

Notes of the Week.

A LARGE volume, comprising all the methods of Church and Sunday school work which have proved valuable in the experience of pastors, is to be published by Messrs. Funk & Wagnalls. Rev. Sylvanus Stall, of Lancaster, Pa., has been engaged to compile this volume, and desires pastors everywhere to furnish him with such plans and methods as they have successfully used in enlarging the work of the Master in their own fields, or know of elsewhere. The volume will embrace chapters bearing on finances, religious meetings, social meetings, benevolent work, pastor's aids, Sunday schools, etc.

EXCITEMENT in Mexico is still at fever heat. Editor Cutting has been tried and sentenced to a term of imprisonment, and warlike talk is as wild and volatile as ever. Mexican troops are hastening to the frontier, and the Americans in the South in large numbers are offering their services. Munitions of war are being shipped from Washington and New York and great activity prevails. Meanwhile Secretary Bayard has sent a final demand for Cutting's unconditional delivery to the United States authorities. There is, however, no apprehension of a warlike outbreak, as on the part both of the Mexican and United States Governments there is sufficient forbearance and common sense to prevent hostilities.

THE Mayor of Toronto, with impartial aim, endeavours to unearth and punish wrong-doing wherever he finds it. He has maintained an effective crusade against the violators of the license law, the keepers and frequenters of disreputable houses, and other offenders of that class. He is now taking active measures against those who have been accused of making dishonest raids on the city treasury. The community was last week startled by the unexpected arrest of prominent citizens and officials, against whom serious charges have been made. The law should not have a hand of iron for the poor criminal and one of velvet for the rich delinquent. Let justice be even handed.

THE Ontario Teachers' Association met in this city last week. Various subjects of interest to the teaching profession were discussed. There has been for some time a general desire for a more efficient union of the teachers for the improvement of their condition, and the promotion of their interests. The idea of a secret organization received little favour. The scheme generally favoured was more ambitious than a mere protective union. A plan was submitted by Mr. Geo. Dickson, M.A., Principal of Upper Canada College, for the formation of a college of preceptors. Its aims, broadly stated, should be to promote sound learning and to advance the interests of education by admitting to the teaching profession only those who are fitted for the work, to improve the position of the profession, and to protect the public from incompetent teachers. The proposal elicited full and free discussion, and it was resolved to submit it to the various teachers' associations, and report in December, when further action will be taken.

BOATING fatalities have been more than ordinarily numerous this season. Only a week after the capsizing in a squall of a Philadelphia yacht by which several lives were lost, the sad calamity on Lake Huron occurred. The yacht *Cruiser*, manned by six estimable young men, was lost in a gale and none of them was left to tell the sad tale. Three of the bodies were afterward found on the wreck that had drifted ashore near Port Frank on the south-eastern shore of the lake. Two young men, nephews of the Hon. A. Mackenzie, a son of the Hon. Senator Vidal, of Sarnia, Mr. Telfer, a native of London Township, Mr. Sinclair and Mr. Morrison thus met an untimely death. The news of the disaster spread a mournful gloom over Sarnia, where all the young men were well known and highly-respected. Their relatives are assured of the heartfelt sympathy of

all who know them. This fresh disaster adds its emphasis to the lessons taught by the many that have gone before - that inexperienced yachtsmen should not undertake untried responsibilities in managing a craft, and that expert sailors should avoid all needless risks.

TORONTO INDUSTRIAL FAIR. - The success which has attended the Industrial Fair in the past appears likely to be eclipsed by the success of the one for the present year, which opens at Toronto on the 8th of September next. Already the space in all the large buildings is nearly taken up, and the character and novelty of the exhibits will be far ahead of those of previous years. The latest improvements in farming implements, machinery and all kinds of manufactures will be found there, and the number of entries already made in the live stock department ensure a magnificent display in this respect. An excellent programme of special attractions has been provided, and the reputation of the Toronto Show in this respect justifies us in saying that they will be of an interesting and novel character. Cheap excursions and reduced fares will be given on all the railways. A large number of conventions and other attractions will be going on in the city at the time of the Fair, and any of our readers contemplating taking a holiday, will not have a better opportunity of spending it with pleasure and profit than by taking a trip to the Toronto Industrial Fair. Entries in all departments close on the 22nd of August. For prize lists and all particulars, drop a post card to Mr. J. Hill, the Secretary, at Toronto.

MR. JOHN LOVELL has issued the prospectus of his "Gazetteer" and history of every county, district, parish, township, city, town, village, island, lake and river in the Dominion of Canada. Mr. Lovell purposes publishing this work in nine volumes, each of which will be complete in itself. Each of the first eight volumes will be devoted to a separate Province, the North-West Territories being taken as one; while the ninth volume will contain eight maps, lists of lakes, rivers, post-offices, etc. The work is to be published in about two years, after a sufficient number of subscribers and illustration contributors have been obtained to cover cost of publication. I am now in my seventy-seventh year, the publisher says, and it is perhaps time that I should take some rest, but I will not look for it until my encyclopedic Gazetteer and History is in the hands of the people of the Dominion of Canada. In bringing out this work and thus transforming what to me has long been a cherished dream into a grand accomplished fact, may I look for your sympathy and co-operation? Prepared on the plan I have sketched out, I feel assured that such a work would be a boon to thousands of my fellow-countrymen and reflect credit and honour on the land I have for sixty long years tried to serve with devoted loyalty and with what gifts heaven has endowed me. Leaving to Canada such a legacy, I think I should die content.

In a special number of *Imperial Federation*, the journal of the Imperial Federation League, there is an account of the progress of Great Britain and her Colonies during the last fifty years. It gives this summary of educational progress in Canada: In the Province of Quebec, not many years before the Queen ascended the throne, a report stated that "not above one-fourth of the population could read, and not one-tenth of them could write, even imperfectly." But now in the same Province there are nearly 4,000 primary schools, with 200,000 scholars, besides 300 secondary schools having 40,000 pupils. In Ontario, the Provincial Legislature provided public schools, and voted money for their support as far back as 1816 - but the present school system dates from 1846, it is very efficient, providing for compulsory attendance, local assessment, Government aid, inspection, etc. In Nova Scotia elementary education was, until the last twenty-five years, left to local effort, and although this was encouraged by Legislative grants, as in Ontario, not much was done until 1864, when the present system was organized. There are nearly

1,600 public schools within the Province, with nearly 100,000 scholars in daily attendance. In New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, also, there are efficient educational systems, while in Manitoba, the North-West Provinces, and British Columbia, it must suffice to say that education keeps pace with colonization.

THE *Springfield Republican* has issued a Mount Hermon extra containing full reports of Mr. Moody's meetings for Bible study. Much interesting information was given in reference to various forms of religious work at these meetings. The secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association stated that one-fifth of the property of the country is invested in railroads. There are, he said, 155,000 or more miles of railroad, and the number of men engaged in that work is variously estimated at 500,000 to three times that. In this number are counted all who have any connection with railroads, telegraph operators, express agents, men in the office or the machine-shop, for they are bound together in mutual sympathy. These men are disciplined like an army; trained to promptness and reliability. There is something in the business very attractive to wide awake, active fellows, who don't want to stay on the home farm in what they consider the humdrum life lived by their fathers. So they get away from home, out of religious influences, and the devil knows a good customer when he sees him coming. The railroad man don't get much Sunday rest, and the Church has rightly great responsibility to bear for that, for I know that the first Sunday train, long ago, was employed to carry people from church on Sunday to their homes in the suburbs. The railroad managers themselves realized the necessity of some counteracting agency to the evil influences surrounding their employes, and away back in 1850 began to establish reading-rooms and libraries for them: up in Vermont was the first one. The Young Men's Christian Association began to take up this line of work in 1872, and established a railroad men's association at Cleveland. Now there are seventy secretaries and assistants in this branch of the work, and the railroad managers themselves are giving \$60,000 a year for its support.

THE Prohibition Camp at Hamilton has been a centre of attraction all the week. Interest and enthusiasm have been steadily maintained, and the attendance has exceeded expectation. The temperance reformation in every phase has been thoroughly discussed, opponents have been won and temperance people confirmed in their principles. In order to take a comprehensive view of the work still to be accomplished and to sustain interest there were among others Law and Order, Women's and Children's Days. Speaking of woman's relation to the temperance cause, Miss J. Templeton Armstrong, of England, spoke briefly, but pointedly, upon the position of woman, as affected by the evils of intemperance. For some reason society, rightly or wrongly, expected more of women than of men. For this reason a woman, falling through the sin of intemperance, rarely rose again. She knew there were those who were anxious to sweep away all this gigantic evil of intemperance all at once. But the history of the world showed that these great reforms must come by degrees. They had every reason to be encouraged. The day of reviling the liquor sellers had passed. They had nothing to do with those men now except to treat them with all Christian charity. They felt, however, that it was infamous that Governments should tempt men by a license to go into an infamous business. They wanted better laws, it was true, but he feared sometimes that in Canada they got laws too easily. A law was only as strong as the public sentiment behind it, and often in Canada they got laws and then had to work up public sentiment to enforce them. If they could do away with the drink curse human nature would have a chance, the children and the women would have a chance, and the sure development of the race into higher and better things would go on all the faster.