

THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN.

VOL. 10.

TORONTO, FRIDAY, JUNE 9th, 1882.

No. 23.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

LARGE numbers of Russian Jews, forwarded by the lord mayor's committee of London, are arriving in Montreal. Each one brings funds enough to start in life.

THE Roman Catholic Bishops of England have again formally forbidden Catholic parents to send their sons to the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge.

It is said that of the six hundred and twenty-six ministers in the Presbyterian Church of Ireland only one can now preach in Irish, but there are a number of Bible readers who can use the old tongue.

REV. DR. PARKER, of London, has again failed of an election to the presidency of the Congregational Union of England and Wales. Rev. Dr. Fairbairn was elected, receiving 489 votes against 439 for Dr. Parker.

In the great work of foreign missions, the Moravian Church is the pioneer of the Protestant churches. It sent its first missionaries to St. Thomas, in the West Indies, in 1732. The 150th anniversary of this event is to be celebrated on August 21.

THE new French version of the Bible, by Professor Segond, has attained a great success, and a copy of the New Testament at three-halfpence has been published, of which 100,000 were sold of the first edition. Of the second 50,000 copies were sold in three weeks.

DISCUSSION of the Revised New Testament still goes on, its friends presenting its claims to acceptance, and its foes showing how undeserving it is of popular acknowledgment. The appearances are that it is used as a book of reference and comparison, but nothing more.

THE death of the Rev. William Hanna, D.D., the biographer of Dr. Chalmers, is announced. He was born at Belfast in 1808, was educated at the University of Glasgow, and entered the ministry in 1835. He is the author of "Wycliffe and the Huguenots," and other works.

JOSEPH COOK writes to a friend that he delivered twenty-two lectures in India, and was asked for more. In Calcutta he made a special address to the "Friends of the Brahma Somaj," and did not spare the system propounded by Keshub Chunder Sen, who listened patiently, and seconded a vote of thanks to the lecturer.

KING GEORGE I. of Greece is not very popular among his subjects, and he is regarded with less favourable eyes than almost any monarch of Europe, always excepting the unfortunate Czar of Russia. He seldom visits any public institution or manifests any interest in affairs, but gives almost undivided attention to his farm and horses. His subjects think he regards Greece merely as a rented estate.

THE failure to catch the Irish assassins is the worst one of its kind that has occurred for a long time. It had grown to be the feeling that a criminal could hardly escape, no matter how obscure his crime or adroit its enactment, but these Irish felons have so far defied all the skill that has been used in searching for them. Meanwhile Ireland all the rest of the world stands waiting, not appearing to know and unable to predict what will come next.

A BILL was posted on one of the chief publicans' doors in Dublin ten days ago, through the influence of Francis Murphy. It ran as follows: "This establishment is closed on temperance principles, and will never be opened by Henry Allingham." That gentleman has now got the blue ribbon, and is doing his utmost to make converts. The day after his own conversion hundreds of people signed the pledge in his shop, beside the whiskey and brandy bottles.

THE Rev. Newman Smyth has declined the invitation of the trustees to deliver a course of lectures at Andover next year; but there is reason to believe that another position in connection with the institution, which has been offered him, will be accepted at no very distant day. The Hitchcock professorship of Greek, which was offered Professor Curtiss, of Chicago, has been declined by that gentleman.

THE Established Church of Scotland, though threatened with disestablishment, is still attracting ministers from without. The Rev. Mr. Macloy, of the Free Middle Church, Paisley, has just been introduced into an Established Church in Rothesay. The Rev. John Elder has intimated to his congregation that he will leave the United Presbyterian Church to enter the Established Church, and the Rev. Dr. Horne, of the Congregational Church, Dundee, is leaving a deeply attached congregation to join the "Auld Kirk."

THE perils of travel on the Northern Atlantic have been seriously increased of late by the presence of numerous icebergs in lower latitudes than usual. Several ocean steamers have been literally hemmed in by ice packs, and have had experience like those that beset the Arctic voyagers. One steamer, the *Western Belle*, was crushed in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and sank in twenty minutes with more than half on board. The *Peruvian*, with nearly 1,000 passengers, was fast in the ice for several days, but fortunately escaped the fate that was feared.

ENGLISH Christians, at the late two-and-a-half-century celebration of the death of William Tyndale, to whom all English readers are indebted for their version of the Holy Scriptures, with the Earl of Shaftesbury and the Archbishop of Canterbury at the head of a working committee, determined upon the erection of some visible memorial as an expression of grateful obligation. A site upon the fine Thames Embankment has been granted for this purpose; and a bronze statue of Tyndale, with bas-reliefs illustrating his life, determined upon. The estimated cost will be about \$25,000.

THE Czar, desirous to appease the people, has decided to grant reforms. A manifesto will shortly be issued, stating he desires to celebrate his coronation by granting reforms, but is compelled to postpone the ceremony for a year because of the impossibility of completing the preparations earlier. Two commissions will be instituted to consider the question of central institutions, and share in the administration to be given the people. There is a commission already sitting under the presidency of General Kaohanoff to examine local institutions. General Louis Melikoff is placed at the head of all three commissions.

REV. DR. KENNEDY, of Dingwall, has got the Synod of Ross to send an overture to the Assembly directing attention to Professor Robertson Smith's and Professor Bruce's published lectures, stating that "several professors in our theological halls fail to command the confidence of the Church at large," and praying that these volumes and "the whole subject of the teaching of these professors" be taken into serious consideration. If the test of "confidence" was applied all round, to ministers as well as professors, there would very likely be many changes. And if the "whole subject" of their teaching is to be "seriously considered," the members of Assembly will require to take up their permanent residences in Edinburgh.

AN esteemed contemporary, the "United Presbyterian," of a recent date, says: "The statement is made that Congregationalism in New England is rapidly disintegrating, and that in a little while there will be nothing of it left but a shadow of its former self. Within a few years, the remark is, that churches have changed so as to show preference for men of loose theological views, and that councils do not hesitate to install ministers as pastors who deny the inspiration of the Scriptures, the eternal punishment of

the wicked, and other doctrines equally fundamental. We are loth to believe a statement that is so unpleasant. Is it true?"

THE so-called "compromise" between the German Government and the Vatican is going bravely on. The prelate Orbin, noted for being closely allied with all the Ultramontane irreconcilables during the long conflict between Government and Church, has just been chosen Archbishop of Freiburg, to the great satisfaction of that chapter. It is but right to say that he was always popular with ruling powers as far as one in his situation could be, and, therefore, now his selection is clearly a compromise. This action removes the interdict imposed upon the Roman Catholics of Freiburg, who have had a hard time in managing their Church matters. The choice of this amiable prelate is now regarded as the harbinger of a new and peaceful era.

THERE is a renewal of excitement on the East Coast of Africa, at the discovery that the slave trade is still carried on there quite largely. The English are trying their best to suppress it, and have quite a squadron posted in the neighbourhood of Zanzibar. But the trade is mostly carried on in a species of craft called dhow, that is very successful in hiding in the bays in case of danger. The commanders of these vessels will frequently feign to have slaves on board, and thus lure the cruisers to follow and overhaul them, only to find that they have been "fooled." The English catch about thirty of them in the course of a year, and liberate the slaves; but they are much impeded in their work by the fact that the French will not permit their craft to be searched, and the consequence is that all the rascals in the hour of danger run up the French flag, and escape.

WE are glad to see that the Church of Rome can no longer dictate to courts, even in Papal countries, what their decisions of law shall be, any more than it can now compel sovereigns to submit to its will. Again and again has it trampled the sacred rights of parents under its iron heel, and there was no redress. It has taken children from the arms of their parents, baptized them into its faith, and then claimed the right to instruct them for its purpose. The question has recently been tried in an Austrian court whether parents who had left that Church could bring up their children according to their own religious convictions. The Government had decided that they cannot, and ordered them, under pain of compulsion, to submit them to the priests for baptism and instruction. The Supreme Court of Law, however, has now cancelled the order of the Government, and has decided that according to Austrian law parents have the responsibility and the privilege of the religious training of their children.

ONE of the indications of the progress of the evangelistic movement in Great Britain is to be found in the offer, just made, of the London "Christian," of three prizes of fifty, thirty, and twenty guineas each for the best essays on "The Relations of the Churches to Evangelistic Work." The scope of the articles wanted is indicated in the following scheme: (1.) The condition of the churches, and their modes of working in reference to evangelization. Are they adapted to present circumstances, or are new departures necessary? (2.) The halls of learning, in which young men are educated as ministers, and means by which these may be made more efficient in training students for evangelic and pastoral work. (3.) The qualifications of office-bearers and the responsibilities of church members. (4.) The Sunday school. means for securing the Christian character of the teachers, and the conversion of the scholars. (5.) Prayer meetings and Bible readings; social and conversational gatherings; open-air and cottage meetings; the recognition of strangers; house-to-house visitations; and whatever other means can be employed for winning souls and training them to win others. (6.) The improvement of present methods and the suggestion of new ones. The competition is open till August 31.