

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

SOME papers in the United States, and at least one in Canada, have been endeavouring to prejudice the Irishmen of the Dominion against the Marquis of Lansdowne, our new Governor-General. It is most unfair to the noble Marquis as well as to the Irish of this country, that such entirely unproved statements should be accepted as facts. It appears from the remarks of those who know that the Marquis has been anything but a hard landlord, having shown great consideration on more than one occasion towards his tenantry. Of course his lordship is not in sympathy with the Irish agitators, and has been opposed to some features of Mr. Gladstone's Irish policy, but these things by no means make him out an enemy of Ireland or Irishmen. Let Canadians generally receive him as the representative of Her Majesty, and judge him by his acts and words while among us, and not by base rumors concocted by enemies of the Empire.

If the reports which come to us from British Columbia be correct, the settlement of the Chinese question will be a very simple matter. A telegram from Victoria on Friday says: "Chinese firms here held a meeting yesterday. It was resolved to advise the Chinese Government to allow no more men to come here at present. It was asserted at the meeting that 2,000 Chinese laborers died during the past year. The mortality is attributed to exposed acclimatizing and sudden change of diet." We venture to predict, should this prove true, and should the Chinese leave the country, that those who were the most loud in their denunciations of the wicked "heathen Chinese" will be the first to feel and deplore their absence, for the country will be seriously embarrassed for want of men.

THE Rationalistic spirit which has pervaded to so great an extent the Universities, and even the Protestant Churches of Germany, has found no sympathy from the reigning Emperor. Indeed, it is a source of much satisfaction to all Christians to note how plainly and publicly on all suitable occasions his Majesty makes known his religious views. In his late decree, ordering that the tenth and eleventh days of next November be observed as the four hundredth anniversary of the birth of Martin Luther, are these words: "I pray that God may listen to the supplications in which I and all evangelists unite, that the celebration be productive of lasting benefit to our evangelical religion." The heir apparent, with his wife, our own good Princess Royal, also warmly espouses the cause of truth, and publicly avows a strong belief in orthodox Christianity.

HARVARD COLLEGE has done itself but little credit by refusing to conform to its uniform practice of conferring the degree of LL. D., upon the active Governor of the State, because this year he happens to be General Benjamin F. Butler of southern war fame and notoriety. It is stated in the American papers that the representative scholars in the Harvard Corporation, were willing to make Governor Butler an LL. D., and the political element outvoted them. It may cost the College rather more than the bit of personal spite was worth, as the General in return is using his office and influence to make Harvard pay taxes, from which it has been exempted for many years.

THE new Bishop of Truro has succeeded in touching Cornish hearts by his deep earnestness, devotion and tenderness, qualities pre-eminently required in the present day for drawing together those who have openly broken away from the Church, and those who coldly hold aloof from her, on the assumption that she is too aristocratic and overbearing.

THE new Bishop's words at his enthronement deserve an extended circulation:—"My ideal is a very simple one, it is the highest that any Bishop of Truro, or any other diocese, can put before his mind: it is simply this, to be in deed that what I am in name—a father in God, to be on earth what the Great Father is, to be a father as He is Father of all, like unto Him 'who sendeth His rain on the just and the unjust and maketh His sun to shine on the good and on the evil.' My desire is to be a father to all, to those who like and those who dislike, to those who sympathise and those who conscientiously may ever be opposed to me, to go on, God helping me, simply reminding myself morning by morning that I am a father to all, sent by the Eternal One to imitate Himself in His own Divine Fatherhood; and so I believe those outside the Church will find sympathy, and if I am able to carry out that ideal they will learn, God helping me, what a power of love and of benediction there is laid up yet unproved in this great Church of England."

ONE ton and a half of silver has been converted into medals for those who took part in the operations in Egypt. The number of medals issued is 44,000, and each medal has been engraved with the name of the recipient. Not only has every officer and man engaged in Egypt received the medal, but it has been bestowed upon captains of all the merchant ships employed as transports during the prevalence of hostilities.

Is England growing more moral? There is certainly an appearance of improved morality. London papers tell us that there never was a Derby Day so destitute of rowdiness, so sober, so sensible, or so hopeful as this year's. The road was dusty and the weather warm, yet hardly any one was downright drunk. Testimony from another independent source is encouraging. The Metropolitan Railway officials report a marked diminution of drunkenness among the half million of human beings who travelled on the company's lines on Whit-Monday.

THIS reform in the social habits of the holiday seekers is mainly due to the increased activity of the London clergy, and the devouring missionary zeal of so many noble workers for the spiritual and social elevation of the masses. Under the stimulus of this great idea, and seconded by Bishops who thought it an honour to call upon, and to shake hands with, a horny-handed son of toil, devoted priests have spent their lives in this noble work. Now both Church and State are reaping the harvest.

SURELY it is time that home missionary zeal received some great stimulus in our midst. We want some great IDEA, and we have it in believing that "the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and of His Christ." Anything that would do harm to that kingdom must be firmly met and driven back. Men must come forward and work as spiritual soldiers for that kingdom. Wealth must roll in and help to build up the weak outposts, and a feeling of intense en-

thusiasm towards our King, should fill the heart of every Churchman. How long shall we wait for all this!

THE Society for the Propagation of the Gospel is trying to raise some enthusiasm in England on behalf of Canada. But is Canada herself seeking sons of her own to do her work? We clip the following from the Society's report:—

"If some of our young athletes want a field for their manliness, before they settle down on their lees and get a family about them; or if some of our young swell lawn-tennis playing parsons want to show off their activity, there is a chance for them in Manitoba; and those who suffer from dyspepsia and bile would soon get cured if they would rough it a bit in our far off colonies. What a pity some of those young fellows who look so pretty at certain fashionable west-end churches, do not throw themselves into this work. It is not to savages, whose unwritten language they will have to learn, but to their own countrymen, neglected shamefully by the Mother Church who gave them birth, but who now seem not to care what becomes of them. It is strange that Zulus, and other savages, seem to have a pious claim on most Church folk, and their countrymen in far-off lands may go to the devil for all the vast majority of the Church at home cares."

Too much importance has been attached to the Pope's circular concerning the Irish agitation. The circular was not put out until all the mischief had been done, in fact, it is more significant of the fact that Ireland is quieting down than that the Pope has discovered the sinfulness of turbulent agitation and assassination. The Popes were ever given to the shrewd calculation of chances before committing themselves to either side, and at last managed to slip over the right side of the fence.

WHILE midnight murder, fires and terrors, stalked for years over Ireland, the Papal See was quiet. And yet not quiet, for it set its face as a rock against secret societies, and Ireland was the hot-bed of such societies. James Carey was a devout Roman Catholic: James Carey was the ringleader of a secret society, and was a murderer. So we must expect very little from the Pope's letter. It is just a sign that the secret societies of Ireland, are at present, on the losing side. No one can believe that its excellent maxims will have any effect on the economic forces which control Ireland; the papal denunciations will prove as efficacious as the runes of a witch for stilling a storm.

NEVERTHELESS it is worth while noticing how the Papal Encyclical has been received in Ireland and the United States. Irishmen of prominence in both countries have told His Holiness to mind his own business, which they further tell him consists in attending to the spiritual affairs of the Church, and not to go out of his way to interfere in political matters. This is certainly pretty strong and disloyal talk, seeing that the Pope especially claims to exercise sovereign authority, temporal as well as spiritual, over his followers in every land. What it will all lead to, whether the Pontiff will insist upon being obeyed, or will be satisfied to see his authority ignored, remains to be seen. One thing is very clear. That Irish Romanists dare speak out as never before they did, and that they are only prepared to be dutiful and obedient children of the Church, so long as their religion in no way clashes with their political views and actions.