

## Notes of the Week.

AT the close of the Jubilee missionary meeting in the Granite Rink, Mayor Howland announced that a gentleman in the city had offered a site worth \$7,000 to the directors of the Young Woman's Christian Association for a new building. The women had the old building on Duke Street to sell, and if the citizens came forward with \$10,000 the directors would be able to erect a handsome suite of Y.W.C.A. rooms at a cost of \$30,000.

FROM some statistics published by a German newspaper, it appears that foreign Bible societies do more toward supplying Germany with Bibles than the German societies themselves. Last year the local societies circulated 214,318 copies of the Scriptures, while the British and Foreign Bible Society, the Scottish Bible Society and the American Methodist Missionary Society sold 335,743. The total is thus 550,061 copies circulated during last year, or about one in forty of the population, a considerable increase over the previous twelve months.

THE *Hamilton Times* remarks: Dr. Macdonald, of this city, and Dr. McKay, of Woodstock, have been appointed members of the Provincial Board of Health for a period of three years. The selections reflect credit on the Ontario Government. Both gentlemen have attained eminence in their profession, and no one in Hamilton needs to be told that Dr. Macdonald is an exponent of progressive sanitary principles and an authority on hygiene. As a member of the local board of health, he has done valuable service to the community in aiding the numerous reforms which have contributed to make Hamilton one of the cleanest cities in the Dominion, and correspondingly reduced its death rate.

THE *Star-Transcript* of Paris contains the following paragraph: A disastrous fire took place recently at St. Andrew's, Ont., totally consuming the soap, oil and varnish works of W. J. Riddle. The fire is supposed to be the act of a drunken tramp, who had been refused a night's lodging by Mr. Riddle, on account of there being sickness in the family. His loss amounts to \$2,500, and he was uninsured. Mr. Riddle has been sadly afflicted of late, having lost by death from consumption three daughters, aged from fifteen to twenty-seven years, from the 7th of April to the 1st of May. His wife has since died of grief over the loss of her family. It is indeed a melancholy case, and should command the sympathy of the whole community.

THE *Elora Express* states that an improved camera has been invented by a young photographer of that town, Mr. J. R. Cannon, by which a complete landscape can be photographed by one exposure. Up to the present the extent of views which could be so photographed would be included in an angle of about sixty degrees, and although this may, in some cases, be slightly increased, the quality of the picture seldom proves satisfactory. Mr. Cannon's invention is so constructed that with it the artist can photograph at once a complete panoramic picture of all that can be seen from where the instrument is placed. The extent of the view can of course be limited at the will of the operator, from the fact that the instrument turns horizontally and takes in the whole of the landscape in a circle, or any such part of it as the operator desires, the width of the picture being increased according to the extent of the view. The invention has been patented on this continent and in Great Britain.

THE *Christian Leader* states that there is a ladies' society in Victoria for the rescue of men from the public houses. They visit them in companies of three, two gentlemen accompanying them, but waiting outside. Their method is to distribute tracts, and persuade the customers to leave the house. One

Boniface, however, refused a Mrs. Dowie entrance, whereupon her husband came up and demanded refreshments for them both, which the publican was bound to supply. He also informed him that next Saturday twenty ladies would require tea in the evening. They came and drank their tea; they also sang temperance songs, and carried off a good portion of the customers. To all this the publican was obliged to submit. He is thus planted between two horns; he must either let ladies in to sweep away his custom, or he must pay a fine of \$50 for every refusal—say \$1,200 for a party. Rather hard this on a rotund Boniface.

THE third annual report of the Toronto Mission Union gives evidence of the good work accomplished by this energetic and sustained Christian agency. Not only has the work in connection with the central hall, College Street, been maintained with unflagging regularity, but it has been extended, and made more useful than ever, while effective efforts have also been put forth, both in the eastern and western districts of the city. Last year Mr. Goforth, soon to leave for China, where he is to labour as a missionary, rendered valuable service to the mission. Now a regular missionary and four Bible women have been engaged. It is the aim of the Mission Union to bring the blessings of the Gospel, both temporal and spiritual, within the reach of the poor and neglected, who have given abundant evidence that they value the efforts made in their behalf. The institution is unsectarian, and commends itself to the support and encouragement of all who prize the Gospel as the grandest of all remedial agencies.

POLICE COURTS might be most instructive places to visit, yet their regular frequenters do not profit by the terribly realistic illustrations of the fact that the ways of transgressors are hard. A sergeant of the Recorder's Court, Montreal, related to a *Witness* reporter how he had noticed for a number of years a young man come into court and regularly take his seat to watch the day's proceedings. The officer at last told him that if he came again he would be placed under arrest for vagrancy. On this the daily visitor disappeared, and was for a good while lost sight of. However, one day the sergeant was going up the main street when his man came up to him, and profusely tendered his thanks for making a man of him. Said he: When you drove me out of court, where I had idled away my time, it set me to thinking. I resolved to be a new man, and soon succeeded in getting a good situation, which I have kept ever since. If it had not been for you, perhaps I would have been there since. Before, I was a burden to my mother, who used to support me. Now she has given up hard work, and I am able to keep her and myself very comfortably.

THE *British Weekly* is of opinion that the French Government ought at once to recall the Governor of New Caledonia. The good name of France as a civilized power is losing what little fragrance it had in the Southern Hemisphere after the Madagascar business, and Romanism is showing itself as ready as ever to employ the coarsest means for the smallest triumph. We might have expected that the natives of the Loyalty Islands would be left to hold any religious faith so long as they did not hinder the expansion of the great French Republic. We might also have expected a friendly Government to pay all due honour to the work of the London Missionary Society. But Mr. Jones, who has given a lifetime to the people of Maré and neighbouring islands, is obliged to report the practical cessation of his work, and the brutal persecution of the native Christians. One and another officer sent with an armed force to suppress what was called a revolt, that is to say, the assertion of religious freedom, refused to do the Governor's bidding; but the Governor is still in power, and many innocent persons are suffering imprisonment and exile. All the native churches are closed.

THE seventh annual meeting of the Zenana Medical College was held in London lately, at which Mr. E. S. W. de Cobain, M.P., presided. A report was read by Dr. Griffiths, showing that all the pupils who have attended the two years' course have been sent out by various missionary societies, and that the college is already the parent of medical schools abroad, established by its pupils for the instruction of the natives. Sir Richard Temple, Bart., M.P., G.C.S.I., gave his emphatic testimony to the value and importance of the work done by the institution. He was able to assert that no object was more interesting, useful, or likely to be of good than that at which the college aimed. It was primarily a religious institution, but its medical department was most efficient. The number of applicants for admission was far in excess of the means of meeting them. Some students were educated gratuitously, but payment was the rule. When they went to the East they illustrated before their native sisters, from morning till night, the blessings and graces of Christian civilization, while they conferred incalculable advantages on the women of the zenanas in placing at their disposal medical treatment by qualified practitioners of their own sex.

ONE of the most interesting events of the Irish Presbyterian Assembly has been the election of Dr. Todd Martin to the chair of Christian Ethics in the Belfast College, vacant by the resignation of Professor Wallace. The other candidate was Mr. McCheyne Edgar, of Dublin. Dr. Martin was proposed by Mr. Ross, of Derry, and seconded by Dr. Brown, of Limavady. Mr. Edgar was proposed by Dr. Wilson, of Limerick, and seconded by Mr. Lynd, of Belfast. Dr. Martin was elected by 386 votes against 218 given for Mr. Edgar. Mr. Whigham, of Ballinasloe, one of the most faithful servants of the Church, had a fresh proof of her confidence in being appointed to the very important position of Convener of the Sustentation Fund. Dr. Hamilton, editor of the *Witness*, was appointed Convener of the Continental Mission. It is gratifying to report that there is an increase in members and contributions. The retiring Moderator, the Rev. Robert Ross, of Derry, delivered an address, in which he expressed his strong hostility to Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule measure, which, he said, would not only have been fatal to the integrity of the great empire—the beginning, in fact, of its dissolution—but equally fatal to the commercial and industrial prosperity and progress of Ireland itself.

LAST week, a largely attended "At Home" Jubilee missionary meeting was held in the Granite Rink, Toronto. The various Evangelical Churches in the city were well represented in the large building, and those prominent in the ministry of the respective denominations occupied places on the platform. The Mayor, W. H. Howland, presided, and gave the opening address. The devotional exercises were conducted by Rev. Dr. Thomas and Rev. John Burton. Addresses were delivered by the Revs. Dr. Kellogg, Dr. Castle, Professor Clark, Dr. Potts and Hugh Johnston. The Massey band were stationed in the gallery, and discoursed sweet music. Mrs. Bradley sang a solo, and subsequently gave as a solo and quartette "Go Teach All Nations" in which Mrs. Shaver, Messrs. Sims and S. T. Martin took part. The rink was resplendent in profuse Jubilee decorations. Refreshments were served after the addresses. As a whole, the meeting was a great success, but it must be confessed that the Granite Rink on a warm summer night is not a favourable place for speech-making. Those seated well back in the audience had great difficulty in hearing the addresses. When all was still, a sentence, or part of a sentence, could be caught, but continuous hearing was impossible. It could be clearly ascertained that the speakers were addressing the audience in English, that was about all. The footfalls, and they were frequent, on the resounding floor, did not help the acoustics. Subdued conversation individually very quiet, but collectively forming a very audible hum, made it difficult to catch the speakers' words. They spoke distinctly and with animation, but for quite a few they evidently spoke in vain.