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Notes of the Week.

THE Dominion W. C. T. U., which includes the provincial unions of Ontario, Quebec, Maritime Provinces, British Columbia and Manitoba, number 368 unions, with a membership of 9,000—46 young women's unions and 192 children's societies, the latter having a membership of 19,000. The annual meeting will be held in Ottawa in May.

PROF. SIMPSON, of Edinburgh University, speaking at a meeting in connection with the jubilee of the Edinburgh Medical Missionary Society, emphasized the need of women, specially trained to heal disease, for the Foreign Mission Field. The objection to mixed classes of men and women in the University he characterized as mere sentiment, and if female students came to study in his department he was prepared to teach them alongside of the men without detriment to either.

THE Rev. John Collingwood Bruce, LL. D., F. S. A., London, is dead. He was born at Newcastle in 1805. Though educated for the Presbyterian ministry, he did not undertake pastoral work, but joined his father in the management of a school. In 1881 he was Moderator of the English Presbyterian Church. He wrote a handbook of English history, which went through four editions. All the recent editions of the "Introduction to Geography and Astronomy," of which his father was the principal author, were prepared by him. He also wrote several other important works.

THE Rev. John McNeil has concluded the remarkable series of mid-day services for business men which he has held in St. Georges parish Church, Glasgow, during the last four weeks. At his closing service the church was crowded some time before the service began, the pulpit stairs being occupied and many standing in the aisles. He has commenced a week's campaign in Dumfries, preaching in the Mechanics' Hall in the forenoon, Free St. Georges in the afternoon, and the drill hall in the evening. He is appearing in Free St. Georges every afternoon and evening. During April he will hold a series of meetings in Glasgow. An afternoon service will be held in St. Andrews Hall and an evening one in Hengler's circus.

THE new building for the Toronto Young Women's Christian Association was auspiciously opened last week. Mr. J. J. Withrow presided, and representative ministers from the various Churches and well known philanthropists were present, a large number of them taking part in the proceedings. The Presbyterians were in great force. The Rev. P. McLeod, of Victoria, B.C., being in the city, was present. Rev. Drs. Parsons, McTavish, Rev. Messrs. William Patterson and D. J. Macdonnell gave brief addresses. Mr. Robert Kilgour, president, and Mr. McCulloch, secretary, of the Young Men's Christian Association, and many others expressed their cordial well-wishes for the success and usefulness of the new institution.

GLASGOW charities, says the *Christian Leader*, have just succeeded to the beneficial interest in a trust estate estimated at nearly half a million. Under an arrangement with their brother, the late Mr. Moses Stephen of Dumbreck and Bellahouston, Misses Grace and Elizabeth Steven executed many years ago a joint will under which on the death of the survivor the joint means and estate were to be placed in trust for the benefit of the charitable, edu-

cational and benevolent institutions of Glasgow. Miss Elizabeth, the survivor, died in Edinburgh on 15th March. The trustees are Mr. Andrew Mitchell, writer; Sir James King, Mr. J. S. Fleming, late manager of the Royal Bank; ex-Provost Ure, Sheriff Berry and Mr. William Renny Watson.

THE funeral of Principal Cairns was the occasion of a remarkable display of respect on the part of the community of Edinburgh. The magistrates and council attended officially, and nearly all the ecclesiastical and benevolent institutions were largely represented, whilst the procession from the Synod hall to Echobank cemetery was witnessed by a great crowd spread along the whole of the long route. The service in the Synod hall, which was filled to its utmost capacity, was conducted by Rev. Dr. Henderson, the Moderator, Prof. Johnstone, Rev. Dr. Andrew Thomson, Rev. Dr. MacGregor, Moderator of the Established Assembly, and Principal Rainy. At the grave Rev. Dr. Landels, of Dublin Street Baptist Church, offered prayer, and the hymn "For ever with the Lord" was sung; Rev. George Douglas pronounced the benediction. The coffin was of oak with brass mountings, and in compliance with the request of the relatives there were no flowers.

MR. CHARLTON'S Bill for the better observance of the Lord's Day has reached its second reading in the House of Commons. The New Brunswick branch of the Evangelical Alliance has addressed to him a very cordial letter expressing approval of the legislation sought. The letter concludes as follows: With such a law as you have prepared in force all over our Dominion, healthy public sentiment would be revived, the gates that shut out this deluge would be strengthened, and the conditions for the exercise of our moral agencies would be vastly improved. If there is anything we can do to aid in the securing of the passage of your bill, we hold ourselves ready to act upon your suggestion. May the Lord of the Sabbath be with you, and make you strong with His strength, as you strive for the supremacy of His law in our land, and may His Spirit make this Parliament willing to lay aside partisan feeling and legislation in the interest of righteousness. Again assuring you of our fullest confidence in you, and our prayerful sympathy for you in this and kindred efforts to bring human legislation into conformity with the perfect law of the Governor among the Nations.

CALCUTTA Presbytery met in the Free Church, Wellesley Square, Calcutta, on Sunday evening, 28th February, to ordain and induct Rev. David Reid, B.D., to the pastorate of that congregation. Mr. Reid, after a distinguished career in St. Andrews University and the New College, went to Calcutta in July last to supply the Free Church during the vacancy caused by the resignation of Rev. W. Milne, who took charge of the Church at Montreux, in Switzerland. The call which he subsequently received was unanimous and hearty, and the ordination took place in the presence of a large and deeply interested gathering of Europeans, Eurasians and native Christians. Dr. Macphail, of the Santal Mission, preached, Rev. W. McCulloch, of Hooghly, addressed the newly-ordained pastor, and the Rev. Dr. K. S. Macdonald addressed the congregation. The Presbytery have approved the General Assembly's overtures anent the Declaratory Act and anent inefficient ministers. Rev. Dr. K. S. Macdonald and Mr. James Taylor are elected to represent the Presbytery at the ensuing General Assembly. Rev. David B. Reid, B.D., of Wellesley Square Church, has been appointed Clerk of the Presbytery, Dr. Macdonald having resigned that office.

NUMEROUS are the anecdotes and reminiscences of the late Principal Cairns, appearing in the British journals. Here are two such gleanings, the one grave, the other gay: Principal Cairns a few years ago visited the Hebrides and preached a very memorable sermon in the second Free Church at Stornoway on "The Penitent Thief." After the service he talked of a visit he had just paid to the Standing

Stones of Callernish, and a holy fragrance surrounded him as he told of his calling at one of the Crofters' thatched bothies near by, where the inmates sang the twenty-third psalm in Gaelic. Standing there with hat in hand, a stranger to the language, he said he felt it was a dear sacred spot not far from heaven. The other story relates to the Principal's earlier years: In their student days, Dr. Wallace, of Glasgow, the late Professor Graham, of the English Presbyterian Church, and Principal Cairns were together at Berlin, seeking acquaintance with the German tongue and theology. On one occasion Graham gravely announced that a manuscript had been discovered containing an appendix to the Acts of the Apostles. This aroused the attention of his two friends, and Cairns specially was all eye and ear. After magnifying the discovery in his own assumed solemn way, Graham at last produced a Bible his mother had given him when leaving Paisley for the Continent, opened it at the close of the Acts and gravely showed there, pinned to the leaf, an inventory in his mother's handwriting of his shirts, stockings and other articles of apparel which she had packed for him. To the account of Paul's imprisonment at Rome there was thus added now the account of Graham's wardrobe by his mother! Cairns exploded with laughter, and the students' chamber rang with it again and again, until the German hostess must have wondered whether the Scotch youths had not lost their senses.

THE fifty-ninth annual meeting of the Upper Canada Tract Society was held last week in St. James Cathedral school-house. There was a fair attendance, and Rev. John Burton, B. D., president of the Society, occupied the chair. After the opening devotional exercises, the Rev. Mr. Burton described some of the objects of the Society. He said that the tracts were purely undenominational, and that the object of the Society was to teach pure Christianity without touching on any doctrinal points. Regarding the power of the modern press, he said that it was the aim of the Society to enlist this powerful engine in its cause, and that tracts in a sense covered a portion of this field. As to the cost of distribution, he said that seventy-five per cent. of the cost of the tracts had to be expended for distribution. He gave a highly interesting description of the work in Manitoba and the North-West. Rev. Dr. Moffatt moved, seconded by Mr. A. E. O'Meara, that the report of the secretary be adopted and printed, and that the following gentlemen be office-bearers and directors for the year: Rev. John Burton, B. D., president, Rev. Wm. Reid, D.D., ex-pres., Rt. Rev. M. S. Baldwin, D.D., Bishop of Huron, Sir Daniel Wilson, LL.D., president University College, Rt. Rev. A. Sweatman, D.D., D.C.L., Bishop of Toronto, Rev. Joshua Denovan, ex-pres., Rev. A. Sutherland, D.D., Rt. Rev. T. W. Campbell, B.D., vice presidents, Mr. James Brown, treasurer; Messrs. John K. Macdonald, W. A. Douglass, hon. secretaries; Rev. Robert C. Moffatt, D.D., permanent secretary, Revs. Charles Duff, M.A., D. McTavish, M.A., D.Sc., W. C. Wallace, B.D., C. C. Owen, B.A., J. A. Turnbull, LL.B., G. J. Bishop, Stuart Acheson, M. A., Herber J. Hamilton, B.A., W. J. Maxwell, J. F. German, M.A., S. S. Bates, B. A., O. C. S. Wallace, B.A., Messrs. George Pim, J. J. Woodhouse, E. J. Joselin, M. Nasmith, Herbert Mortimer, A. E. O'Meara, James Knowles, jr., John G. Greey, Harry L. Stark, Thomas Caswell, John Carrick, B. J. Hill, directors. Mr. John Young, depository. The Right Rev. the Bishop of Algoma moved, seconded by the Rev. G. J. Bishop: That, devoutly thankful to God for the blessings vouchsafed upon the work for the past sixty years, and especially remembering the year just past, we would go on, in the fulness of the Holy Spirit, thanking God and taking courage. The Bishop of Algoma made a stirring address in moving this resolution, in which he made a fearful arraignment of immoral literature. Mr. James S. Potter moved, seconded by Rev. Dr. Parsons, that: Realizing the manifest testimony of the Holy Spirit to the value of Christian Colportage, specially marked in the work among the sailors on our inland lakes, canals and rivers, we commend the Society to the sympathy and support of the Christian public.