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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE Hon. William Elder, of the St. John "Telegraph," and Provincial Secretary, of New Brunswick, has had the honorary degree of LL.D. conferred upon him, by the University of New Brunswick. The compliment is well merited.

MASSACHUSETTS law allows an adjoining real estate owner to forbid the granting of a license to sell liquor. In Gloucester a saloon keeper tried to evade this provision by selling to a friendly third party a strip a foot wide from the side of his premises next to the object, thus creating a new neighbour. But the courts have decided that the trick is of no avail.

LORD DUFFERIN was entertained at a banquet by the Empire Club, London, last week. Among those present were Mr. Lowell, Hon. Alexander Mackenzie, and Sir Charles Tupper. In reply to the toast of his health Lord Dufferin said he believed that before the close of next century the population of Canada would be forty millions. He also believed the English people were becoming more aware of the feeling of attachment towards the mother country existing in the colonies, and would never permit the Government to repeat the errors by which they had lost the United States of America.

UPWARDS of 12,000,000 copies of infidel and other atheistic publications are issued from the London press in one year, and to this enormous total must be added 29,000,000 copies of immoral publications, many of which are distributed among the working classes. This total is larger than all the issues of the combined Bible and Religious Tract Societies of that same city. The friends of truth and virtue ought to be diligent in sowing the good seed of the Word. The enemy is busy sowing tares.

FOR ritualistically disposed clergymen of the Episcopal Church, the errors and absurdities of Romanism have a great fascination. The Rev. Mr. Ritchie, rector of the Church of the Ascension, Chicago, whose ritualism provoked a controversy with his bishop, lately caused a sensation by announcing that at the conclusion of the service requiem mass would be said for the soul of Captain Daniel Fountain, who was drowned in Lake Michigan in the latter part of May, even the parishioners who sided with the rector rebelled at this step, and half the congregation left the church. Meanwhile, at the request of Fountain's widow, the mass was postponed.

THE Dominion Government has granted \$44,000 for the erection of schools for the Indian children of the North-West. According to the Prince Albert "Times" two of these schools will be located at Qu'Appelle; and one at Battleford, the first two being Catholic and the last Protestant. The "Times" argues that the money that Lieutenant-Governor Dewdney has secured would have been much better applied if devoted to the perfecting of the various schools on the Indian reserves than to the establishment of denominational institutions. In the former case it would have been beneficial to a much larger number of Indians than it will be under the system proposed.

THE fact was mentioned in these notes a few weeks since that a young man employed in the civil service, and belonging to a respectable family had been guilty of the unspeakable meanness of going through a mock marriage with his deluded victim. Meeting the unhappy girl a short time ago he proposed that she should again live with him. The proposal being rejected the half-intoxicated ruffian made a brutal attack on his defenceless victim, who was struck to the ground, kicked in a savage manner, and then left lying by the roadside in a helpless condition. And yet it would not do to make seduction a criminal offence. It might hurt the delicate feelings of a frivolous youth like the above.

THE number of Scottish ministers who took part in the memorable events of 1843, is now rapidly diminishing. In the Free Church the Disruption ministers who still survive number in the Synod of Lothian and Tweeddale, 14 as against 50 deceased; Merse and Teviotdale, 6 and 12 deceased; Dumfriesshire, 3 and 10 deceased; Galloway, 1 and 8 deceased; Glasgow and Ayr, 21 and 68 deceased; Perth and Sterling, 8 and 40 deceased; Fife, 6 and 25 deceased; Angus and Mearns, 13 and 27 deceased; Aberdeen, 8 and 38 deceased; Moray, 8 and 20 deceased; Ross, 2 and 21 deceased; Sutherland and Caithness, 5 and 17 deceased; Glenelg, Orkney, and Shetland, 3 and 26 deceased. In the Synod of Argyle there is no survivor, and 19 have entered into rest. Since March, 1881, 22 Disruption ministers have died.

In addition to the Ladies' Medical College in Toronto the establishment of another at Kingston is now assured. There is room for the existence of both. The one will afford educational facilities for the eastern portion of Ontario, while Toronto will meet the needs of the west. In Kingston an effort to obtain a five years' endowment for the Ladies' Medical College there has been crowned with success. A board of provisional trustees has been chosen, and a charter will be procured at once. The faculty will be appointed immediately, and all arrangements made for opening early in October. The provisional trustees are Mrs. J. K. Trout, M.D., Toronto; Mrs. Dickson, Mrs. Wm. Hart, Mrs. Britton, and Miss Gildersleeve, of Kingston; Sir R. J. Cartwright, Hon. G. A. Kirkpatrick, Messrs. A. Gunn, A. P. Knight, John Carruthers, Henry Folger, Wm. Hart, E. J. B. Pense, and R. V. Rogers.

SOME interesting facts are stated in the report of criminal statistics of the Dominion for 1881, recently issued. Only sixteen of the forty-one persons charged with murder were convicted, and the whole of these sixteen were from rural districts; four of them belonged to the agricultural class, eight to the domestic, two to the industrial, and two to the labouring. Nine of them were married and seven were single. Nine were unable to read, and seven had received an elementary education; fourteen were Canadian by birth, one English, and one from the United States. Over one-half of the 9,575 convictions for drunkenness (or 5,248) were in the Province of Ontario, 3,027 were married and 393 widowed. The convictions of all kinds for 1881 29,225, as against 28,209 for 1880. There were less in 1881 in Ontario and Nova Scotia, and more in 1881 in Quebec, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, British Columbia and the North-West.

THE overflow of the Thames at London, Ontario, adds another to the many calamities of this disastrous year. The rising of the waters was swift, sudden, and destructive. Like most sad occurrences it was unlooked for. At this season of the year such an overflow of the river is unusual. In the spring freshets are anticipated and their effects guarded against; this is the first instance in the history of the Forest City in which the destructive waters have broken loose and brought desolation to many in midsummer. Seventeen lives are reported lost. Men, women, and children were carried helplessly down the raging stream. Most of those who perished were children. The destruction of property has also been great. Many industrious people who had exercised self-denial and economy in order to obtain a home they could call their own had the result of years' toil swept away by the current. These river flats are dangerous places to build houses on.

THE Free Library has had to encounter many difficulties. Like all good movements it has had to struggle for existence. It has been attacked directly, and indirectly. It has survived all these attacks, and a fair measure of prosperity may now be anticipated for this most praiseworthy undertaking. The office of librarian, has at length been awarded to a gentleman

who is thoroughly qualified for the position. He has unreasonably it seems, been in some quarters subjected to carping criticism. One member of the Board has seen fit to protest against the appointment by his resignation. Of course he knows his own business best but it is one of those things difficult to understand. It is encouraging to the friends and well-wishers of this institution to learn that similar endeavours are proving successful. The demand for books at the Free Library in Portland is very large, and shows extensive reading. There is an increasing demand for books at the Free Public Library in St. John, N.B., which the commissioners are endeavouring to meet. It is possible the Library may soon have to be opened more frequently than it now is. The people of Toronto are not behind those of Portland or St. John in intelligence. They will appreciate the Free Library when it is opened.

At this season of the year, when drowning accidents too frequently occur, it is important that the following facts, communicated by an expert swimmer to the Hamilton "Times," should be generally known. "I have been a swimmer for a considerable number of years, so that I must know something about floating, and the way to do it is this: When you find yourself in deep water you will sink first a few feet down, but if you do not struggle you will come quickly to the surface again, which on reaching immediately draw a full breath, throw your head back, and this will have the effect of placing you in a recumbent position on the surface of the water. Now, this is a most critical time for those who don't know what to do next. Extend your arms at once on a level with your shoulders, palms of hands downwards, fingers close together, so that the water cannot penetrate them, and begin gently paddling the water with the movement of the hands from the wrist only. Extend your legs quietly and slowly in a line with your body. If you raise your arms or your legs above the surface of the water you will sink, but if you have the presence of mind not to do so, or struggle about, you will never sink, so long as you keep paddling gently, without exertion, with your hands, and so you may float on until you are picked up or until you are numbed by cold."

WEEKLY HEALTH BULLETIN.—The conditions of the weather, and the prevalence of the various diseases reported are, with a few minor exceptions, almost the same this week as last. Diseases of the respiratory system are with the exception of Bronchitis and Consumption very low in degree of prevalence. These two, but especially the latter, being of a chronic nature, do not exhibit at any time great fluctuations. Neuralgia and Rheumatism, the latter very largely chronic, do not exhibit any great tendency in either the direction of increase or diminution. Anæmia still shows a degree of prevalence of a character remarkable for the season. Amongst Fevers, Intermittent, which last week had advanced to the first position in degree of prevalence, still maintains the same distinction. Typho-Malarial, in small amount, is reported from District III, Muskoka, and Parry Sound. Enteric does not appear this week. Amongst contagious zymotics, the most prevalent is Whooping Cough, Measels having receded till it amounts to not more than two per cent. of the total diseases. Diphtheria, again appearing amongst the six diseases in two western Districts, while not showing a great percentage degree of prevalence, is peculiar from the fact of its now appearing prevalent in one District, and again in another quite remote. Its endemicity and apparent intimate relations to certain local conditions would thus seem to be beyond doubt. In such cases we cannot assume that special atmospheric influences are necessary to its existence. Diarrhoea, and its relations, Cholera Morbus and Cholera Infantum, all appear to be advancing more or less steadily into that prominence which experience has taught is inseparable from the later summer months. Their relations to filth in air, food and water have been too frequently mentioned to require repetition.