

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

WHILE the people of New York were preparing to commemorate the evacuation of their city by the British the enthusiastic students of St. Andrew's University were doing their utmost to promote the election of James Russell Lowell as Lord Rector of that ancient university. Their efforts have been crowned with success. Their triumph is regarded as a fitting tribute of honour and respect to one who has won a distinguished place not only in the service of his country but also in the republic of letters.

AN important change has taken place in the Ontario Ministry of Education. The enfeebled health of the Hon. Adam Crooks has rendered his resignation necessary. Mr. G. W. Ross has been appointed to succeed Mr. Crooks. The choice is an excellent one. Mr. Ross has been intimately identified with the course of education for many years. He thoroughly understands the working of our school system, and being a man of large experience, honest and upright there is nothing unreasonable in the expectation that the educational affairs of the Province will be administered with integrity, ability and success.

THE newly elected Bishop of Huron, the Rev. Dean Baldwin, is held in high esteem by the Christian people of Montreal. He was the honoured guest at a complimentary breakfast in the Windsor Hotel last week. As a general thing these public breakfasts are rather cheerless and dreary affairs, but the one to which the Dean was invited seems to have been a pleasing exception, a number of ladies having been present. The representatives of the various evangelical churches in the eastern city spoke in most cordial terms of the value of Mr. Baldwin's Christian work in Montreal. In these days of sacerdotal exclusiveness it is reassuring to hear the manly and devout sentiments to which in his response he gave expression.

THE conclusions arrived at by college and other debating clubs after the discussion of great historical and social questions do not often reverse the verdicts of history, or alter the course of a great movement, but they do sometimes indicate the inveterate force of traditional prejudice. In Trinity College, Toronto last week, the young gentlemen had a debate on the resolution: "That the character of Oliver Cromwell is worthy of admiration." One gentleman painted Oliver as a benefactor to the human race, and argued that his character did credit to English history. Another contended that he was a cruel-minded, gloomy, fanatic, who subserved the weal of the country to his own interests. On the question being put to the vote the audience unanimously supported the negative. And yet "Letters and Speeches by Oliver Cromwell," edited by Thomas Carlyle is within reach of most people.

PROUD but penniless foreigners have a fancy for fair Americans whose marriage dot is a consideration. These charming daughters of their country profess to admire republican simplicity while at the same time they covet aristocratic distinction. An American official has been investigating the subject and discovers as might be expected that their hymeneal compromises are not what can be called strictly love matches or even tolerably happy marriages. Majestic but impoverished German barons are a trifle arbitrary in their manner of home rule. A sad instance of love's young dream merging into a realistic quarrel over the blacking of a pair of boots, has recently been detailed with much impressive moralizing. The complications of modern life are answerable for many things that people would be better without. The refrain of the old Scottish song, "Marry for love and work for siller," is getting sadly out of date.

THE Potsdam Court chaplain who gained notoriety by reason of his strongly pronounced anti-Jewish opinions, did not meet with a flattering reception on his recent visit to London. Jews are numerous enough

in the British metropolis but there they are not regarded with the same aversion as they are in Russia and Hungary or even in Germany. It was with difficulty that a place could be found for Dr. Stocker to lecture in, but through the good offices of Lord Shaftesbury, Exeter Hall was secured. Then his troubles were not over. His audiences were demonstrative in their opposition and he had to bow to circumstances. As a last effort, he addressed a small meeting in St. Stephen's Club, but that gave offence to many of its members and led to numerous resignations. Dr. Stocker has returned to Berlin, having made the discovery that an anti-Semitic movement in Britain is hard to raise.

THE two nations that stood glaring into each others eyes a hundred years ago have advanced in many ways since the 25th November 1773. Evacuation day has been observed with great pomp and splendour in New York city, though it was somewhat interfered with by the unfavourable state of the weather. There has been no notable explosion of pent-up hatred on either side. It is doubtful if such now exists. The great mass of intelligent Americans and intelligent Britons cherish the friendliest feelings towards each other. The toast that followed that of the President of the United States at Evacuation Day banquet of the Chamber of Commerce at Delmonico's was "The Queen of Great Britain." The many virtues of her life have won the hearts of the English-speaking race. Her reign will mark an epoch in history more memorable than that of England's virgin Queen or that of the illustrious Isabella of Spain, who pledged her jewels to furnish the means by which Columbus gave this continent to the World! The toast was drunk amid standing cheers.

ONE of the festering plague spots of the business life of to-day is the gambling in stocks and commodities which takes place in every exchange. Those who engage in it are non-producers. They contribute nothing to the advancement of trade. They are the modern representatives of the barons and buccaneers who forcibly levied toll on the traders of by-gone days. The practice of stock gambling is demoralizing every way. Another plundered though dishonest victim, a former Torontonian, makes his confession. He was a clerk in a bank. He was anxious to speculate. He had no money of his own, but the bank had, and he put up margins with his employer's money. He wanted an interest in the bank and by embezzling its funds he thought to obtain a position of influence and honour as a bank manager. At first he made money fast, clearing as much as \$20,000 in one deal. During cornering he made \$20,000 over and above his margins and went down to the Exchange for the purpose of closing out. He was five minutes late, and upon the opening next day prices tumbled down rapidly. The Board decided that there was a corner and fixed the actual price ten cents below the price quoted on 'change, which wiped out all his profits and left him bankrupt. He then took money intending to repay it, but from that time he had a continued run of ill luck. This is the latest notable instance of a man trying to get rich by a dishonest short cut, but it will not be the last.

A LARGE and enthusiastic meeting of Toronto University students was held in Moss Hall last week. A short time since a University Temperance League was formed, and already it has made most satisfactory progress. Dr. Daniel Wilson presided at the meeting which was addressed by the Rev. H. M. Parsons. Mr. John Macdonald, Dr. Geikle and Mr. S. H. Blake, Q.C. The addresses were sensible, forcible and earnest. Dr. Geikle said, regarding the medical uses of intoxicating liquors, that they are simply useless, and continued: "Now all you young gentlemen before me desire to become fine specimens of the genus homo. Will you get a big arm, a good stomach, a fine frame through drinking liquor? Never! The less you drink the clearer your head, the stronger your frame, the bigger your arm, the better your stomach and the longer your lives. I am not afraid to maintain this

position before anybody. The effect of drinking intoxicants upon the stomach is most pernicious. It poisons the blood and does injury in consequence wherever the blood circulates. In Canada, where the climate is so inequable, the effects of drinking upon the physical system are particularly evil, and should be guarded against." This is not the only argument for abstinence, but it is one of great importance and one that everybody can understand. The hearty manner in which the cause of temperance is taken up by the students speaks well for the professional men that are to be and for the community at large.

THE committees from the various denominations representing the Toronto Sabbath Observance Committee, held their first meeting in Shaftesbury Hall last week. The chair was occupied by Archdeacon Boddy, and Rev. Mr. Burton acted as secretary. Besides numerous representatives from the various Anglican, Methodist, and Presbyterian churches of the city, there were several delegates from a distance present. The principal business of the meeting consisted in the discussion of points in connection with the present state of the law bearing on the observance of the Sabbath. The committee adjourned to meet in two weeks, the interim to be occupied in gathering definite information and laying plans for future work. The work, which is under the auspices of the Toronto Ministerial association, has the following object as embodied in a circular issued by the committee.—Attention is directed to the increasing profanation of the Lord's Day in the Dominion, by continued work on the line of construction of the Canada Pacific Railroad, by the general running of trains upon that day, by excursions both by land and water, by photograph galleries opened, by hotels, livery stables, barber and cigar shops, etc. They would urge that these acts and doings are flagrant violations of the spirit of the Act to prevent the profanation of the Lord's day (Revised Statutes of Ontario, chap. 189), which Act has, supported by the religious convictions of the community, conserved hitherto for us a restful Sabbath. The Association submits that there is growing need for earnest efforts being put forth for the enforcement of the law and for keeping alive the Christian sentiment of the community thereon.

WEEKLY HEALTH BULLETIN.—A marked change in temperature has taken place from that of the preceding week. It has naturally followed from this, that acute affections of the respiratory organs seem to have decreased; Bronchitis having fallen from 11.4 to 9.8 per cent., and Influenza from 5.2 to 4.8 per cent. of the total reported diseases. Although Diphtheria by some would be placed amongst the acute diseases of the respiratory passages, and would seem from the fact of its percentage of prevalence being greater this week than last, not to have followed the same rule; yet it must be remembered that a decrease in the prevalence of Bronchitis would make the other diseases appear comparatively more, and that Diphtheria has apparently other definite relations in regard to causation than those simply of low temperatures and high winds. Regarding the prevalence of Fevers, Intermittent is still present to a comparatively large extent, for although checked by the extreme cold of last week, it has again advanced from 6.3 to 7.5 per cent. Enteric Fever appears to have advanced from 1.5 to 2.4 per cent. of the total reported diseases. Zymotic diseases of a contagious character have not shown any great prevalence or tendency to advance. The increase of Scarletina noted last week, seems to have been replaced by Whooping Cough; and Mumps has disappeared from amongst the twenty most prevalent diseases, only to have its place taken by the reappearance of Measles. The various other diseases are such as remain more or less constant in their prevalence from week to week; although, as may be seen by reference to their character, they mark the prevalence of conditions indicating in some instances the necessity for public sentiment being more strongly aroused toward the end of limiting their number by more stringent measures than at present exist.