

A NOTE OF APPEAL.

The colleges have begun work again. With the usual public services the doors have been opened, and the old and new students have been welcomed back again. In some of the colleges there have been improvement and additions to the staff, and the occasion became even more than usually interesting. Knox College has now a fifth Chair, and the general verdict is that it has been worthily filled. We believe the general opinion to be right, and that the years will reveal to us the true worth of the man who has been appointed.

But in the opening addresses, as in the closing addresses last spring, there has been a note that is new in Canada. Montreal's Principal first sounded the note of alarm. The Principal of Knox alluded to it, but only to say that there was no indication that the alarming condition to which reference had been made would affect Canadian colleges. The note was not so confident this autumn, when again reference was made to a possible decrease in the number of men offering themselves for the ministry. There was appeal in the reference to the depletion of sister institutions in other lands, as if the possibility of it is condition reaching us were admitted.

The Church has learned to listen with heed to the men of whom we have spoken. Both are clear of sight, and courageous. They would not speak of danger if it were not real to them. And it must be remembered that both merely admit the possibility of this scarcity of men who give themselves to the Gospel ministry affecting Canadian colleges. It has not yet done so, and the prospects for the present year are favorable to large classes. Dr. Warden, in his address to the congregation at the close of his charge to the new Professor, touched the root of the matter when he said that we must look for the cause of the diminishing numbers of young men who consecrate themselves to the ministry, in the homes of the people. Were the parents to keep before the children the dignity and honor of the Gospel ministry; the fact that those called to it are called of God to the highest of all services in this world, the number would not be less. We have been accustomed to hear the blame laid upon the College, we believe that we must go farther back. We find it in the lowering of the spiritual life in the homes. We find it in the desire on the part of the parents to train their children to live well and to appear to advantage in this world, and in their failure to make those God has asked them to train for Him recognize that the highest service, and the most successful is that to which God calls us.

It will be well if we heed this note of warning, and listen to the appeal that is being made. The revival of the Christian Home is the great necessity in the religious world of to-day. We may organize as we will outside of the home, we may wear out our energies in active service in connection with the Church, but if the atmosphere in our own home is indifferent, not to say godless, we shall bring nothing in our hands when the Master calls us.

Literary Notes.

The October number of the Ladies' Home Journal contains the story of "How the Leopard Got His Spots," by Rudyard Kipling; while Ernest Seton-Thompson tells of the adventures of a cock sparrow in New York under the title, "A Fifth Avenue Troubadour." The first part of a love story, entitled "A Gentleman of the Blue Grass," is given, and the concluding chapters of the serial, "Aileen." The different departments are full of helpful articles on everything connected with the house. The Curtis Publishing Company, Philadelphia.

HARPER'S BAZAR for October is the Autumn Fashion Number and the chief articles in it are therefore about clothes. In the "Autumn Fashion Outlook" Miss Ashmore gives many helpful hints. Other articles of a similar nature are "Autumn Hats," "Autumn Outing Fashions," "Evening Gowns," "Silk Waists," "Winter Coats and Wraps," etc. William Dean Howells continues to write of "Some Heroines of Fiction," his subject this month being the heroines of J. W. DeForest. "A Pilgrimage" is a very pretty little story with the quaintest of illustrations. The several departments are as suggestive as usual. Harper and Brothers, New York.

THE OCTOBER number of Harper's Monthly Magazine opens with an article on "The Hotel of the Beautiful Star," the French "L'Hotel de la Belle Etoile," well written and well illustrated. "The Royal Tombs at Abydos" is an account of recent discoveries, by W. M. Flinders Petrie, D. C. L., LL. D. The fiction in this number is particularly strong. Henry James has a characteristic story entitled "The Beldonald Holbein," and Paul Leicester Ford a very delightful one called "Distinctly a Plight." "The Little Girl Who Should Have Been a Boy" is a touching sketch. Several other short stories and installments of the two serials go to make up an excellent number. We cannot omit mentioning Peter Newell's illustrated article, on "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland," written from an artist's standpoint. Harper and Brothers, New York.

In the "Fortnightly Review" for September W. H. Mallock writes the first of a series of papers on "Religion and Science at the dawn of the Twentieth Century." He assumes the role of an intellectual accountant and will try to examine and tabulate what either side has to say, so that the intelligent enquirer may see how the account really stands. Such an examination by such a man must certainly prove interesting, and we trust we may be able to say later on, helpful. The article "The Irish University Commission and University Education in Ireland" by Judge O'Connor Morris is a plea for what the writer claims is rightly due to Catholic Ireland. Lovers of books will find much that is interesting in "Book Collecting as an Investment," by W. Roberts, F. C. Schiller, in "Do Men Desire Immortality," seems to lean to the view that there does not exist the desire to probe into the mystery of death. He seems to forget, or does not understand, the condition of man, as also that there are other and better ways of learning more of immortality than through the Psychical Society of which he is Secretary and to which men have contributed only £2000 a year. "An Open Letter to Lord Roseberry" by Calchas calls upon the "lost leader" to avoid a too general popularity and to cultivate a little hatred. There are nine other articles in this interesting and valuable number of this magazine. Leonard Scott Publication Co., New York.

THE October number of Frank Leslie's Popular Monthly opens with an article by Earl Mayo on "The Texas Rangers," with numerous illustrations. "Maximite," by its inventor, is an interesting and instructive article. Rev. Chas. F. Goss writes "The Story of a Thief," and several other short stories complete the number. Frank Leslie Publishing House, New York.

"World Wide" is a weekly reprint of articles from leading journals and reviews reflecting the current thought of both hemispheres. This remarkable and most readable journal, published by Messrs John Dougall & Son, of the "Witness," has pushed its way, in a few months, beyond all expectation, chiefly owing to the goodwill of its rapidly-growing constituency. "World Wide" has found its place on the study table. Preachers, teachers, writers, and thinkers generally, have hailed it as a new and most welcome companion. As a pleasant tonic—a stimulant to the mind, "World Wide" has no peer—at the price, no equal among the journals of the day. Regular readers of "World Wide" are kept in touch with the world's thinking. Fifteen cents will bring this most interesting and valuable paper to the end of the year. Address all communications direct to the publishers, John Dougall & Son, "Witness" Building, Montreal.

A good man leaves an impress where one would least expect to find it. The tribute of the secular press to the late President McKinley, which has been given irrespective of party, is to the man, not the statesman. It is worth while living a life that carries such an impulse for good.

Those who harboured the expectation that Mr. Roosevelt would prove himself the special patron of a particular political faction are apparently doomed to bitter disappointment. In a conversation with some Southern Congressmen on Saturday, he stated deliberately that he was going to be President of the United States and not President of any section. "I do not," he suggestively remarked, "care for sections or for a policy conducted on sectional lines." If Mr. Roosevelt holds out to this ideal there cannot be any doubt, despite the annoyance its pursuit may cause in some quarters, that he will earn the respect of all that is best in the States and of the respectable of other nations, and that he will magnify the confidence already so generally reposed in his integrity, both by the bulk of his own people and by those in Europe.

Goodness Not Monotonous.

Mix the same leaven into white flour and Graham flour, and it does not make the same kind of bread. Mix the same gospel into different souls, and it does not make the same kind of saints. Race, nationality, sex, and personal temperament form the raw material for Christian character, and the product varies according to the material. A white saint and a black saint, a holy man and a holy woman, a Christian child and a Christian philosopher, may all shine with the same light to the eye of God, but to all other eyes they differ. And it is a good thing they do. The diversity of a hundred Christian minds is infinitely finer than the monotony of a hundred empty flower-pots,