper middle classes extravagant dinner parties are dropping out of fashion. Men who a few years ago would not have been seen on the railway in anything but a first-class carriage, now ride in a second; men who used to ride second now ride third. We are all economizing."

THE flight of Shere Ali has, we suppose, virtually ended the Afghan war. That self-same transaction has however increased the difficulty of concluding a definite peace. There is nobody with whom to treat. The state is disorganized. And the British officials must either take each district of the country by itself, and each party in that district by itself, and eat salt

with every petty Khan that can raise a hundred men; or else they must take the government into their own hands, appoint a ruler, and support him in his administration.

A STRIKING illustration of the value of little is in the following facts. The United States Government issued a fractional currency—"stamps," from five cents to fifty. The little bits of paper have been so carelessly handled that about \$16,000,000 worth have been destroyed! A five lost here, a ten there—and the aggregate of many millions is reached. The loss is so much gain to the treasury. The Halifax "Witness" wishes the lesson of the "power of little" implied in this fact would be borne in mind. "We are individually far too careless about fractions of money, of time, of property. Our Church finance requires to be re-organized on the basis of caring for and gathering carefully the minutest gift of the poor as well as the large offerings of the rich."

THE Rev. James Chalmers Burns, M.A., of Kirkliston, who, it will be recollected, visited this country a few years ago as a delegate from the Free Church of Scotland, along with the Rev. Mr. Wilson of Edinburgh, has been nominated by the Commission of the Free Church, as moderator of its next General Assembly. Mr. Burns, who is a son of the late Rev. Mr. Burns, minister of Brechin, and a nephew of the late Rev. Dr. Burns of this city, studied for the ministry under Dr. Chalmers, was for six years minister of the Scotch Church, London Wall, and has since the disruption been minister of the Free Church at Kirkliston. Although occupying a comparatively limited sphere, he is well known throughout the Church as a sound and able theologian, and has always taken a deep interest in the Jewish and Continental missions of the Free Church. Mr. Burns is also a brother-in-law of the late Rev. Dr. Guthrie.

THE annual meeting of Manitoba College, Winnipeg, was held on the evening of the 13th ult. There were present: Rev. Dr. Black, chairman; Rev. W. Ross, Boyne; Rev. A. Matheson, Little Britain; Rev. J. Scott, Emerson; Rev. A. Campbell, Rockwood; Rev. A. Cameron, C. P. R.; Rev. J. Douglas, Morris; Rev. A. Bell, Portage la Prairie; Rev. H. McKellar, High Bluff; the Presbyterian ministers of the city, and a number of laymen, with a few ladies. After opening exercises the Rev. Mr. Ross gave an address on the subject, "Classics, as affording mental discipline." Rev. Mr. Douglas introduced a new feature into the annual exercises by reading a scholarly and able paper on the "Invisible State." Rev. Prof. Hart read the Senate Report. It showed among other things that one student of the college had during the past year passed the previous examination of the University of Manitoba; six others had passed the preliminary examination, two of whom had been granted a supplementary examination in mathematics; two students had completed their term in theology, one of whom had been advanced; the other is taking an extra session in Knox College, Toronto; one student had entered Victoria College, Cobourg, and one the Trinity Medical School, Toronto. Rev. Prof. Bryce presented the Dufferin silver and bronze medals to the successful candidates. Rev. A. Bell gave an eloquent address on the principle of "Compensation," and short addresses were delivered by Rev. Messrs. Robertson and Scott.