

Notes of the Week.

STILL ANXIOUS with the announcement of his elevation to the Dominion Senate, Mr. John Macdonald has given a handsome donation of \$40,000 toward the extension of the Toronto Hospital. It is not always that will and ability to do generous things are coincident. Where, as in this case, they are united the result is gratifying to all concerned.

THE New York *Independent* asks. How is this? Congress appropriated \$10,000 to entertain the International Medical Congress lately in session in Washington. This sum seems to have been chiefly spent on liquor. About 4,000 quart bottles of claret were consumed, at an expense of \$1.50 per bottle, total \$6,000, and a hundred cases of Jules Mumm & Co.'s "Grand Sec." Was this what Congress meant, or is it what the people approve?

A NOTE from a correspondent contains the following. The annual incomes of some of the ministers in New York are. Rev. Roland Collyer, the blacksmith preacher, \$12,500, Dr. Parkhurst, \$12,500, Dr. Paxton, \$15,000, Dr. Charles Hall, \$15,000, Dr. Morgan Dix, \$15,000; Dr. W. M. Taylor, from pulpit and pen, \$24,000, and Dr. John Hall, from pulpit and pen, \$24,000. Such are some of the servants and followers of Him who while here had no place to lay His head.

WHEN the Rouvier Ministry was formed in Paris, there was no expectation that it would have a long lease of existence. It has fallen to pieces already on account of the disgraceful disclosures in the Caffarel case, and the implication therein of the President's son-in-law, M. Wilson. The case is serious. No politician of any note will undertake the construction of a new cabinet unless President Grevy resigns. This, as a matter affecting his personal dignity, he was disinclined to do. Clemenceau, a pronounced Radical, is in popular favour, but should there be a presidential election, there is no saying what changes might take place. The Parisians are reaching their normal pitch of excitement over the political crisis.

A MARINE and general hospital is about to be established in Collingwood. A charter for its incorporation has been obtained. In a circular signed by W. G. Hamilton, president, and H. B. Macdonnell, secretary, it is stated that the trustees appointed under the charter take this opportunity of making known their wants, trusting that the charitable and well disposed will come to their help, and give such assistance as will enable them to at once commence the building. They have on hand nearly a thousand dollars, one kind lady has promised one thousand more when another thousand is raised. Fifty dollars given entitles the donor to a life membership. As this hospital will be open to the poor of all lands, the trustees confidently hope that all who wish to obtain God's blessing will come to their help.

THE condition of the Crown Prince of Germany is everywhere watched with great eagerness. It is now all but demonstrated that he is afflicted with the incurable disease of cancer. The end is regarded as but a question of time. For himself, personally, profound sympathy is felt. Much was expected from his occupancy of the Imperial throne, as it was known that he was averse to a warlike policy. It is now thought that the successor of the aged Emperor will be his grandson, Prince William, who is regarded as the hope of the Junker party. Within the past few days it has come out that the blight of disease also rests on him. It is said that he is afflicted with the malady that carried off his granduncle, William IV. of Prussia. Great and important changes are apparently in store for the house of Hohenzollern.

COMMENTING on a letter of the Secretary of the Interior, which the New York *Independent* publishes, it says: It is of note for this, among other things, that

it refers frankly to the fact that the Roman Catholics keep an agent in Washington, whose business it is to attend to the interests of the Catholic Church among the Indians, and to secure what agents, teachers, and other employes it can. We believe that his labours have been far from unsuccessful. We could mention cases in which he has even thwarted the plans of Protestant missionary bodies to secure permission to establish schools, hospitals, etc. We shall be glad when benevolence is no longer thwarted, and when those who wish to preach the Gospel and teach the heathen shall not be required to wait like beggars for the permission of a Tennessee upstart.

IN various parts of the Dominion active efforts are being made to promote Sabbath observance. The ministerial associations are bestowing attention on the practical aspects of the question. At a recent meeting of the West Durham Ministerial Association, in Bowmanville, the following resolution was adopted. That this association strongly deprecate the hiring of livery teams on the Sabbath Day for purposes of pleasure, and consider it altogether inconsistent with religion, and dangerous to morality; that we place on record our disapproval of Sabbath funerals, and shall object to attend them unless in cases of extreme necessity, that we express our disapproval of the unreasonable publicity, display and expenditure in connection with funerals. Very sensible resolutions, and we hope to see practical results from their action.

THE call from Elmwood congregation, Belfast, to Rev. Dr. Murphy, of Crouch Hill, was up in the London Presbytery, for disposal. Commissioners appeared, including Sir James Corrie and Dr. Porter, president of Queen's College. The Elmwood Church is attended by the students and professors of the college, and is a position of great influence. Parties having been heard, those from Ireland pointing out Dr. Murphy's peculiar fitness for the post, while the Crouch Hill representatives contended that Dr. Murphy's success in London was an argument against his removal. He has been four years in the northern suburb, and in that time the membership has increased from 154 to 308; the Sunday school has doubled, and a mission has been commenced. In the end Dr. Murphy expressed his readiness to accept the call, and the Presbytery, on motion of Dr. Fraser, seconded by Dr. Kentoul, agreed to his translation to Belfast.

THE new building of the McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, was dedicated on the evening of the 17th inst. Cyrus H. McCormick, jr., briefly addressed the assembled guests, and delivered the keys of the splendid structure to the president of the board of trustees, Rev. Dr. D. W. Fisher, who responded briefly, and was followed by Rev. Professor Skinner, who offered the prayer of dedication. This completed the services of the dedication proper. The company then repaired to the chapel and were addressed by Rev. Dr. Campbell, of Minneapolis, who took for his theme, "The World Growing Better." The new building bears the name of Fowler Hall, Fowler being the maiden name of Mrs. McCormick, who had taken a deep interest in its erection and furnishing. The building is 120x60 feet on the ground, with four stories and basement, and contains sixty-five suites of two rooms each, for each student; has a bowling hall in the basement, and is, says the *Interior*, the most complete structure, for its object, in the United States.

THE Faculty of Cornell University has decided to dispense altogether with honours. All mention of honours will be omitted from the register, and from commencement programmes. Students doing special work will receive mention of it in their diplomas, but will not receive special honours. The significance of this action of the Faculty is, that it modifies the policy of the university so as to make the love of learning the sole incentive to high scholarship. The Faculty also adopted a resolution stating that, in their opinion, a proficiency of seventy per cent. should be

required to pass. This resolution is not binding on all professors. It was passed to counteract any impression that, in abolishing the honour system, the Faculty meant to decrease the standard of scholarship. Yet, since the majority who passed the resolution will probably avail themselves of its authority, it practically amounts to raising the standard to pass in Cornell from sixty per cent. to seventy per cent. In Harvard last year the standard was raised from forty to fifty per cent.

ONE of the least ostentatious, but by no means the least useful of our local benevolent institutions, is the Toronto Christian Temperance Mission. It is doing a noble and much needed work in the city. Its experienced agent, Mr. Robert Hall, grapples with the curse of drunkenness where its evils are most apparent. During the year, he has been active in domiciliary visitation, holding cottage meetings, visiting the inmates of the prisons and various institutions where excellent work has been done. The eighth annual meeting of this admirable agency was held last week and it was unanimously resolved to increase its efficiency by the addition of at least one other missionary. Surely it has a sufficient number of friends throughout the city to make this easy of accomplishment. Indeed, there is no good reason why a number of agents might not be steadily employed in this good work. The officers elected for the year are. Rev. G. M. Milligan, president, Hon. S. H. Blake, Q.C. Rev. Dr. Potts, Dr. W. B. Geikie, vice-presidents; James Thompson, secretary, E. M. Morphy, treasurer, Robert Hall, missionary, Rev. H. M. Parsons, Hugh Johnston, W. R. Parker, D.D., John Neil, Elmore Harris, W. Patterson, George Robertson, and Messrs. James Dobson, John Harvie, N. W. Hoyles, Joseph Gibson, J. D. Nasmith, Harry Webb, Isaac Wardell, directors.

RECENT action by professional boards in the Province of Quebec has called attention to the eager desire of the Romish Church to dominate wherever an apparent chance presents itself. Sir William Dawson, president of McGill University, has repeatedly called attention to the unfair attitude the law council has taken toward that institution in refusing to recognize its degrees in lieu of examinations. The opening lecture of the session by the president was devoted to a statement of the question. He said: Since Confederation the power of educational legislation has been wholly in the hands of the Provincial legislature, with only the restriction that it has no right to withdraw from the English and Protestant minority such privileges as it possessed before Confederation. For some years this guarantee was respected, and it has not been directly infringed. But recently excessive and arbitrary powers have been given to some public bodies representing the several professions, whereby they may exercise complete control over the professional courses of the universities, and may, if so disposed, practically destroy the educational institutions of the minority. It is also understood that similar powers are desired by other professional bodies. I refer only to the minority, because, as the great majority of the professional men have been educated in the Catholic colleges, these institutions and the professional education connected with them may be considered comparatively safe from attack. In effect the tendency of recent legislation in this Province has been to destroy the guarantees of the minority indirectly by conferring powers not possessed by the Legislature itself on irresponsible professional boards. I do not propose to enter at great length here into the discussion of these grievances, but desire emphatically to state my conviction. First, That the system of education, general and professional, pursued by this university, is that required for the interest of the English and Protestant population of this Province, though different in many of its details from that in use among the majority of our people; Second, That no benefit can result to this Province from the extirpation of the English system of education; Third, That the measures recently pursued and tending to this result are contrary to the guarantees given at the time of Confederation.