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## Notes of the Week.

The Prince of Wales conferred the Order of St. John upon two Methodist nurses in London—Sister Retna, lady superintendent of Wesley Deaconess Institute, and Sister Emma, sister-in-charge of the Children's Home Hospital.

Mr. D. L. Moody has the art of impressing himself upon his audiences as fully as any man now living. He is absorbed in his subject, and his hearers become absorbed in it, too. But Mr. Moody has found one class of hearers who give, at least, passive resistance to all his appeals, and he describes their attitude in his strong way, when he says that "the angel Gabriel could not preach to a congregation that had been reading the Sunday newspapers."

There is a Presbytery of Spain and Portugal, we are glad to note. Its jurisdiction covers the two countries named in its title. It was organized on April 5th of the present year, and has six ministerial members. The place of meeting was the Marriamos church, Lisbon. There is also a "Presbytery of Andalusia" in Spain, composed of native Protestants. Presbyterianism seems to be a form of Church polity much in favour with those who are slowly emerging from the corruptions of the Roman Church.

The three Presbyterian missions in Corea, with the individual Presbyterian missionaries working there, have agreed to organize themselves into a single advisory body—the Presbyterian Council of Corea—and to labor with a view to organizing only one native Presbyterian Church. The missions are the Northern Presbyterian Church, with ten men and eleven women missionaries; the Southern Presbyterian Church, three men and four women; the Australasian Presbyterian Church, one man and 11 women, and two independent missionaries.

The Corinth canal, which was to be opened on July 20th, was originally begun nineteen hundred years ago, by the Emperor Nero, who, however, abandoned the enterprise when he had done no more than make excavations at one end, and sink pits along the proposed route. Both the excavations and the pits were traceable the other year. But the engineers who then examined the ground took it that Nero's men had selected their route arbitrarily, and began to select another route, such as should give them the minimum of surface water. But before long they found that the two routes were identical. This throws a new light on the scientific character of Roman engineering.

Miss Golding, an English woman, who has been a number of years an inmate of convents in France and Belgium, and who at last was assisted by her brother to escape, has brought serious charges against the authorities of the convents in which she was a member. A mixed committee of leading Protestants and Roman Catholics has been appointed to investigate her charges. Among the members of committee are the Duke of Norfolk, Cardinal Vaughan, the Lord Mayor of London, Hon. P. C. Hill, and Rev. W. L. Holland, of Edinburgh. It is well to investigate Miss Golding's charges so that if false they may be exposed, and if true, a repetition of such evils may be rendered impossible. Miss Golding's case attracted much interest two or three years ago, as, like the 'Nun of Kenmare' she is a lady of education and good connections.

Archdeacon Farrar has in the July number of the Contemporary Review been saying some very plain things about the ritualistic and Popish tendencies of a party of the Church of England. Those who have come under the Archdeacon's lash, of course, do not relish it. His present condition since his attack is represented by an American paper by the expression, 'His head in chancery.' "Canon Knox-Little," says the Canadian Churchman, "for one, has administered some premonitory cuts in the Guardian recently—heralds, like the 'few drops' that announce the coming castigation. The craze for meddling and moulding which some men exhibit was never more highly developed than in this English 'dignitary'—minus dignity. He has apparently put his foot in it this time beyond his power of extrication, however much he may wriggle." The Archdeacon, no doubt, when he wrote his article, knew well what he might expect, and will be well able to answer his critics.

Our fellow-countrymen down by the sea are bewailing the widespread and fatal disasters of a great storm on the twenty-fourth. Very pitiful are the details of shipwreck and loss of life reported, both along the coast and of devastation inland. One exchange says: "The storm of Monday night was very severe in the Stewiacke valley. Wind, rain, lightning and thunder mingled to make the night terrible. Trees are broken, grain smashed down and fruit badly shaken off. There has not been so severe a storm for many years. Many farmers are not yet done haying, as weather has been very unfavorable for the last two weeks." Another says: "It is years since there has been on our coast so sad a disaster as the wreck of the steamer Dorcas, from Sydney for this port, towing a coal barge. The barge and the steamer are a total loss, being caught in the terrible gale of Monday night. 25 lives were lost. The scene of the tragedy was about Lawrencetown, an hour or two's easy sail east of Halifax Harbour. A family of five, Engineer Hanna, his wife and three children, were lost. Capt. Ferguson, of Louisburg, was in charge of the steamer and was drowned—leaving a wife, five children, his mother and sister, at Louisburg."

Miss Wilson, the daughter of the late lamented Sir Daniel Wilson, who over a year ago put herself and her home at the disposal of the Church of England for deaconess' work, has now returned from England, where she went to study methods and better qualify herself for superintending such service, has returned, and the training work may now be said to be fairly launched. Says the Evangelical Churchman: "A preliminary meeting of the committee in charge was held last Friday at 46 St. George street (the Deaconess Home) and many details were arranged. In the fall, the home will be open to receive candidates. The course of training extends over two years, and combines theoretical instruction with practical application. A grand opportunity is here opened for those who wish to devote themselves to active and systematic Christian work. There is no reason why this work, by God's blessing, should not be productive of the best results. It will accomplish all the practical good that sisterhoods do, and will be free from those features of the latter which, we believe, are not in accordance with the true spirit of our Protestant Church. We trust a warm and generous support will be given."

## PULPIT, PRESS AND PLATFORM.

Phillips Brooks: What I believe, that I become.

The Occident: Birth and circumstances of early life do not make a great man.

Faber: There are souls in this world that have the gift of finding joy everywhere.

Seeker: He enjoys much who is thankful for little. A grateful mind is a great mind.

Chinese Proverb: Vast chasms can be filled, but the heart of man can never be satisfied.

Tyrus Maximus: Choose rather to punish your appetites than to be punished by them.

Robert Hall: We shall be judged hereafter, not by what we have felt, but by what we have done.

St. Clement: The Pharisee's righteousness, consisted in not doing evil; Christ superadded that we must do good.

F. W. Robertson: Make but few explanations. The character that cannot defend itself is not worth vindicating.

Watson: Look upon the bright side of your condition; then your discontents will disperse. Pour not upon your losses, but recount your mercies.

Bossuet: To know one's self is an advantage, to correct one's self is a virtue; and to give thanks to God, the means to obtain success and perseverance.

Cicero: "One single day spent well, and in accordance with the precepts of wisdom, were better to be chosen than an immortality of sin." David said, "A day in Thy courts is better than a thousand."

Augustine: Every one who hears the Gospel, sooner or later decides for himself, as did Pilate, what he will do with Jesus who is called Christ. Some accept Him and are saved; others reject Him and are lost.

Lucey Larcom: To hunger no more and to thirst no more, is but to have our ever-returning need perpetually satisfied, and from the overflow of our blessedness to become wells of the water of life to other souls.

Krummacker: Unbelief does nothing but darken and destroy. It makes the world a desert, where no divine footsteps are heard, where no living hand adorns the fields, feeds the birds of heaven, or regulates events.

F. R. Havergal: Will you not, before venturing away from your early, quiet hour, "commit thy works" to God definitely, the special things you have to do to-day, and the unforeseen work which He may add in the course of it?

The Occident: "Mother," said a little child, "are we rich?" "No," was the quiet answer. "Well, are we poor?" The reply was the same as before. "What are we then?" the child still queried. "Just comfortable." Many of us, Christian men and women, are only "just comfortable." And there are such riches of faith, there is such an affluence of love to be had from living close to the Saviour. Poverty is a disgrace when an opulent spirit of Christ might prevail.

Carlyle: A country which has no national literature, or a literature too insignificant to force its way abroad, must always be, to its neighbours at least, in every important spiritual respect, an unknown and unestimated country.

Hugh White: When you make a mistake, don't look back at it long. Take the reason of the thing into your mind, and then look forward. Mistakes are lessons of wisdom. The past cannot be changed. The future is yet in your power.

Hon. Carroll D. Wright: "For every dollar the people receive from the saloon, they put out twenty-one." This seeming source of revenue, is really the heaviest tax on our national resources. It yields no benefits; its only fruit is evil, and that continually.

Hon. G. W. Ross: If the public schools of the continent of America would but say with all their power, that alcoholic stimulants are injurious to the health, and that they lay the foundation for physical weakness, mental inferiority, and moral ruin, the battle would be won, and the generation educated within its walls would be sober beyond the necessity even of a prohibitory law.

Dr. Cuyler: Take a good big draught of Bible every morning. Have a sweet, quiet, undisturbed season of prayer, and of honest communion with your Master. Throw open your heart's window to the sunshine. If you want to get your aches and troubles out of sight, hide them under your mercies. If you have been bereaved during the last year, do not let your sorrows stagnate by constantly brooding over them; turn off your thoughts into channels of kind deeds to others. It will be a blessed alternative.

Dr. R. W. Dale: The difference between the way in which we think of the divine forgiveness, and the way in which it was thought of by David and Isaiah, by Christ Himself, by Peter and Paul, and John—the difference, I say, is very startling. The difference is so great, it affects so seriously the whole system of the religious thought and life, that we may be said to have invented a new religion. For myself, I stand by the ancient faith, and believe that the indifference with which the forgiveness of sins is regarded in these times, is no evidence of the development and progress of religious thought, but the result of a decline of faith in the living God.

S. A. Keen, D. D.: It matters much to the child of God whether he have the Holy Spirit in the measure of a rill, a river, or an ocean. Just as there is a great difference between the serviceableness of the rill, the river, and the ocean, in the economy of nature: the rill beautifies the landscape, slakes the thirst of bird and beast; the river has a larger utility in ministering to commerce and life; but the ocean is tributary to civilization and human welfare, as is neither the rill nor the river. So if the believer has the Spirit in the measure of a rill, it is much to his experience and life; if he has Him in the measure of a river, it is more; but if he have Him in the measure of an ocean, that is, in His fulness, then the believer becomes the most effective and serviceable, both to the Church and the world, that it is possible for him to be. Let us take Him as an ocean within us, even His fulness. The fulness of the Holy Ghost is indispensable.