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Notes of the Week.

The following facts mentioned in a recent periodical are a striking commentary upon what we have been told is Rome's growing love for the public school:—"In Rome there are 30 cardinals, 35 bishops, 1,369 priests, 2,832 monks, and 2,215 nuns, and yet in the same city live 195,000 adults who can neither read nor write."

The way in which our Manitoba school difficulty is working to prevent the accomplishment of the very thing which above all others the Roman Catholic Hierarchy is moving heaven and earth to secure, the establishment of separate schools in which to teach the tenets of their religion, is well illustrated by a single sentence from the *Golden Rule*: "Manitoba is now affording living evidence of the folly of allowing separate schools to the Catholics, and Americans are reading that evidence with wide-open eyes."

It is proposed by the British Student Volunteer Missionary Union to hold in Liverpool in January next a great international conference for the purpose of rallying the volunteers, rousing the colleges and awakening the churches. There are now more than 850 volunteers in the colleges, and never before has the movement been spreading with greater rapidity than it is at present. The Rev. Arthur T. Pierson has been invited and urged to be present at the conference. All denominations in Liverpool are uniting to make it a mighty success.

Our columns abound just now, it will be observed, with advertisements of the re-opening of private schools and colleges. The former have now, in many cases, a hard fight to make ends meet, and keep up a competent staff, in competition with our public, common and high schools. Their only chance to do so lies in giving as thorough teaching as the public institutions, accompanied by the very highest types of character as regards conscientiousness, moral earnestness and examples of noble living in their teachers. A wise parent will give more attention to who is to teach his child than to what he is to be taught.

So intimately associated have the king and queen and the royal family of Denmark become with the royal family of England, such excellent and worthy personages are the royal pair in themselves, and so greatly has their eldest daughter, the Princess of Wales, endeared herself to the subjects of Queen Victoria in every part of the empire, that general and sincere sympathy will be felt for her and others closely interested on account of the illness of the King of Denmark, which, because of its severely painful nature and his advanced age may well justify grave fears for the result. A purer, more beautiful court life has not been seen than that of the Danish royal family, and we have reason, as British subjects, to be thankful for the happy influence which directly and indirectly it has exerted upon royalty in England.

If we may judge from the frequency with which royal personages visit England, they must think it rather a nice country, and the people a nice people to visit. The Emperor of Germany is there now again, and although relationship to some extent may account for the frequency of his visits, yet a man of his strong character would not go so often for that reason alone unless he liked it otherwise. It is said that among other things he loves England's quiet Sabbath. He has become impressed, it is said, with the delightfully restful repose of that day as it is observed in England, and would be glad to see such a state of things in Germany. For many years he has steadfastly re-

fused to attend any public entertainment on Sunday, and even when in Venice last year, as the guest of the King of Italy, he stuck to this policy.

The preacher during August in Dr. John Hall's Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church will be Rev. Dr. Pentecost, the well known preacher, now of London, but for many years the successful pastor of the Tompkins Avenue Congregational Church, of Brooklyn. Another August preacher, who will undoubtedly attract large audiences, is Rev. Dr. Arthur T. Pierson in the Fourth Avenue Presbyterian Church. The preacher in the Old First Church Dr. Howard Duffield's, this month will be Rev. Thornton B. Penfield, who occupied that position last August.

The staff of Upper Canada College, whose remodelling and the steps taken to effect it have been the cause of no little feeling in some quarters and is of much interest to the public has, we understand, been now all selected by the appointment to the Principalship of Dr. Parkin. The new Principal is a Canadian, a native of New Brunswick, and a graduate of the University of that Province. He has also attended lectures at Oxford, has had practical experience as an educationist and enjoyed in several ways exceptional advantages, to fit him for the post to which he has been appointed. Besides being an author of some repute, he is also said to be an eloquent and powerful speaker. The place is one of great importance, and the administration of the college under its new head and staff will be watched with much interest, and it will be the wish of all true friends of education that the high things which are desired and expected may be fully attained.

The Summer School of Theology, in connection with our Church, which has just closed, in Halifax, appears, from the accounts which have reached us, to have been as great a success as its most sanguine promoters could reasonably expect. The place and the weather were both all that could be desired, and everyone engaged in the work as lecturer, appears to have done his part admirably. It is in every way likely that the experiment will be repeated next year, and with even greater success. When the course of Dr. McCurdy, in whom, as Professor of Oriental Languages in the University here—we are specially interested—was closed, a very hearty vote of thanks was passed, and in Dr. Pollok's felicitous way presented to Dr. McCurdy. Very complimentary remarks were also made by several members of the school and satisfaction expressed at the expectation hinted at by Dr. Gordon, that the lectures of this admirable course would form a part of Dr. McCurdy's forthcoming additional volume of his great work.

The Grand Old Man has come out of his retirement and again appeared on a public platform, and for an object worthy of and like himself, on behalf of the oppressed, persecuted outraged Armenian Christians, and against one of the most corrupt, fanatical and pitiless governments in any civilized country. Thanks to the press for the full information and the publicity it has given to the Turkish atrocities, and the sympathy of loyal friends of the Armenians in Britain and America, it now seems likely that, so far as it can be done under Turkish rule, something effective will be done to protect the Armenians against the barbarities of the Kurds, and of fanatical, Mohammedan Turkish soldiery unpunished if not abetted by corrupt officials. What that something will be has yet to be definitely settled by the European powers interested, but so strong has public sentiment become in demanding it, that they all understand that nothing but what is, comparatively speaking, effective will be put up with. Turkish rule, which has been for so long such a disgrace in Europe and Asia, will soon be, let us hope, a thing of the past.

We regret to see that the Hon. David Laird, an honored member and office-bearer of our church, has been bereaved of one whom the Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, *Examiner* describes as a loving and capable wife. It says: "After repeated illnesses, extending over a period of two years, Mrs. Laird passed away quietly. As the wife of a privy councillor and governor of the Northwest Territories, Mrs. Laird was called to fill the highest position in the country; and she did so with efficiency and dignity. Her sweetness and amiability won for her a very large number of friends at Ottawa and in the west, as in her native Province. She was a daughter of the late Hon. Thomas Owen, of Cardigan, and closely related to several of our leading families. An expression of the sympathy of the community was appropriately given in the resolution of condolence with her mourning husband and family unanimously passed by the Charlottetown Board of Trade."

Fuller details, as they are received from day to day, of the massacre of English missionaries in China, not only confirm the worst reports and fears, but indicate that the danger is great of still further deeds of lawlessness and murder in the disturbed province. Shocking as the conduct of the misguided mob and officials may be, it is quite certain that the onward missionary movement will not be arrested. The blood of the martyrs will prove to be in China as it has always elsewhere, "The seed of the Church." The British Government has taken prompt measures to put a stop to further outrages, to demand reparation, so far as that is possible for the blood shed, and will do its utmost, as will also the American Government, largely interested as it is, to prevent the recurrence of such outbreaks and bloodshed. We may well hope and pray that this outburst of anti-foreign feeling may not spread to the endangering of more precious lives. By our own feelings now we may judge in some measure of those of the Chinese at the insults and indignities heaped upon their countrymen in America, and because of their lives taken for no other reason than that they were foreigners, and we cannot plead in palliation of such conduct in Christian America, those considerations which we cannot withhold as some excuse for that of the Chinese.

That clever and unutterably conceited millionaire Andrew Carnegie, has been telling the people of the States and Canada how as a citizen of the United States, if it were in his power, he would treat us because of our crime of being a self-governing colony of Great Britain. He would treat us from very love to us as Canadians, and as a matter of "high politics," ruthlessly cut us off, even at the expense of sacrificing all the advantages which the States could gain by closer connection with us, from every advantage that we could possibly gain by closer connection with them. All this to force us into either independence or annexation. We shall say nothing of Mr. Carnegie's bad taste in this connection; but a more thorough exposure of his folly and complete demolition of his logic could hardly be than is made by Dr. Clark Murray, of Montreal. We cannot go over this. It is not necessary. Canadians are one in the feeling that we are not to be frightened out of connection with Britain or into union with the States by any amount of bluster or threats. The States when their population was no greater than ours and when their ways and means of living were vastly fewer and smaller than ours, managed to live; and so can we. The only effect such foolish talk can have upon us is to draw closer the bond between us and the mother country, and that great confederacy of free States which make up the British Empire, and make more powerful and more antagonistic the great people from whom in any time of need the States would have most to hope and most to fear.