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Notes of the Week.

FATHER CHIN-QUY, with unabated force and undiminished earnestness, has been lecturing in the New England States on the errors, corruptions and intrigues of Romanism. His lectures have awakened considerable interest even at a time when most Americans are absorbed in the excitement incidental to the Presidential election.

MR. SPURGEON, animadverting in his magazine this month on certain imbecile amusements got up by Churches, notes especially one example in which a Presbyterian minister is the leader in these aberrations for godliness. We are the more amazed at this, he says, because Scotchmen, even when in England, are not very fond of playing the fool.

THE other day, says a contemporary, a pious young man made known to a friend deeply interested in his welfare the news of his approaching marriage. The young man was dilating on the many mental and spiritual qualities of his intended, when his aged friend broke in upon his glowing description with the pertinent inquiry, "Can she wash?"

PROFESSOR BLACKIE declares that, next to their quiet Sabbaths and their personal study of the Bible, the Scottish people possess no more powerful engine of the best moral culture than their rich inheritance of national song. He denounces the unworthy fashion of subordinating that song to every pretty French conceit or whiff of metropolitan sentiment that may be blown across the border.

THE annual Convention of the Ontario Sabbath School Association was held at Kingston last week. A large number of prominent Sabbath school workers from all parts of the Province and beyond it were assembled. Many took an active and prominent part in the deliberations and numerous, important and practical suggestions were made. There is not only no diminution, but a great increase in the interest with which this most valuable and effective Christian agency is regarded.

FROM the late Emperor Frederick's diary it appears that the Archbishop of Posen enquired whether the Pope could be received in Prussia. The old Emperor and the Crown Prince were decidedly against the idea; but Bismarck thought that, while it would be a gigantic mistake on Pío Nono's part, his residence in Germany would have a good effect, as the close contemplation of Romish sacerdotalism would cure the Germans of any fondness they had for that sort of thing.

THE London correspondent of the *Dumfries Standard* characterises Mr. Andrew Lang's denial that he makes \$15,000 a year by his writings as very clever. Mr. Lang, he asserts, makes \$16,000. "Add to this \$4,500 a year from the University of St. Andrew's as lecturer, and \$3,500 a year which Mrs. Lang has in her own right, and he has as nearly command of \$25,000 a year as he well can have. He makes a larger income by \$10,000 than any other journalist among novelists. Mrs. Oliphant comes nearest him with \$20,000 a year."

REFERRING to recent gambling operations in wheat at Chicago, the *New York Christian Intelligencer* says: It is due to just such occasional successes that we are fast becoming a nation of gamblers, and business of well-nigh every sort is coming to be looked upon as a mere game of chance. The ruin entailed by speculative ventures is lost sight of in the dazzling prizes won by a few; as is the fact, that the winners in this game are those who play with loaded dice,—the condition of success being exceptional command of capital. Is it not time for the law to take cognizance of this form of gambling, as much as of the policy shop and faro-table sort?

A SHORT time ago a Humane Society was formed in Toronto. Those taking an active part in its working were not merely well meaning philanthropists, but shrewd capable and energetic business men. During its brief existence it has exercised a most beneficial effect, and the hundreds of little people who enjoyed pleasant outings in summer through its efforts have reason to wish for its prosperity. Could the patient, toiling animals which do their share of hard work in the city express their views, they might testify that through the firm and vigilant efforts of the Humane Society they have been saved many a needless blow and much suffering from cruel and thoughtless drivers. The Convention was well attended; many men noted in the walks of philanthropy in distant cities were present and took part in the proceedings. The civic authorities treated the kind-hearted visitors with the hospitality characteristic of the city.

AT a meeting of the joint committee in charge of the Glasgow Exhibition services, Rev. James Stalker, M.A., in the chair, it was reported that the whole course, which closed on 16th September, had been very successful. The attendances were large, varying from 3,000 to upwards of 4000 each night. The collections amounted to \$398.75, a sum which, after paying expenses, leaves a surplus of about \$100 to be handed over to the city infirmaries. A fresh series of Exhibition services has been opened in St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow, under the auspices of the Abstainer's Union. Dean Dickinson, of Dublin, was the first preacher, and he will be followed by Revs. John Spence, B.D., Belfast; J. Jackson Wray, of London; George Cron, of Belfast; Dr. Munro Gibson, of London; McCheyne Edgar, of Dublin; and John McNeill, of Edinburgh. The free proceeds will go to the Kilmun Convalescent Home.

A CANADIAN correspondent of the *Northern Whig*, Belfast, thus speaks of one of our valued contributors: Thomas Kerr, of Toronto, has never been professionally a member of the press, but he does a good deal of work as a correspondent. He is a native of Maghera, where he was trained by the present occupant of the chair of Church History in Magee College. It goes without saying that he was well trained in the Church's doctrine and government. From early years he had a taste for Church affairs, and as his duty led him to all parts of the country (he is inspector of a large insurance company) he knows personally most of the ministers, and takes note of all that is going on. Every few weeks his Roman hand may be detected in letters that appear in several papers, particularly in THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN, of Toronto. There are not more than two or three, so far as I know, in Canada, that keep themselves so well posted as Mr. Kerr does in the affairs of the Church at home. He is a near connection by marriage of Mr. Barkley, the joint-convenor of the Foreign Mission Scheme, and of Professor Leitch.

OF the editor of the *Empire* the same correspondent says: John Livingstone was born in New Brunswick, but his father was as sturdy a Presbyterian as ever left the Black North. He was brought up under Patrick White, of Bailieborough, of whom I have often heard him speak. John was the eldest son, and was in newspaper life before I knew him. He has moved about a good deal, doing editorial work in St. John, Moncton, Montreal, and is now in Toronto. I rather think he began work on the *Colonial Presbyterian*. I know he wrote for it, and afterwards for the *Presbyterian Advocate*, which was its successor. At present he is editor-in-chief of the *Empire*, one of the three great dailies of Toronto. He can write a trenchant editorial when he pleases, and often he does please, but he is said to have no superior in getting up a true newspaper such as the public wants. The *Empire* is the leading government paper in the country. The *Mail* used to occupy that position, but some two or three years ago it swung clear of the government traces and adopted the rôle of an independent organ.

ANOTHER of the worthies referred to by the Canadian correspondent of the Belfast *Northern Whig* is the Rev. Dr. J. Bennet, of St. John, formerly of Tas-sagh, County Armagh, who has also done a good deal of newspaper work since he came to this country, a year after Mr. Elder came. He has never been out and out a professional pressman in the technical sense of the word, but he has written much for the Presbyterian newspapers, and could when the occasion demanded do the work of the daily paper as well. He was a good deal associated with both Messrs. Elder and Livingston. Dr. Bennet was an antagonist with whom those that knew anything of him did not care to grapple. He had a wealth of learning, was a true metaphysician, and was no mean theologian, though some ultra-orthodox people were a little suspicious of his soundness. Having retired from the active duties of the ministry some years ago, he now, so far as we know, does no professional work beyond being Clerk of Presbytery. He is no novice in that work, and was, we believe, Clerk of the Synod of Armagh and Monaghan before he left his native land, was also Clerk of the Synod of New Brunswick many years before the union of that body with the Synod of the Lower Provinces.

THE opening of McLachlin Hall, the new wing of Alma College, St. Thomas, took place last week. The auditorium, a commodious room, occupying the whole of the first floor of the new building, was filled with an audience which represented not only the city, but all parts of the country. The chair was occupied by Judge Hughes. Among those on the platform were Hon. G. W. Ross, LL.D., Rev. Drs. Carman, Potts, Sanderson, Gardiner, Rev. J. Graham, President of the London Conference. Rev. Dr. Carman, on behalf of the Board of Management, presented the address to Hon. G. W. Ross. After replying to the address, Mr. Ross dedicated the hall to the work of faithful teachers, to earnest students, to the cultivation of character, the effect of which will not be seen now, but will bless the State in after years through the homes, to all that makes life beautiful. After dedication services by Rev. Messrs. Clarkson and Graham, the opening of McLachlin Hall was declared by Hon. G. W. Ross. The halls of the new building were then thrown open for the inspection of the guests.

UNIVERSITY DAY was observed in Queen's last week. The Chancellor, Sanford Fleming, LL.D., presided. Professor Williamson, Vice-Chancellor, in remarking on the satisfactory present position and encouraging prospects of the University, said: However happy we are to be able to look forward to the return of the Principal before Christmas with his health thoroughly restored, to gladden us by his presence, it is impossible to avoid a feeling of regret that he is not among us to-day; that we might have the satisfaction of listening to his eloquent and stirring words, and that he might rejoice with us on our improved position and yet brighter prospects for the future—the fruit mainly of his own indefatigable and self-sacrificing labours for the benefit of the University which he adorns. Dr. Watson, Professor of Moral Philosophy, delivered an able and exhaustive address, concluding with a strong recommendation of a plan by which students could take a post-graduate course at Queen's. He said: The recent additions to our staff make it possible for us to attempt something in the way of post-graduate work, and give some assistance to those who intend to do the whole part of it in the University. Such a scheme is now under consideration, and will probably be published in the next calendar. I make bold to suggest to the trustees of our University that half a dozen fellowships, of the annual value, say, of \$250 each, should be exhibited, to be given to men who have taken high honours in one of the departments of study, and who are willing to stay on at the University in the prosecution of independent work. No money could well be better spent. Those men are most deserving of help who show that they are eager to help themselves. The two new professors, Messrs. Coppin and MacGillivray, were inducted to their respective chairs.