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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE question of the higher education of woman, so far as Toronto is concerned, is now practically settled. Prejudices are disappearing, and fewer obstacles remain in the path of those ladies who desire such an education as the highest institution of the country can supply. The authorities in Toronto University have resolved to admit ladies to the college lectures, as they have already been admitted to the examinations. Among the many college openings last week, not the least interesting was the commencement of the second session of the Toronto Woman's Medical College. A large number of the friends of the institution were in attendance. The inaugural lecture, tracing the growth of the movement in behalf of higher female education, showing that within the last few years it had made decided and gratifying progress, was delivered by Dr. Adam Wright. Dr. Barrett intimated that there would be a considerable increase in the number attending the session now opened, while Mrs. Harvie showed that the financial state of the institution was most encouraging.

MOST ministers, and others as well, will agree with the pastor of Zion Church, Brantford. A contemporary informs us that the Rev. Dr. Cochrane, the other Sabbath, on making the usual announcements from the pulpit, made some excellent and practical comments on the subject of pulpit advertising and also in reference to some other matters of practical importance. He stated that if he were to read all the notices and invitations handed to him to be published, the congregation would need about fourteen days in the week, instead of seven, to attend to all these demands made upon their time. Some of these notices he did not believe in, but there were others which were consistent with the work of the church. Still, he thought that all announcements, outside of the special business of the church should be made public through the advertising columns of the press, and be paid for, as other advertisements are, and should not be made from the pulpit, as the sacred desk could hardly be considered a fitting and appropriate place from which to issue advertisements.

FROM a carefully kept record by a European correspondent of the *New York Times*, it appears that nearly 14,000 persons have died from cholera this season. This is the work of the plague for a period of less than four months. Nearly one-half of these deaths occurred in the Province of Naples, although the pestilence first fell upon the Mediterranean cities of France. Owing to the great ignorance and superstition of the people, and the accumulation of filth in the places where they live, the disease appears to have run its course in cities and villages alike, and to have defied the labours of the authorities. In the last week it has been found in three additional departments of France, and it is now knocking at the gates of Paris. Deaths have occurred in five suburban localities north of that city. The horrible condition of the River Seine invites pestilence. The progress of the disease in Europe should cause the people of this continent—especially the inhabitants of cities and towns—to "put their houses on order," and the authorities should spare no effort in the work of excluding infected cargoes and passengers.

THE Board of Management of the Infants' Home propose holding their annual meeting on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 11th, at half-past three o'clock, at the Home on St. Mary Street. Nine years ago this estimable charity was begun by two or three ladies, whose tender hearts were touched by the sufferings of little helpless babies, waifs and strays deserted in the streets, or what was equally bad, sent to a baby-farm. It was also thought that something might be done for the mothers, that they could be taught to do their duty, and give a mother's care to their children. A house was taken on Caer-Howell Street, and in a very small way the good work was begun. Subsequently a larger house was taken on Yonge Street, where for six years the work was steadily carried on. Two years ago another move was made into a large and commodious building on St. Mary Street, erected for the purpose, the fruit of many prayers and much labour, and now the committee cordially invite all who take an interest in the institution to be present at their meeting. As a rule it is open to visitors every day but Saturday; an exception will be made on the day of the meeting, and all who desire to go over the Home will have an opportunity of doing so.

MR. GLADSTONE'S visit to his Midlothian constituency and to the principal towns of Scotland, has given rise to a series of brilliant ovations and enthusiastic demonstrations in honour of the grand old man. He has been followed by the Marquis of Salisbury, who certainly has the courage of his convictions. To follow up the Premier of Great Britain cannot in the present temper of the people be a very congenial task. To the brilliant but somewhat soured leader of the Conservatives in the Upper House the Scottish people have given a cordial reception and a fair hearing, but the number of his converts will certainly be small. In the contest between the two Houses of Parliament it is rumoured that a compromise is in progress. It is stated that Her Majesty and the Prince of Wales have intervened to bring about an understanding between the Lords and the Commons. This is doubtful. Royal personages in Britain have not been in the habit of interfering in exciting political contests. Their motives would be misunderstood. Nor do the proposals stated in the despatch tend to confirm the rumour. It is questionable if either party to the conflict would be satisfied with the compromise suggested. The autumn session approaches and the excitement will begin.

THOUGH the weather was unfavourable, a large number of people assembled in Shaftesbury Hall, last Thursday evening to hear Dr. T. J. Bernardo, the English philanthropist, give an account of the great work in which he has for a number of years been engaged. At the suggestion of the chairman, Hon. S. H. Blake, Dr. Bernardo stated how the idea of caring for destitute children, and training them, if possible, to become good and useful citizens had originated. He narrated the progress of the movement he has so efficiently conducted, giving convincing examples of the many excellent results of his efforts. The work in some respects is disappointing and discouraging, but in Dr. Bernardo's hands it has been very satisfactory. He meets recent newspaper criticism,—from Canadian experiences not altogether unwarranted—by assurances that all children sent to Canada from the Bernardo homes undergo a preliminary training and a medical examination, and that those unfit, either physically or morally, are kept in England. These assurances carefully carried out, would remove the only objection Canadians are disposed to entertain. The work of rescuing the perishing and preparing them for worthy citizenship, is in harmony with the spirit and teaching of the Gospel.

ATTENTION was called last week to the meeting of the nineteenth Annual Provincial Convention of the Sabbath School Association of Canada, to be held in the First Presbyterian Church, Brockville, beginning on Tuesday the 21st inst. Among those since announced to take part in the proceedings are: Revs. Dr. Jardine, Geo. Burnfield, B.D., Brockville; Princ-

pal Grant, S. B. Barritz, Superintendent of Missions in the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Des Moines, Iowa; John M'Ewen, Secretary; Dr. Meredith, Boston; Dr. Withrow and Mr. W. B. McMurrich, Toronto; Revs. Principal Sheraton, J. Wood, Ottawa; H. F. Bland, Kingston; Dr. O'Meara, Port Hope; F. H. Wallace, Cobourg; William J. Dey, M.A., Montreal; Dr. Carman, Belleville; A. H. Munro, Peterborough, and Hon. S. H. Blake, Q.C., Toronto. The subjects for discussion are important, interesting and practical. Professor Excell, of Chicago, will take charge of the music. The Sunday School Union, England, recommend Sabbath, 19th of October, as a day for special prayer throughout the world on behalf of Sabbath Schools and their important work. The Executive of the Sabbath School Association of Canada respectfully commend parents, pastors, superintendents, and teachers to unite in this call to special prayer on behalf of the youth of our land, and that mention be made of the Convention, to be held in the same week.

THE Scott Act agitation is proceeding very much as the friends of temperance desire it should. They have not shunned discussion full, open and free, wherever opportunity offered. They have met their opponents without flinching on the platform and in newspaper polemics, and but few impartial men will be found who will not acknowledge that the best of the argument has been on the side of temperance. The central association organized to defeat the Scott Act have come to the conclusion that it is useless to spend more money in fighting against it. They leave their friends in the counties where it is to be submitted to fight a losing cause as they best can. It is stated that they intend relinquishing the fight in the popular arena and transferring it to the legislature as a forlorn hope. Here also they will encounter a well-organized opposition. It is not for a moment to be thought that those who have perseveringly endeavoured to obtain temperance legislation and sought its triumph at the polls will allow their victory to be snatched from them by retrograde enactments. Constant vigilance is necessary to secure social reform. It is worthy of note that at the recent Brockville assizes the Grand Jury unanimously passed a resolution in favour of the Scott Act. It was as follows: That in the opinion of this Grand Jury the liquor traffic is a great evil, and that in order to repress this evil we trust that the Temperance Act of 1878 may be adopted in the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville.

AT the opening of Victoria College last week, President Nelles discussed the question of university consolidation at considerable length. The tone of his address was fair and candid. The suggestion of the Chancellor of Toronto University, that the respective denominations should confine their efforts to theological education, and that the national university should give instruction in arts, does not commend itself to the learned President of Victoria College. He speaks with certainty of the future attitude of the Methodist Church. It is, according to his opinion, strongly opposed to any such arrangement, and that it will continue unalterably opposed to it. Conflicting opinion at present may prevent the acceptance of the Chancellor's proposed solution of the difficulties that beset the question of higher education. It will be no surprise, however, should the proposal grow in popular favour. Even now many of the friends of education look upon it as one of the best proposals yet advanced. Professorships in a truly national university would be open to the best men of all denominations, and this alone, not to speak of other safeguards, would be a guarantee that university instruction would not be irreligious. Dr. Nelles indicates his preference for a confederation of colleges as the best solution of the educational difficulties. This plan is not without good points in its favour. What the best interests of the country require is that the most efficient system of national university education be devised; one that will harmonize conflicting interests and be worthy of Ontario. To attain this it is not necessary to be too positive. Inflexible determination to have all or nothing will never bring about the desired result.