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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

IN papers just received from Scotland we find notice of the presence there of the Rev. John James, D.D., of Knox Church, Hamilton, Ont.

IN the far away Synod of Otago, in New Zealand, the lowest salary among the Presbyterian ministers is over a thousand dollars—the Sustentation Fund giving that dividend, and the churches often raising the salary much above that sum.

THE Rev. Dr. John Brown, of Bedford, England, now travelling in the United States, is a successor to John Bunyan, author of the "Pilgrim's Progress," in his pastorate, and is only the sixth minister that church has had since its organization, 250 years ago.

THE Moderator of the General Assembly of the Irish Presbyterian Church and the President of the Association of Free Christians have issued a circular to the ministers, drawing attention to the distracted state of the country, and appointing a day for special prayer.

CANON FLEMING, speaking at a drawing-room meeting at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Greer, Regent's Park, London, remarked that medical missions had their origin in the country which had produced a Thomas Chalmers, a John Knox, and a David Livingstone, who was himself a medical missionary.

THE different churches in Glasgow have appointed committees to see what can be done to reach the 300,000 of non-Church-going population in the city. A joint meeting was held, and it was resolved to request information and suggestions as to the districts in which operations should be commenced to endeavor to reach them.

MR. McALL'S mission stations in Paris and its environs have increased from twenty-five to thirty-two the past year, and the work in the provinces increases also. He goes to Algeria, to establish one or two missions in Algiers. The new mission station, just opened by Mr. Gibson (Wesleyan Methodist), makes the forty-second now at work in Paris, including those established by Mr. McAll, Miss de Broen, the Salvation Army, and Mr. Armand Delille.

THE public schools of the Province entered upon their holidays on Friday, the 7th inst. In rural sections the re-opening will take place on the 15th of August, in the absence of any special arrangement by the trustees. In this city the vacation extends to the 1st of September. The combined examinations held last week are pronounced very satisfactory. Special mention is made of John street school as appearing to advantage in the matter of taking prizes, to the credit of the principal, Mr. John Campbell, and his staff.

IN Central Africa the slave trade seems to be on the increase. The great trade routes are thronged by gangs of slaves being driven to the market, and about one-half of them die in a journey of 200 miles under the effects of their brutal treatment. Rev. Mr. Hatley, of the African Mission of the London Missionary Society, says: "So long as the only method of conveying goods into the interior is by porters, so long will the slave system continue. A rail or team road would be the most effective means of suppressing the slave trade, and by bringing a demand would also create a supply."

A SOMEWHAT notable occurrence was the appearance, on the forenoon of Sabbath, the 18th ult., in the Grange Free Church in Edinburgh, of Dr. James McGregor. The respected pastor of the church, Dr. Horatius Bonar, is at present off duty on account of ill-health; and the kirk-session invited Dr. McGregor to take a service—a request with which he most gladly complied. He preached a powerful discourse from the words of Paul, "I glory in afflictions." It is said

that this is probably the first time since the Disruption that a parish minister has preached in a Free Church pulpit at the request of the kirk-session.

PRINCIPAL CAIRNS, at the Kilmarnock Disestablishment meeting, said the cause had been greatly helped by the noble discussion in the Free Assembly. There never was a better, more spirited, fair, and happy discussion. He congratulated the Free Church on the issue to which they had come. It had greatly helped the question all round, and brought about a more kindly and cordial feeling between the Free and U. P. Churches, because they felt as the question was discussed, as steps were taken continually in the right direction there was a preparation, whatever came of the relation of the Established Church to the other churches, for the realization of what he had so long had at heart, an incorporated union of the Free and U. P. Churches.

THE Rev. S. A. Dyke has entered upon his duties as business manager of the Baptist Publishing Company, recently formed in this city. The "Canadian Baptist" is to be reorganized, but the name of the new editor-in-chief has not yet been announced. The Hon. Wm. McMaster has added \$10,000 to the stock held by him in this Society, making \$40,000 in all—the profits of the additional amount being devoted to the support of aged ministers, while the income derived from the original \$30,000 goes to mission work, as formerly arranged. Another instance of Mr. McMaster's quiet liberality comes to light in connection with the transfer of the paper. He places the "Canadian Baptist" and its plant in the hands of the new Company as representing only \$10,000 of his stock, whereas he actually paid its former proprietor \$15,000.

AT a sale of a Church living in London, England, on Thursday, the 22nd ult., delegates attended to enter a protest against "the contemplated injury to religion," on behalf of the Curates' Alliance and the National Committee for the Abolition of Purchase in the Church of England. The lot was, however, withdrawn. The auctioneer remarked, in withdrawing it, that, although he personally did not admire selling Church property, he really did not understand the entering of a protest against it by gentlemen who lived by tithes. One of the curates denied that they did so, and another exclaimed: "This is not the selling of tithes." A third of the clerical remonstrants added, "It is the selling of souls." The auctioneer advised the clergymen present to seek to make it illegal to sell church livings before interfering as they did on that and like occasions.

THE Minister of Education, in some recent public addresses, has been foreshadowing certain further changes to be made in the practical working of our educational system. The objects in view appear to be a more extended professional training for teachers; an increased flexibility in the public school programme, so as to facilitate the adaptation of the instruction imparted to the pupil's probable requirements in after life; and the securing of greater thoroughness in public school work as far as it goes. Changes calculated to attain these objects will undoubtedly be improvements, and the details will be looked for with interest. The following is the summary given by one of our exchanges: (1) The Government intend to make two long Normal School terms instead of three short ones, as at present. (2) Teaching to be of a more professional character. (3) Terms of County Model Schools are to be lengthened. (4) There are to be only four divisions in the Public Schools, the same as in the Provincial Model Schools, instead of six divisions, as at present. (5) The course in the Public Schools is to be of a more flexible character, i.e., there will be more optional and fewer compulsory subjects.

"We are not surprised," says the N. Y. "Independent," "that the Milwaukee brewers are staggered by the prohibition vote of Iowa. To a correspondent of the Chicago "Inter-Ocean" they unanimously ex-

pressed great surprise at the result. They had raised a large sum of money and sent it to Iowa to be used in defeating the amendment, and expected success. That shows how little the immoral forces in the community understand the moral. Money could not buy off the conscience of the grand State of Iowa, nor could it be juggled out of its convictions by specious vaperings about 'liberty' and 'sumptuary laws.' And again: The opponents of prohibition laws say that they never do and can stop the sale and consumption of liquors. That is true. They only reduce their sale. It is with penal laws prohibiting the sale of liquors as it is with such laws prohibiting murder or theft. Thefts and murders are not prevented, but only diminished; and that is quite an advantage, and no argument against the law. If the sale of liquors is not greatly reduced by such law as are enforced under the new amendment in Kansas, why have the brewers and whiskey manufacturers been spending their money so freely to defeat the amendment in Iowa?"

THE "Queen's College Journal" of July 6th gives the following sensible advice to intending matriculants: "The present issue of the 'Journal' will, doubtless, fall into the hands of some who contemplate entering college as matriculants in the ensuing autumn. Unlike Mr. Punch, our advice to such is not *Don't*, but *Wait*. There is a feverish desire among many of the youth attending High Schools—fostered not infrequently, we regret to say, by parents—to rush into college as soon as the matriculation examinations can be mastered. In the case of quite a number we admit this is none too soon, more especially when circumstances have delayed matriculation until the college intrant is of comparatively mature age. But in the case of a majority of those who enter our American colleges it may safely be said that one or even two years' additional preparatory training in a High School, or under private tuition, would be the very best guarantee of future success. It is unwise to lead a boy of fifteen or sixteen years to believe that his mind has been adequately trained or is sufficiently mature to grasp the full benefit of the prescribed studies in the present college curriculum, with their yearly increasing comprehensiveness. If we are to have graduates possessed of something more than superficial culture, let us have intrants who have already learned to *think*, and who are fully equipped by disciplinary studies for the four years' strain, which is none too easy for the best."

EGYPTIAN affairs reached a crisis on Tuesday of last week. The Conference of European powers was in session at Constantinople, making ineffectual efforts to obtain from the Sultan a decisive answer as to whether or not he would adopt measures to put down anarchy and restore order in the Khedive's dominions. In the meantime the British Admiral Seymour, stationed before Alexandria, demanded the surrender of the outer forts, seeing that Arabi Bey, in direct opposition to orders issued both by the Sultan and the Khedive, continued to strengthen and arm them. This was on Monday morning, and Admiral Seymour's demand was accompanied by a notification that in case of refusal he should open fire upon the forts in twenty-four hours. This period having elapsed without any surrender taking place, the bombardment commenced on Tuesday morning, and in a few hours all the forts and batteries on the sea face of Alexandria were reduced to heaps of ruins. The injury sustained on board the British ships engaged was six men killed and twenty-seven wounded. Of the loss of life on shore there is no report as yet, but it must have been large, as the Egyptians are said to have fought desperately, standing by their guns to the last, and keeping up a troublesome though not very destructive fire on the ships, even when their forts were crumbling to pieces around them. It is to be hoped that this prompt action on the part of Britain will put an end to the trifling diplomacy that has hitherto stood in the way of a satisfactory settlement of the Egyptian question. Before this paragraph meets the eye of the reader it is very probable that further developments of importance will be announced in the daily papers.