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Notes of the Week.

THE second annual meeting of the Toronto Mission Union was held in the Mission Hall last week. Representatives of various Churches were present, and took part in the proceedings. Much well-directed and sustained work has been accomplished by the agencies employed by this association. This is but a mere beginning of what ought speedily to be undertaken by the Churches for the good of the neglected.

WITH time-honoured pomp and magnificence the Established Church of Scotland General Assembly was opened at Edinburgh on the 20th ult. Lord Thurlow, the Queen's representative, after a brilliant levee held at Holyrood Palace, was escorted in stately procession to St. Giles' Cathedral and the Assembly Hall, where the proceedings were held. Professor Mitchell, the retiring Moderator, nominated as his successor Dr. Cunningham of Crieff, who, after a mild caveat against some of his doctrinal opinions by a brother who met with no encouragement, was duly appointed Moderator. The clerkship, vacated by the death of Principal Tulloch, was filled by the appointment of Dr. Story of Roseneath.

THE monotony of presidential duties at Washington was last week agreeably diversified by an event of rare occurrence at the White House. Grover Cleveland was married to Miss Frank Folsom on the 2nd inst. At the ceremony there was a blending both of Republican simplicity and courtly splendour. The British Queen telegraphed her congratulations. The officiating clergymen were neither Archbishop nor prelate, but unpretending presbyters, the President's pastor and brother conducting the simple and impressive ceremony. The first lady in the neighbouring Republic is herself a good Presbyterian, and will no doubt adorn the high position to which she has been called none the less gracefully on that account.

RADICAL Republicans have at length been successful in their agitation for the expulsion of French princes. For a long time the Government resisted such proposals, but now they are prepared to yield. The ground taken for this extreme measure is that the presence of royal personages in the country is dangerous to the Republic. It is generally believed that republicanism is now deeply rooted among the vast majority of the French people. Dynastic families wield but little political influence, and there is no unanimity among themselves. Bonapartism is dead and the Orleans faction is virtually powerless. Danger from these quarters is neither great nor imminent. If it were banishment would be but a poor remedy. Royalist or imperialist princes are more harmless in France than they can be anywhere else. If they are disposed to plot and intrigue they could do so with greater impunity, in almost any other country than they could in France. The expulsion, however, will still a popular clamour.

BOTH the General Assembly of the Northern Presbyterian Church and the Southern Assembly met on the 20th inst., the former at Minneapolis, and the latter at Augusta, Georgia. The Northern Assembly represents 6,093 churches, 5,474 ministers and 644,025 communicants, according to the figures of a year ago. The Southern embraces 1,993 churches, 1,079 ministers and 1,322,258 communicants, or say about 650,000 adherents. The Assembly of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church also met at Sedalia, Mo., on the 20th inst. It has 2,494 churches, 1,538 ministers and 126,911 communicants, and over 600,000 adherents. On the 26th inst. the United Presbyterian Church met at Hamilton, Ohio, representing 868 churches, 737 ministers, and 38,871 communicants. On June 2 the General Synod of the Reformed (Dutch) Church in America convenes at New Brunswick, N. J. This body numbers 502 churches, 587 ministers and 80,507 communicants. These Churches represent a total communicant membership of 1,071,557, involving constituencies aggregating more than 5,000,000 souls.

THE annual reports presented to the General Assembly at Augusta, Georgia, are all encouraging, showing steady growth throughout the entire Southern Church in the grace of giving, notwithstanding the depressed condition of the country. The work of foreign missions shows progress. The Church has labourers in Japan, China, Greece, Italy, Southern Brazil, Northern Brazil, Mexico and Indian Territory, aggregating eight missions, 128 stations, twenty-five male and twenty-nine female missionaries, thirty-eight native helpers, 1,616 communicants, of whom 237 were added last year; 721 pupils in Sabbath schools, and \$1,490 contributed by native churches. The receipts for this cause during the year were \$73,170.27, larger than any previous year. The committee overtures the Assembly to order an additional annual collection for the cause of foreign missions, one in May and the other in October, and appeals to the Church to give more liberally to enable them to send out more labourers who are ready and willing to go.

THE General Assembly of the Southern Presbyterian Church by a vote of sixty-five to twenty-five adopted the following deliverance. Whereas the General Assembly is convinced that the Rev. James Woodrow, D.D., one of the professors in Columbia Theological Seminary, holds views repugnant to the Word of God and our Confession of Faith, as appears both by his address published in the *Southern Presbyterian Review* for July, 1884, and other publications, and by his statements made upon the floor of this Assembly; therefore, this General Assembly does hereby, in accordance with its previous action in regard to the oversight of theological seminaries, earnestly recommend the Synods of South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama and South Georgia and Florida, which direct and control the said seminary, to dismiss the said Rev. James Woodrow, D.D., as professor in the said seminary, and to appoint another in his place, and to speedily take such other steps as in their judgment will be best adapted to restore the seminary to the confidence of the Church.

THE Tenth Annual Report of the Toronto Hospital for Sick Children has just been issued. This is one of the most excellent among the many charities in the city. It is doing a steady, quiet and merciful work, fitted to enlist the sympathy and help of every right-thinking person. It has a place in the affections of the people; old and young feel it a privilege to help it in its mission of charity to the little sufferers. From the medical report it appears that the number of outdoor patients from January 1 to December 1, 1885, was forty; number in hospital during same period, seventy-four, discharged in the course of the year, thirty-eight; remaining in hospital at the end of the year, twenty-seven; twenty-two were discharged cured; eleven as unimproved and nine died. Through the generosity of Mr. John Ross Robertson, the sick children had the advantage of the Lake Side Home on the Island during the summer. The erection of a new, commodious and well-equipped hospital (much needed) is in contemplation. Liberal subscriptions for this purpose have been already promised.

THE conflict between labour and capital, says the *Canadian Independent*, still continues with ever-varying phases. The wrong is not altogether on one side. Capital has too frequently ground the face of the poor, been heartless; and when charitably disposed has dispensed charity with a patronizing air. On the other hand, labour has been rebellious, unreasonable, and manifested too often that there is no tyranny equal to that of a mob. The Street Car Company of Toronto may be unwise in demanding of the men they employ that they should not join any trade union, yet the demand is plainly within their right. No man is obliged to work for the company, and when they engage, they engage on certain conditions. Nor can the practice be justified of compelling men to be union men by refusing to work with such, as is often done. Freedom of contract cannot be destroyed,

and social harmony remain. That these upheavings will do good in the end we believe; men will be brought face to face with each other, and the interdependence of labour and capital better understood; meanwhile much loss is being sustained on all sides, capital is suspicious, labour uneasy; only by the restoration of confidence can business resume its wonted course. In this restoration of confidence the Church has an important mission to perform, in inculcating upon the capitalist that wealth has its obligations as well as its privileges; and upon all, that the only way of peace is by following the golden rule of doing unto others as we would they under similar circumstances should do unto us. And the Gospel is the only agency by which this way can be established.

ANOTHER of Toronto's charities held its annual meeting last week. The Orphans' Home on Dovercourt Road was the scene of a very pleasant gathering on the occasion of its thirty-fifth anniversary. The Mayor presided, and a number of clergymen and friends of the institution took part in the proceedings. Mr. W. B. McMurrich read the annual report, which evidenced the wonderful prosperity of the Home. It said that since June, 1885, forty-five boys and thirty-nine girls had been admitted, of whom four were apprenticed, four adopted, one died, and thirty four were removed by relatives. One hundred and seventy-six children are now in the Home. Through Mr. Wm. Gooderham's thoughtful benevolence in donating \$500, the managers have furnished a nurse for little ones, ranging from three to six years. The only interruption to the general good health during the year was an outbreak of whooping cough in August, when nine of the children had to be removed to the infirmary. In December the infirmary was closed up. Reference was made to the care and attention of Miss Wheelwright, the matron; to the judicious management of Miss Armstrong in the schoolroom, and thanks extended to those who have remembered the orphans throughout the year. These bequests and donations were acknowledged. From the estate of the late James Kiffin, \$500; late Geo. Williams, of Owen Sound, \$450; late Robert Walker, \$100; late John Bowen, of Bellesay, \$100; late Mrs. Samuel Taylor, an ex-manager of the Home, \$100; and donations of \$200 from Mrs. Henry Cawthra, and \$50 from Mr. E. Henderson. These sums total \$1,500.

ON the 20th ult. the Free Church General Assembly met in the Hall of the New College, when Principal Brown preached the opening sermon from 1 Chron. xii. 2, 3, which he applied to the history, condition and prospects of the Church. In referring to the speculative tendencies of the time, and their attraction for young preachers, he said: Nor was there anything to fear from them if only Christ was felt by these young preachers to be to day as precious and needful to their own souls as when first He drew them with the bands of love. If this were so, scholarly men were the hope of the Church in the strange and startling times that were rushing upon us. But there was a class of preachers springing up of whom he had his fears; men who, with certain superior qualities, if ever they got a footing among us, would prove the very worst for the times on which we were entering. With them the great want of the day was intellectual preaching—the current ideas of the day, what people were thinking about in general. What they needed were the lessons in Christian life and duty which they had in the Gospel, and these they did handle often with much ability. But how often would you hear from those preachers the truths which the Lord spoke to Nicodemus? They were seldom uttered, and never borne in on the conscience. It was no imaginary picture. It was coming in from the Broad School of the English Church, where unveiled Unitarianism was too prevalent. After highly eulogistic remarks by Principal Brown and Mr. Gray of Kinfauns, his proposer and seconder, the Rev. Alexander K. Somerville was unanimously elected Moderator.