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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE death is announced of Dr. Dorner, the well-known German theologian. He was seventy-five years of age at the time of his death. He was educated at Tubingen. His learning was first publicly recognized by his university in 1836 when it gave him the degree of D. D. He was at a later period called to the chair of theology in Tubingen. No German theologian of his day was more widely known in England and America. After leaving Tubingen he went successively to the universities of Kiel, Koenigsberg, Bonn and Berlin. His principal works are his "History of the Development of the Doctrine of the Person of Christ," and "History of Protestant Theology."

THE second annual calendar of the Kingston Women's Medical College has just been issued. The first session was in every respect most encouraging. The effort to provide a complete medical education for women has been appreciated, and the promoters are endeavouring to make the institution worthy of support and confidence. The Board of Trustees is composed of ladies and gentlemen who possess a wider than local reputation. The faculty includes the names of eminent and experienced teachers in the various branches of medical science. One of the successful graduates, Miss Alice MacGillvray, M.D., has been appointed to the chair of practical anatomy. Three valuable scholarships have been given, one by Mrs. MacNee, of Kingston, another by Dr. Jennie K. Trout, Toronto, and a third by the ladies of Kingston.

THE Scott Act campaign is progressing vigorously and hopefully. The preliminary canvass in most cases led to the conclusion that it is wise and proper to submit the question to the electors for their decision. It has been resolved to take a vote in the city of Guelph. The Act is to be submitted in the county of Grey. The petition for appeal in Halton has been sent to Ottawa, but it is alleged to contain such evidences of glaring fraud that representations have been made to the authorities pointing out that the names of many who have left the country, appear thereon. The dead, it is asserted, have come to life again, for the purpose of signing the petition, and many names are signed twice over. A good cause does not need such devices; a bad cause is not made better by their means. In the Province of Quebec the county of Arthabasca has given a handsome majority in favour of the Scott Act.

THOSE whose public duty it is to take precautions against the visitation of cholera seem in general to have been prompt in their action. Quarantine is to be strictly enforced in the case of all vessels coming from French, Italian, and several of the English ports. There is no diminution of the scourge either at Toulon or Marseilles, while it has been spreading in France. Several fatal cases have already occurred in Paris. It has made its appearance both at Madrid and Vienna. As yet no case has been reported on this continent. This gives more time for preparation. There should be no panic, neither should there be any indifference. Municipal authorities and Health Boards are by no means too active in their efforts to avert the outbreak and spread of the terrible scourge. The latter, without delay, ought to print for general distribution directions as to what should be done and what remedies employed in case of seizure, while awaiting the arrival of medical help. Domestic and personal cleanliness, careful attention as to diet, and the avoidance of intoxicants are indispensable.

RUSSIAN Imperialists make no efforts to ameliorate the condition of the people. No ostensible inquiries are set on foot to discover the causes of the widespread disaffection that is steadily and surely sapping the foundations of the Muscovite empire. Despite all severe and vigilant measures for the repression of treasonable and deadly attacks, Nihilism continues its murderous course, spreading terror and apprehension everywhere. The discovery of a fresh plot, the apprehension of those implicated, the terrible

punishments inflicted upon them, do not intimidate Nihilistic agents and sympathisers. Expelled from Russia, they make other countries the base of operation. Unearthed in one part of the empire, they reappear in another with dauntless determination to terrorize by destruction of life and property. Conspiracies for the murder of the Czar and Czarowitch have lately been almost simultaneously discovered in Moscow and in Warsaw. The Nihilists have their agents in the most unlooked for places. The army, the navy, the civil service, officials and servants in the palaces, and in the universities, zealous members of the formidable organization are to be found. This warfare cannot go on forever. The duel between autocracy and anarchy must come to an end, but the conflict will be a terrible one.

THE Annual Calendar of the Brantford Young Ladies' College has just been issued. From the announcements made it is evident that this estimable institution aims at imparting a thorough training in the various branches of education. There is no standing still. Each year shows that its directors are desirous of keeping pace with the requirements of the time. One of the most commendable features is the endeavour to make the training thorough and efficient. Showy superficiality receives no encouragement. It requires courage to resist this temptation. The Calendar states that in arranging the course of study, care is taken to meet the diversified wants and capabilities of students, that their time may be employed in the most profitable manner possible, and that regular and systematic habits of study may be acquired. It is mere waste of time to set young persons at advanced work without the proper intellectual preparation. This has hitherto been the bane of female education, compelling superficiality, and hazarding both mental and physical health. Parents who intrust the training of their daughters to this institution are expected to allow sufficient time for the healthy unfolding of their minds before entering on the severer parts of the Collegiate course. In the middle and senior years the subjects are arranged to meet the requirements of young ladies who may desire to prepare for the High School Intermediate Examination, with a view to teaching. In the departments of Modern Languages, Literature and History, there will be also found a conformity to the University subjects, in order to prepare for the Local Examinations for Women, held annually in the College in accordance with the University regulations.

IN the last number of the *Week Bystander* records his observations on the relation of pastor and people. His reflections are worthy of consideration. This much can be said of them, they are disinterested. "Occasions are every day presenting themselves for teaching congregations, if they tender the interest of the church, to be considerate and forbearing towards their pastors. When the source of disagreement and trouble is a fundamental difference of opinion, it is difficult to suggest any remedy but that of peaceful separation; and the fundamental differences of opinion do in these days arise they arise in the Church of England between members of the High and Low Church parties, and they arise in all the churches, more or less from the disturbed state of the theological world and the conflict between ritualism and orthodoxy. But fully as often the real source is mere weariness of the preacher. To a literary man the wonder is that sermons are so good as they are; he knows that he would himself soon be exhausted if he were set to write two discourses a week upon a limited range of topics. But a congregation, blissfully ignorant of the limitation of brain secretion, and the difficulties of composition, expect the pulpit to be an overflowing fountain of fresh thought and striking language, and this for very moderate salary. The less people care for doctrine the more they crave for oratory, the less value they set on the matter of the message the more exacting they are as to the manner of its delivery; and as scepticism, avowed or unavowed, eats its way, people care less for the doctrine and set less value on the message. They demand in fact that

the glow of faith and piety, which is extinct in their own breasts, shall be rekindled every Sunday from the single breast of the pastor. This is a new difficulty added to the preacher's burden by the circumstances of a sceptical age."

IN the crowd of foreign political questions, French aggression in Madagascar has been comparatively unheeded. Other complications have diverted public attention from the steady advance made by the French to make Madagascar a virtual dependency of the Republic. At first assurances were given that only in the northern part of the island would they seek to exercise the rights claimed. The French lust of conquest has not been satisfied with gaining all that was ostensibly claimed at the outset of the aggressive movement. Last week a discussion took place in the French Chamber, on the question of the Madagascar Credits. M. Perin was seemingly the only member who objected to the warlike tone of the report of the Committee, the policy of the government was ultimately to compel conquest of the whole island. M. Fieppel demanded a complete protectorate over the island. Six thousand men were sufficient to capture Antananarivo. M. DeLafosse advised that English missionaries be warned that they would be considered as belligerents if they obstructed the French. M. Lanessan, Reporter of the Committee, declared the Hovas abused the patience of France. He advocated the Committee's plan for occupation and retention of Tamatave, Majunga, and other points. For commercial reasons also, it would be necessary to occupy points south, because they were healthier, and because English Methodists there should be taught that the rights of France extended over the whole of Madagascar. Vice Admiral Peryn stated, in addition to occupying Tamatave and Majunga, Admiral Miot would occupy whatever points he judged necessary. He said reinforcements had been sent to Madagascar. The Hovas would perceive the futility of resistance when they saw the French defiantly installed in the country. Prime Minister Ferry said he was convinced that the Chamber would not change its policy or display hesitation. The Government intended to combine resolution with prudence. The credit asked for by the Government was voted by a large majority.

THE following note, which should have been appended to Rev Robert Wallace's contribution on "The Bible in the Public Schools," was inadvertently omitted: Some prefer that the whole Bible be read in the public schools. The Bible covers the whole of human life, and there are portions not suitable to be read by young people of both sexes together, and instead of leaving it to the option of each teacher to choose the passages to be read, it would be much better that a book of selections be prepared by several discreet men of experience, representing different churches. Some speak as if the appointment of the reading of Scripture by the pupils would imply being enforced by civil pains and penalties. Such a thing is not contemplated nor desired. All that is asked is that the reading of selections from Scripture be placed on the same footing as other exercises, with the conscience clause excepting those whose parents object. As to the objection that the state has nothing to do with religion, I reply that we are professedly a Christian country, and our laws are framed on the laws of Christ, hence our laws do protect the Christian Sabbath, and do recognize marriage as a divine institution, and such they should recognize Christianity in the most vital matter with which the State has to do, the education of the young. If we neglect this, the Hindoos and Moslems would put us to shame. We are assured that "the earth helped the woman," that is, the State helped the Church. But some would refuse to carry out God's purpose, and promise in this matter. The reasoning of some applies to heathen and not to Christian States, and their opposition arises from their dread of an established church. But in the United States, where there is none, the Christian Churches hold that the Bible should be read in the public schools, and be appointed by State authority, and that this is no improper encroachment on the Christian liberty of the people.