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Notes of the Week.

It has been decided that the meetings of the Pan- Presbyterian Council will be held at Exeter Hall, London. Rev. Dr. Donald Macleod, of Belgravia, and Rev. R. M. Thornton, of Camden Road, have been appointed general secretaries. Sub-committees have been appointed to assist in making the preliminary arrangements and a guarantee fund will be raised.

THE Presbyterian congregation of St John's, Kensington, are taking thought for the many Scottish servants who are to be found in that aristocratic district of the metropolis. A registry has been opened, and the good offices of Mrs. MacLaren in this matter have been acknowledged by the servants whom she has befriended by their presenting to her a work-table and silver card basket. The Church management are desirous of opening a home where servants might live when out of situations, and where classes might be held, but the plan is in abeyance for want of funds.

THE Third Inter-Seminary Missionary Alliance held successful meetings at Kingston. All the Canadian colleges were well represented. At the farewell meeting of the Alliance the announcement was made that Toronto University would send a missionary to Japan, the Congregational College, six students to foreign work, McMaster Hall, three students; Wesley College, Montreal, one for India, Africa and a third to British Columbia, Queen's and Knox Colleges, one to China; Wycliffe College, one, Mc Gill College, three from the arts department and three from the medical department, and Victoria College, one or two to Japan.

THE action of the Kingston Board of Trustees in closing the schools to Roman Catholic children has raised the ire of Bishop Cleary. He has not confined himself to calm and reasonable discussion. He has given vent to very vituperative language, and has made a most ungenerous and unfounded attack upon the public schools of Ontario. Those at all acquainted with the character of the public schools throughout the Province know that in point of behaviour school teachers and pupils will stand favourable comparison not only with those of the separate schools in Canada, but with the teachers and scholars of this or any other continent.

MISSIONS to the poor have been frequent enough, though by no means overdone, but Gospel missions to the rich are no less needful, and a new departure in this direction has just been inaugurated in London. There is a movement to carry on missions in the east and in the west end of the great city simultaneously. Earnest and zealous Methodists are taking a leading part in the work, notably the Rev. Hugh Price Hughes and Mark Guy Pearse, who recently preached and lectured in Canada. The opening sermon was preached by Mr. Spurgeon, and Newman Hall took part in the services. Though the movement is under Methodist auspices, it is not designed that it should be sectarian. The effort is to bring all classes under the power of a practical, living Christianity.

THE town of Orangeville needs looking after. So reckless have been some of the enemies of the Scott Act that the hitherto reputable town has been utterly disgraced. It is time that the dynamiters were made an example of. Another outrage was reported last week. Mr. Thomas Anderson, who was appointed inspector under the Canada Temperance Act, is the latest victim of the lawless gang who have been endeavouring to terrorize Orangeville. Dynamite was applied to his house and the building was shattered. He had fortunately gone out of doors before the explosion took place. No one was seriously hurt, but it is time that such defiant and brutal deeds were effectually checked. Such dastardly proceedings are most effective temperance lectures, but they cannot be commended on that account.

THE membership of the Glasgow Y.M.C.A., which held its annual meeting lately, now numbers 9,107. There are 235 fellowship meetings, with an attendance of 4,953; 214 young men are studying for the ministry; over 1,200 attend the reading room and sections daily; 2,385 readers are connected with the libraries; in educational classes 2,338 quarterly enrolments have been made. Letters of introduction have been given to 236 young men leaving for foreign countries, while reception tea meetings have been held for strangers coming to reside in Glasgow. Light evangelistic meetings are conducted in different parts of the city, and over 400,000 tracts have been distributed during the year. These figures represent only a portion of the work of this association, which is not only the oldest, but also the greatest in the world. The income last year amounted to \$15,765.

THE *Acton Free Press* remarks that the *Georgetown Herald*, in discussing the objection raised against the Scott Act, the cost of enforcement, argues that although there may have been slight advances in the demands upon the tax-payers, yet, taking the experience of the township of Esqueping, there has been a marked gain in other ways. It states that the amount paid for the relief of the poor in that township, the year before the Scott Act came in force, was \$435.45; while last year only two people received financial assistance, and that only to the amount of \$72. The same thing is found in Acton. The last year of license law in Acton \$97.25 was expended for poor relief by the municipal council; while last year only \$25.80 was expended, \$15 of this being for a railway ticket to assist an old man nearly a hundred years of age to get to friends in Michigan, and the whole of the balance was expended in feeding tramps. Not one cent was spent in Acton last year for local charity.

THE Rev. T. D. Malan, of Geneva, writes to the *Christian Leader*. The Geneva Italian Mission, founded in 1882, has already yielded good results from among the many thousands of Roman Catholics who flock into that town from all parts of Italy and Italian Switzerland. The mission was constituted into a Church in 1884, and was granted the use of a chapel by the Geneva Presbytery in recognition of usefulness, and as a token of brotherliness, and much good has thus far been attained, notwithstanding manifold difficulties. Owing to the fluctuating state of part of the Italian-speaking population in Calvin's city, from 500 to 600 new hearers are every year brought into contact with the Gospel from the Roman Catholic Church. Thus far 114 of them have been received as members of the Church, after due instruction and examination, of whom about seventy are still in Geneva. An important branch of the work is the Italian Young Men's Christian Association, or *Circolo Diodati*, so called in honour of the translator of the Italian Bible, Giovanni Diodati, who belonged to the Geneva Italian Church of the Reformation.

IN a recent speech Lord Randolph Churchill said: I frankly say that I am in favour of legislation in the direction of temperance. There can be no doubt whatever that an enormous amount of the crime in the United Kingdom springs from the sale of liquor. I was talking the other day to a magistrate of a police court in a very crowded and poor part of London, and he told me that at least three-fourths of all the crime that came before him arose from the sale of drink, and what I may call a vital recourse to the public house. So we have to maintain a large criminal population in our prisons, and we have to maintain them while the community has not the benefit of their labour. Let the capital now spent in drink flow to other industries. All trades would be benefited, more food would be purchased, more clothing, more furniture, the children would be educated; and so in every way in which the money could be diverted from the liquor trade, so would the other trades be benefited. I hope I shall not get into hot water with my Tory friends for these views. I believe they are not

unwise opinions. I believe they are practical and safe opinions.

THE *Christian Leader* says: The strong statement made by Rev. Lewen B. Weldon, M.A., with reference to the alleged whiskey drinking at the Highland festival recently held at Balmoral, has elicited a contradiction from Sir Henry Ponsonby, who says that he was present while the Queen was on the ground, and did not see a single drunken person. Bishop Douglas, of Aberdeen, affirms that Canon Weldon's statement is "a very gross misrepresentation"; the hotel keeper who supplied the refreshments declares that it is "one of the most monstrous falsehoods he had ever read in his life"; and the Braemar Highland Society, under whose auspices the gathering was held, has issued an absolute denial of the "insulting and demonstrably false and calumniating tissue of misstatements." Rev. Alexander Williamson, of Edinburgh, who was present at the games, states that he never saw fewer drunken people in any promiscuous gathering of the size; and Rev. John Wemyss, of Edinburgh, also testifies that he witnessed no unseemly behaviour whatever on the grounds. Canon Weldon still adheres, however, to his statement, and declares that round the refreshment tent he saw "men evidently wild with drink, shouting, struggling, battering each other, and rolling on the ground."

THE twenty-third anniversary of the Toronto Y.M.C.A. was celebrated in the new hall last week. There was a large gathering, presided over by Sir Alexander Campbell, who gave an admirable introductory address. Mr. McCulloch, the general secretary, spoke of the growth and extent of the Young Men's Christian Association throughout the world. It was one of the great movements of the nineteenth century and was the embodiment of practical Christianity. He then sketched the work of the association, stating that they had five series of Bible classes, a meeting of young men on Saturday evening with an average attendance of seventy seven, and another on Sunday nights with an average of ninety-four. They have obtained situations for sixty seven young men during the year, and provided Christian surroundings for many strangers who came friendless and helpless to this city. During the past month 150 new members had joined the association. He gave particulars of the general social, educational, physical recreative and other privileges of members. Drawing, shorthand and other classes were being organized as well as medical lectures, receptions, parlour lectures, etc. Excellent addresses were also delivered by Mr. S. Caldecott, president of the association, President Wilson, of Toronto University, and Rev. D. J. Macdonnell.

IT is a common impression, remarks the *Pittsburgh United Presbyterian*, that wickedness is making great gain in this country, as compared with the Church; in other words, that the growth of the former is much greater than that of the latter. It is, perhaps, natural that it should be so, for the evil, in its many forms, is noisy as well as energetic, and adopts many ways of making itself known and advertising itself that the Church and religion cannot employ. But the truth is that the Church has, in many ways, been making remarkable increase, and it is now doing its work with more encouragement than ever before. The Church, in its membership, has grown three times as rapidly as the population, and this, especially during the last twenty years, has been so great as to excite general astonishment. In liberality, in largeness of view, in broad thoughtfulness of its responsibility and the world's need and in other important ways, it has also been making very encouraging progress. There are things about it that are not so happy. In places it has lost its hold. Church attendance is not strictly observed as it once was. There is less general regard for the Sabbath. But the loss in these matters is not hopeless, not permanent, when a time of danger comes, or a time of real awakening, these evils will be corrected, and the life of the people will be filled with its necessary power.