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Notes of the Week.

Rev. Dr. Pollock at the alumni dinner in Halifax in the course of one of those speeches for which he is noted, said he had been in Nova Scotia the same length of time that the children of Israel had been in the wilderness.

The men in charge of the financial end of the World's Fair management are feeling comfortable, and are relieved of an immense burden through the subscription by the railway companies to the last \$1,000,000 of bonds.

Rev. Dr. Patterson, of New Glasgow, read a very instructive paper before the Historical Society in Halifax, on the evening of the 26th ult., on Sir William Alexander's attempt to colonize America. Ex-Governor Ritchie occupied the chair.

The Russian Hebrew Committee in London, has advised from St. Petersburg that the Minister of the Interior has ordered the Governors of Livonia and Courland to expel all Hebrews from these two provinces before next Nov. 1. More than 80,000 Hebrews will be expelled under this order.

It is a hopeful sign, says the Christian at Work that in Berlin, the centre of the military spirit, peace societies are being formed, including prominent people in their membership. Peace pamphlets are also being written and read, and thoughtful men are speaking out against the despotism of war.

Official reports show that the heights of Quebec are crumbling. The rampart wall facing the Parliament buildings has fallen and reveals cracks and fissures in the solid rock, such as indicate that large sections of the enormous elevations are becoming detached bodily, and may at any time give way in a mass of ruins.

Rev. Thomas Sedgwick, of Tatamagouche, N. S., received the degree of D. D. at the convocation of the Presbyterian college, Halifax, last week, and his brother, Judge Sedgwick, the degree of LL. D. from Dalhousie. Both gentlemen are the sons of the late Dr. Sedgwick, of Musquodoboit. Of them it may be said, A man's sons cometh to honour, and he knoweth it not.

A wealthy Hindu has given funds for a proposed "snake laboratory" in Calcutta. The scientific investigation of the poison of different snakes, and the investigation of present remedies for snake bites, will be the laboratory's work. In such a country as India, where a score of thousand people die annually from snake bites, such an institution ought to be of great value. The wonder is it was not established before.

The Pamir Question continues to excite interest, remarks the N. Y. Independent. From Russia comes the statement that, in consequence of the gathering of Chinese arms and troops in Chinese Turkestan adjoining the Pamirs, Russia has decided to reinforce her garrison there. At the same time word comes from India that the Russian Government has definitely decided to consent to a commission to delimit the boundaries of that whole region.

The Presbytery of Cincinnati has chosen a solid delegation to the General Assembly opposed to "destructive Higher Criticism." Dr. William H. Roberts leads it, receiving one of the largest votes ever cast in the Presbytery. His retirement from Lane Theological Seminary is said to have been one of the reasons for the large vote. It was felt by many that his de-

position was due to his faithfulness. The minority asked for representation, but the presbytery would not grant it.

Says the Christian at Work: Protestantism has finally conquered in its fight for liberty in Madrid, and the Protestant church which has been built has been formally opened for divine service, with the consent of the authorities. Roman Catholic fanatics bitterly opposed the opening, but pressure from our representative prevailed at the last. Six hundred worshippers were present at the first meeting. Yet it was only a few years ago when it was not safe for a traveller to display an open Bible in Madrid. The world moves.

It appears that Roman Catholic institutions have been allotted space at the World's Fair many times as large as that given to all the Protestant denominations. The Roman Catholic Church as a body has not asked for space. Educational and other institutions under the care of that Church have asked for room and have got it, and the allotments to these various organizations are placed together, so that the sixteen Protestant bodies are to have in all a frontage of 320 feet, while Catholics will have 1,000 feet. It is evident that Catholics have been alive to their own interests much more than other denominations.

A lady who has been traveling in China writes very interestingly to the New York Commercial Advertiser of the different treatment which boys and girls of that kingdom receive. "When a son is born he sleeps upon a bed. The bed is richly draped and the little fellow is clothed with robes as gorgeous as his parents can afford to buy. His playthings are pearl, and if he be the only boy in the household everyone obeys his princely cries. But when a girl is born very little notice is taken of her. She sleeps upon the ground and is merely wrapped up in a big piece of cloth. When old enough to play with anything she is given a piece of tile, and she is not considered capable of acting either right or wrong. As she grows up she is taught to prepare food and make wine. Beyond that she knows nothing except to obey her parents."

In connection with the action of the Russian Government towards the Stundists, the following facts, says the N. Y. Independent, in regard to Bible and evangelistic work in Russia will be interesting. It is estimated that about half a million copies of the Scriptures are sold annually in that Empire. Of these the greater portion are sold to the orthodox Russians. Most dissenters of the Old Believers' type are without Russian Scriptures and refuse to purchase them. The Protestant sect, including the Molokans, Stundists and others are willing purchasers; but their numbers are comparatively small. Preaching in the Established Church is rather on the increase, but the quality of the sermons does not seem to improve, as all must be submitted to the bishops, who exercise a very careful censorship. Of religious literature there is next to nothing except the tracts that give Church news; papers, pamphlets, magazines and books for the instruction of the common people do not exist. As to a religious liberal party among the orthodox, there is no such organization, although there are isolated individuals. The followers of Count Pashkoff, of St. Petersburg, it is supposed, are rather diminishing in numbers. The different movements among the Old Believers have neither any intellectual character nor any influence in the right direction.

PULPIT, PRESS AND PLATFORM.

Hannah More: Affliction is a kind of moral gymnasium in which the disciples of Christ are trained to robust exercise, hardy exertion, and severe conflict.

The Independent: It is a solemn thought that "all things are naked and opened unto the eyes of him with whom we have to do." (Heb. iv. 13). We can conceal nothing from God. We cannot go where his knowledge will not follow us. Every secret thing will at last be brought into judgment. To see these facts as they really are is to rob sin of every charm.

Christian Inquirer: Learn to talk of Christ. There are professional talkers, who are always talking of Christ, but not living him. But those who live Christ should be ready to talk of him. This is strange work with many. They seem at home talking of the worldly interests of the church, but they never think of carrying on a spiritual conversation with the view of converting sinners from the error of their ways.

Presbyterian Witness: Ye must be born from above; change from evil to good; from serving sin and Satan to serving God. Conversion is to turn to God from sin. The voice of Christ sounds across the centuries: "Come unto me!" He is held forth as the Saviour from sin, able to save thieves and liars, adulterers and persecutors, and murderers. He sets no limit to His grace except the time-limit, Now!

Christian Intelligencer: We close all places of business on Sundays, we close the schools, we close the courts, we close the legislatures of the several states, and even both houses of Congress—and this has been the unbroken practice for a century. Why, then, why, in the name of all that is reasonable, should the Columbian Exposition be open on Sundays? Is there anything in the circumstances that entitles this to be made an exception to the universal custom?

J. P. Richter: To die for Truth is not to die for one's country, but to die for the world. Truth, like the Venus de Medici, will pass down in thirty fragments to posterity; but posterity will collect and re-compose them into a goddess. There also thy temple, O eternal Truth, that now stands half below the earth, made hollow by the sepulchres of its witnesses, will rise in the total majesty of its proportions, and will stand in monumental granite; and every pillar on which it rests will be fixed in the grave of a martyr.

Presbyterian Journal: Roman Catholics in this country show themselves prompt in appropriating the successful methods of the heretics. At a meeting in Philadelphia last week Bishop Horstmann said: "Movements among young men are most important. I am trying to bring them together in Cleveland, saying to them that the whole future of their parishes are in the young men. It seems to me that the methods of the Young Men's Christian Associations throughout the country are of the kind you should adopt. Have inducements and a place that is attractive."

Athanasius: Nothing more forcibly marks the weakness of a bad cause than persecution. Satan, who has no truth to propose to man, comes with axe and sword to make way for his errors. Christ's method is wisely different. He teaches the truth and says: "If any man will come after me and be my disciple." When He comes to the heart, He uses no violence, but says: "Open to me, my sister, my spouse." If we open, he comes in; if we will not open, He retires; for the truth

is not preached with sword and spears, not by bands of soldiers, but by counsel and persuasion.

Tennessee Methodist: Every pulpit in every church in this country should speak out in the strongest language possible against gambling in any and in all its forms, and especially against "dealing in futures," which is the most popular, the most insidious and the most deadly form of gambling known to-day. It is in this form of this vice that our stewards and trustees and deacons and vestrymen so frequently engage. Let gamblers be turned out of the Church. What a moral power would come to the Church from the expulsion of these notorious gamblers, and what a restraining influence it would exert on the vice inside and outside the Church.

United Presbyterian: It is neither narrowness nor bigotry to love your own Church more than another; to labour more earnestly for her extension and up-building than for any other; and to feel a deeper attachment to her principles and usages than to those of other denominations. That man who makes slighting remarks about his own Church, her principles or people; who magnifies her defects; who disparages her efforts to maintain the cause and advance the work entrusted to her, is usually one who would be of little use in any Church. We never could admire that boy who did not love his own mother, and who was everlastingly making invidious comparisons between her and the mother of other boys.

Dr. Burrell: Christ and the Bible stand or fall together. If proof be needed, it is forthcoming in current events. In Germany the same Theological Junta which long ago, with its penknife of destructive criticism, cut the Scriptures into small bits and tossed them into the fire, is now demanding the erasure of the Apostles' Creed. And the original imitators of that Junta on this side of the Atlantic are beginning to clamor for "a restatement of the doctrine of Christ." What that could mean under the conditions of rationalistic culture may be easily conjectured. It is sure to come. When the Gospel ceases to be Bibliocentric, all the sentimental billing and cooing in the world cannot keep our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ in the center of it. The simple fact is that we have no Christ but the Christ of the Bible, and when that Bible ceases to be trustworthy we have no longer a sure confidence in Him.

S. S. Mitchell, D. D.: Folly it is in the realm of the body to deal with symptoms. Blotches on the face call for purification of the blood. So the awful sense-blotches which we have noticed as disfiguring the Lord's day in the case of many church members—the Sunday sloth, the Sunday pleasures, the Sunday secularism—all these bespeak a languid and tainted circulation of spiritual life. The man has no Lord's day, because he has no Lord. The man crucifies the day, because he has first crucified its Lord, and he will have, and he will keep a Lord's day just as soon as his heart is able to cry out unto this Lord: "Thou knowest all things; Thou knowest that I love Thee;" just as soon as his heart comes to hold as its sweetest possession and its continuous inspiration: "The Lord who died for him and rose again." O ye! who have no longer any Lord's day, except in name, consider and learn, I beseech you, whether ye have any longer any Divine Lord, except in name. O ye! who work and who pray for the more wise and loving and profitable observance of the Lord's day, make it your first object to set before the erring ones the beauty and the love, and the glory of the risen Lord.