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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE official return of the results of the L.L.A. examination of 1883 at St. Andrew's University shows that no fewer than 440 candidates entered for examination. Of these, 371 passed in one or more subjects, and 76 obtained the title and diploma of L.L.A. The Senatus of the University has under its consideration a request from its women graduates to be allowed to wear a special badge indicative of the title they have obtained.

THE Nutt homicide is justified by nearly the entire secular press of the country. A few papers have taken the other side and pleaded for law as against individualism, the "Press" of Philadelphia being conspicuous in this respect, but they, perhaps, represent but a small fraction of their own readers on the subject. It all goes to show how sensible people can let sentiment blind them and lead them into absurdities from which their better judgments would keep them back.

THE Industrial Exhibition Association of Toronto have issued the Prize List for the exhibition of 1883. They claim, not without reason, that this is now Canada's Great Fair. Every effort is being put forth to make the coming exhibition one of the best ever held in the Dominion. It is expected that it will be formally opened by the Governor-General who is to be accompanied by the Princess Louise. The Prize List embraces all departments of Agriculture, and every encouragement is offered for competition in almost every branch of Art and Industry.

THE interest taken in Zenana Missions is deepening everywhere. In connection with this cause a most enthusiastic meeting was held at Belfast while the Irish Presbyterian Assembly was convened there. The Belfast "Witness" says that the meeting was very large, the spacious Hall in which it was held being crowded to excess. Many of the representative ministers of the Irish Church were present on the occasion. Dr. William Fleming Stevenson, the eloquent advocate of Missions, and Dr. John Edmond, of London, spoke on the occasion. The great work already accomplished by this Christian agency, a work that it only can do, affords sufficient reason why Zenana Missions should receive the utmost encouragement and support the Christian Church can extend.

AT a meeting of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland, held at Belfast, the Rev. Hugh Hannah, Belfast, moved the adoption of an overture for the purpose of establishing friendly relations between the Church and the Established Church of Scotland, similar to those which exist with the Free Church of Scotland. The Rev. John MacNaughton, Belfast, moved as an amendment that the overture be not placed in the books. After a long discussion a vote was taken, when the amendment was thrown out by a majority of 83 to 56. The Rev. Hamilton Magee, Dublin, moved a second amendment, similar to that which had been rejected, but embracing, along with the Established Church of Scotland, the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland. This amendment was immediately adopted.

To confine praise to a select few formed into a choir, however skilful they may be, is not worship. The proper function of a choir is to lead—to stimulate others to unite with them—and to secure the harmonious blending of the voices of all. When this is done, there will be heartiness, sympathy, and power. Nothing so thoroughly unites a numerous gathering of people as praise. Those who have good voices, who have cultivated their gifts, should be foremost in this exercise, instead of sitting silent as they too often do. It would be a great advantage if they took their place in the choir. Somehow a feeling is abroad among us that this is scarcely respectable. We seek the best for the pulpit. No one is too cultivated or too respectable for that. And why should the choir be almost invariably occupied by those who move in

the humbler walks of life? It is next in power to the pulpit itself.

AT a largely attended meeting of ministers and elders of the Free Church, lately held in Edinburgh, the "Daily Review" says it was unanimously resolved as follows: "That this meeting resolved to constitute themselves into an association for defence of purity of worship, doctrine, and government in the Free Church, with headquarters in Edinburgh, with president, vice-president, secretary, and general and acting committees; and that it be remitted to the Acting Committee of this association to communicate with all the members in all the Presbyteries who are favourable to our cause, asking them to form themselves into committees for diffusing information in their various localities among the people, both by literature on the subject, by deputies, and otherwise, with a view to secure the reversal of the unsound decision of the present General Assembly."

THE venerable Principal McCosh still retains his position as head of Princeton College. The report of the Board of Trustees upon the question of his retirement has just been published. It states that "the Board being exceedingly desirous of retaining Dr. McCosh at the head of this institution have unanimously declined to accept his resignation, and with equal unanimity adopted an arrangement acceptable to all which renders it unnecessary. The duties heretofore devolving upon the President have for the present been divided with a Dean of the Faculty. The President will preside on all public occasions, and be the official head of the college before the public. He will also be charged as heretofore with the general oversight of the various departments of instruction." Dr. McCosh having acquiesced in the report, the matter has ended in his retaining the presidency which he has adorned for so many years.

THE Sabbath School Association of Canada has done a wise thing in publishing a full report of the proceedings of the Seventeenth Provincial Convention held at Brampton last October. Many active Sabbath school workers did not have the opportunity of attending that most interesting and profitable gathering. The Rev. Dr. Vincent, of New York, and several others whose names are intimately associated with the cause of Sabbath schools took an active part in the work of the Convention. In the published report the results arrived at are recorded in permanent form, and will prove most useful to those who did not enjoy the privilege of being present, while those who assisted at the Convention will be glad to possess so useful a record of its proceedings as is presented in the report before us. Copies can be had from the General Secretary of the Sabbath School Association of Canada, the Rev. John McEwen, Toronto.

THE debate on the organ question in the General Assembly of the Irish Presbyterian Church was very animated. Feeling ran high. Vigorous language was used. Occasional flashes of genuine Irish wit relieved the tension at times prevailing. The main motion prepared by Dr. Petticrew was to the effect that steps should be taken to silence the organs already introduced into several congregations, and to appoint a commission who should be empowered to deal with disobedient ministers "in accordance with the laws of the Church, made and provided in the case of contumacy." The amendment of Rev. Charles Morell, which was carried by a majority of eleven, is as follows: "That in view of all the circumstances of the case and the gravity of the issues involved, this Assembly decline to appoint the commission proposed in the motion, or to take any steps which would involve discipline or the rending of the Church." The result, notwithstanding the excited feeling and the closeness of the vote has been generally received in a most becoming spirit.

CONFERENCES are now established institutions in the Anglican Church. They have been held in England for many years past. In Canada the experiment of

holding a Church Conference has been tried with a most successful result. The one recently held in Hamilton is regarded so satisfactory that the Synod of Montreal has resolved to hold a provincial congress, as Canon Carmichael puts it, "worthy the intellect of the Church of England in Canada." Much can be said in favour of such gatherings. The Presbyterian Church might well take into consideration the advisability of holding occasional conferences. The regular Church courts have their own proper business, and in attending to that they have their time fully occupied. Many subjects of practical import in connection with Christian work, the wants of the people, the modes of meeting these, and many kindred themes might be profitably considered in these congresses. Neither would it be any disadvantage that they would only be deliberative bodies. The freedom with which views could be exchanged might be a decided recommendation. The suggestion is at all events worth thinking about.

FEW now entertain the idea that the principal duties of the eldership are the gathering of the collection and serving the elements at the Communion. More correct views are held in reference to the spiritual functions and responsibilities of this important office. Elders can do much to promote the spiritual well-being of a congregation. Many do valuable work in the Master's name and for His glory. In connection with the Scottish Assemblies, the elders attending meet together at breakfast. Questions pertaining to the eldership are discussed there. At a recent elders' breakfast in Edinburgh, the chairman drew particular attention to the importance of seeing that family worship was held in each of the families in their district. Another thought that elders and deacons should never allow a stranger to pass at the church door without speaking to him, particularly if he was a young man. They should never allow a young man who was a stranger to leave the church without introducing him to the minister. In this way he had secured in a month twelve young men who were now elders and deacons. Scottish elders are not a more genial class than their Canadian brethren. The hint conveyed in these remarks might be acted on here with the happiest results. There would be no harm in trying the plan suggested by the Edinburgh elder.

WEEKLY HEALTH BULLETIN.—The weather of the week, with the exception of the cold, has followed closely the course of that in the preceding. In almost every District a very abnormal amount of rain has fallen. There has been no great extreme range of temperature. As to its effect upon the various diseases, almost the same remarks may be made as found place in the Report for last week. Bronchitis has again receded, but most of the other diseases of the respiratory passages have retained their previous positions. Neuralgia and Rheumatism appear with the same prominence as before. Tonsillitis has advanced quite suddenly into greater prominence than for some time previously. Remarks so frequently made concerning Anemia, must again be repeated. That it should appear at this season of the year prominent amongst diseases is remarkable, unless as pointing out the lasting effects of more acute diseases upon the general system. Amongst Fevers, intermittent, already so prominent, has not apparently advanced; but the Typho-Malarial has once more appeared amongst the twenty prevalent diseases. Amongst Zymotics, we have to notice the steady decrease of Measles, usually noticed in warm weather; the same is seen in the case of Mumps, but unfortunately Diphtheria, which for some time has been quiescent, has noticeably advanced in prevalence. It seems to have an endemic prevalence, it being found amongst the six most prevalent in three Districts. The general impression that its prevalence has close relations with filth, again points, along with the increasing prevalence of Diarrhoea, to the necessity for constant attention to the removal of all organic matter liable to decay. Cholera Infantum, the first time in many months appears amongst the twenty prevalent diseases, its relations to Diarrhoea being too well known to require any further remark.