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Notes of the Week.

THE girls hold their own in college. At the entrance examinations at Cornell, just held, out of seven scholarships awarded for the best examinations, the prizes of \$200 a year, for five years, were gained in mathematics by three young men and two young women, and in classical studies by one young man and one young woman.

BOTH Princeton Theological Seminary and University have resolved to support a missionary in the foreign field. The first man sent by the university students will be Mr. John N. Forman, for whose support more than \$1,600 has already been secured. The seminary students have raised \$648 for the support of its missionary and the balance, it is said, will soon be forth coming.

THE Waldensian Synod has just been in session in Torre Pellice. Rev. R. H. Lundie, of Liverpool, appeared as a deputy from the English Presbyterian Synod. Dr. Geymount was re-elected president. The union negotiations between the Waldensians and the Chiesa Libera fell through. The Synod declared that the time was not ripe for permitting women to vote in the election of ministers.

HIS Excellency Lord Reay, Governor of Bombay, recently told a deputation representing British and American missions that waited upon him in connection with the drink question, that the strength of a nation depends upon the vitality of its moral forces, and that all classes of English and American society are now permeated with the conviction that temperance is a law of nature which cannot be set aside with impunity.

A SCOTTISH contemporary remarks: Marriages in church are becoming the order of the day on the Clyde. Recently there have been two notable examples—one in Skelmorlie Church, where Mr. Cameron Corbett, M.P., was the bridegroom, and the daughter of Mr. John Polson, of Paisley, was the bride; the other in Helensburgh Church, where a daughter of the late Major Gells, of Ardmore, was the bride. At Helensburgh it was the first occasion on which a wedding had been celebrated in the church, and the spacious edifice, gaily decorated with flowers, was crowded.

THE Winnipeg *Sun* says: The Presbyterians have been making rapid progress in Manitoba. From 1881 to 1886, they exhibited an increase of 15,000 or 104 per cent., and had passed from second place to a decided lead. In the same period of time the adherents of the Church of England increased from 13,715 to 23,306, and the Methodists from 9,382 to 14,648. Of the larger denominations, the Roman Catholics show the least increase, only twenty-five per cent., the reason being that this church has benefited to a smaller extent than the others from the large immigration into the country since 1881.

Two faithful ministers of the Irish Presbyterian Church, says the *Belfast Witness*, have had fitting honour done to their memory during the past week. A noble monument has been erected to the Rev. Dr. Menecly in the church where he laboured so long and with such fidelity, and where he raised for himself, by his holy, earnest life, a nobler and more permanent memorial by far than any that could be built of stone or marble; and a public testimonial raised in honour of the late most lovable and able minister of Ballysillan, the Rev. W. C. McCullagh, and which reached the handsome sum of \$2,500, has been presented to his daughters. It is pleasant to find such fresh illustrations of the truth that "the memory of the just is blessed."

THE *Christian World* says: Special services were held on Sunday in Camden Road Church, being the fourth anniversary of the settlement of the present

pastor, Rev. R. M. Thornton, B.A. Rev. Dr. Murphy, of Crouch Hill, preached in the morning. In the afternoon Mr. Thornton delivered his quarterly sermon for the young to a large gathering, mainly composed of children from the four Sunday schools in connection with the church. In the evening Mr. Thornton preached the first of a course of monthly sermons to young men to be continued throughout the winter. During the past four years the membership of the congregation has risen from 227 to 460, and the roll of Sunday scholars from 497 to 744. The finances have also materially improved during the same period.

THE *Christian Leader* states that the Rev. Dr. W. Wilson preached in St. Paul's Free Church, Dundee, on Sunday forenoon, in connection with the jubilee of his ministry; and on Monday he was entertained by the Presbytery and also by his congregation. Seventy gentlemen were present at the dinner given by the Presbytery, and Dr. Wilson was presented with an address bearing testimony to the large practical sagacity, judicial firmness and solid wisdom which had been of signal service to the Presbytery and throughout the Church. Dr. Wilson mentioned the fact that in 1834 he was employed as parochial missionary in Glasgow, and also as editor of the *Scottish Guardian*, the only Scottish Church paper in existence at that date. At the meeting of the congregation of St. Paul's in the evening, Dr. Wilson was presented with a service of silver plate.

AN Edinburgh gentleman having addressed a letter to Canon Liddon on the subject of the reunion of the Churches of England and Scotland, has received the following reply "Anything that could lessen the existing divisions of Christendom must be welcome to a serious servant of our Lord. On this point Christians must be agreed; the difficulties begin when we approach the discussion of details. The principle which is embodied in the Episcopate is much more than as the phrase goes a question of Church government, and on the other hand, Presbyterians have historical traditions of their own, which they would not lightly abandon. I should be very glad to find that I am wrong in supposing this; but, as at present informed, I see nothing to be done beyond an increase of mutual and earnest prayer to our Lord that He would teach us the secret of that blessing of unity which he has Himself taught us to think so precious."

THE *Irish Temperance League Journal* says: The question raised by the Rev. Charles Garrett, about the employment of girls in public houses, is well worthy of the attention of philanthropists and legislators. He says there are 200,000 girls employed in public houses in the United Kingdom, and some of these, perhaps many of them, are kept "120 hours hours per week in the fetid air," while mill girls, by Act of Parliament, are only allowed to work fifty-seven hours per week. In Victoria, the Temperance reformers refuse to allow barmaids to be employed, but our Parliament at home seems unable to devote attention to such practical matters as the health and morals of the people. Probably the House of Lords would forbid such legislation even if her Majesty's faithful Commons cared to take the matter up. In our judgment there is no speedier way of ruining, morally, a young girl than to put her into a public-house, or behind a bar. Her customers are mostly of the sort that can only corrupt her, and if there be any truth in the ancient maxim about evil communications corrupting good manners, she is indeed in an evil case. This is another argument against the existence of the public-house. Employments that can only tend to the demoralization of all who are in them ought to be swept away.

COMMENTING on the Evangelical Alliance meeting at Aberdeen, the *British Weekly* says: Of the speeches at the Aberdeen meeting, those of Professor Charteris, Principal Cairns and Dr. Clemance were the most striking. Dr. Cairns treated of Christian

virtue and its apologetic power in his own eloquent way. Christian work, he said, is the organized activity of faith; prayer is the spirituality of speech. Dr. Charteris' handling of sectarianism or sectional peculiarities was good and true. It is painfully evident, as he said, that the sum total of the heads we count on muster days is always much the same, though the items are from time to time differently apportioned. "It is not so much that we are willing to be poor for Christ as that we seek to beggar our neighbours." Dr. Clemance, again, criticised frankly the "carnality" of the Churches, and of society, and did so with some freshness. It was a piece of carnality, he said, when the connection of a Christian Church with a State was regarded as putting on that Church the seal of legitimacy. It was a piece of carnality when the members of one Christian fellowship arrogated to themselves the exclusive title of Church, and spoke of their Christian brethren as only members of a sect. Happily, a large audience of variously named Christians in Aberdeen can receive this teaching.

DR. TALMAGI, in his sermon last week, referred to the comments made by several Presbyterian papers on the apparent illiberality on the part of the Brooklyn Tabernacle congregation, in the matter of contributions to the Schemes of the Church. He said misrepresentations have been going the rounds of the religious papers concerning the generosity of this church. Seven hundred and eighty-one thousand, three hundred and sixteen dollars and twenty-four cents have been paid cash down in this church for religious uses and Christian work during the nineteen years of my ministry here. This church was built by all denominations of Christians, and by many sections of this and other lands, and that obligation has led us to raise money for many objects not connected with our denomination, and this accounts for the fact that we have not regularly contributed to the boards of our denomination. Subscription papers for all good objects, Christian, humanitarian, collegiate and missionary, are as common as the daylight, and no church in Christendom has been more continuous in its charities than this. Besides that, I am grateful that we have received, during the year, by confession of faith in Christ, 725 souls, which fact I mention not in boasting, but in defence of this church, showing that it has neither been idle nor inefficient. The most of our accessions have been from the outside world, so that, taking the idea of my text, we have not been building on other people's foundations.

THE Rev. J. Gordon Gray, D.D., pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Rome, Italy, paid a brief visit to Toronto last week. He preached in Knox Church on Sabbath, and gave a most interesting address at the St. James Square Church prayer meeting on Wednesday evening. Dr. Gray gave a clear and condensed statement of the political situation, and showed that however anxious the Vatican might be for the restoration of the temporal sovereignty of the Pope, the leading statesmen and the Italian people had not abandoned the position taken by Count Cavour, that there should be a Free Church in a Free State. The work of evangelization was being carried on with system, vigour and encouragement, many notable illustrations being given of the most gratifying results. The new building in which the services are held is most favourably situated. In a circular lately issued it is stated that, as the services held in this church are the only Presbyterian (English) services in the city, members of nearly all the Protestant Churches, both British and American, will feel special interest in maintaining, in such a centre as Rome, evangelical teaching along with simple forms of worship. The brethren of all these Churches, we are glad to say, largely avail themselves of the services thus provided, and feel themselves at home in them. We venture, therefore, to think that the members of sister Churches in America and Canada, as well as in Great Britain, alive to these claims on their sympathy and support, will respond to the appeal made on behalf of this praiseworthy undertaking.