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Notes of the Week.

THE establishment of a school in New York for teaching young women such special branches as phonography, telegraphy, book-keeping, cooking, sewing and type-writing is proposed by Mayor Grace. Admission to such a school, he thinks, should be from the grammar departments of the various grammar schools, and the practical effect would thus be to relieve to a large extent the yearly pressure upon the Normal College.

LAST week Sam Jones paid another visit to Toronto. He lectured in the Metropolitan Church on practical questions. His lectures abounded with characteristic sayings, many of them forcible and not a few that no known canon of good taste could include. His advocacy of temperance was certainly very powerful, and will doubtless be productive of good results. Though an admission fee was charged on each occasion, the building was crowded to its utmost capacity.

DR. M'GLYNN, pastor of St. Stephen's Catholic Church, New York, has been cited to appear at Rome to answer before the Pope certain charges brought against him by Archbishop Corrigan, for his campaign speeches in favour of Henry George for mayor, and for advocating his doctrine against the rights of property. His friends state that the opinions which Dr. McGlynn entertains are advocated by a number of eminent Catholic clergymen, and that he will not be deposed.

AT the Medical Students' Missionary Conference, held at the Y.M.C.A. building in New York, seventeen men, fifteen of them being medical students, signed a paper headed by the words, "I am willing and desirous, God permitting, to be a foreign missionary." A weekly consecration meeting will be held hereafter by those seventeen men at the Y.M.C.A. building on Wednesdays, and it is hoped and expected that a new interest in foreign medical missions may be thus aroused among medical students.

IN prosecuting their work in the Province of Quebec the Salvation Army encountered the opposition of the mob. This was effectually checked by the strict application of law. Now they have to encounter another form of opposition. Cardinal Taschereau issued a letter which was read in the Roman Catholic Churches, forbidding all Catholics, under pain of committing mortal sin, to attend the Salvation Army services, and enjoining upon them to purchase or accept no more of the Army's devotional publications, and to commit to the flames all such publications as they may already have in their possession.

A WRITER in the *North Carolina Presbyterian* says: In 1866 we had 823 ministers; licentiates and candidates together, 92; churches, 1,291; communicants, 68,664, and about 21,000 scholars in all our Sabbath schools. In 1886 we have 1,085 ministers; licentiates and candidates, 336; churches, 2,198; communicants, 143,743, and in our Sabbath schools we have 10,702 teachers, and 88,553 scholars; adding the teachers and pupils, the whole number is 99,665, lacking only 335 of being 100,000! More than four times the number reported twenty years ago. We have doubled our communicants and 6,415 more! and we believe in increasing our ministry.

LADIES of Toronto are taking an active part in municipal politics. They are not hampered by party lines, but are bent on securing good men for aldermen. "Temperance and Social Reform" are the objects they seek to promote. In several of the wards they already have effective organizations, and it is certain they will make their influence felt. They will support Mayor Howland for a second term, which he has every prospect of securing. An effort is being made to contest his claim, but as yet no candidate is in the field. The general impression is that Mr. Howland will obtain a preponderating vote over any one who may be induced to appeal to the electorate.

THE following story is told by the *New York Independent*: The late Charles Francis Adams (as is quite natural) grew a little tired of being introduced about, during his busy career, as the "grandson of John Adams, and the son of the great John Quincy Adams." At a political meeting at which he once spoke several prominent men observed casually that they had with them that day the son and grandson of a President, and when Mr. Adams was introduced, the chairman of the meeting said: "I am very glad that I can introduce to you to-day the grandson of President John Adams, and son of the great John Quincy Adams." Mr. Adams frowned, smiled and began his speech by saying: "The fact of my ancestry has been referred to several times during the evening. I am proud of my father and grandfather; but I wish it distinctly understood that I appear before you as myself, and not as the son and grandson of any man." He then went on and made one of his best speeches.

WE are not to conclude that any one thing or object in society is the chief one, the most important, the necessary one, before which all others must give place. Very earnest people, says the *Pittsburg United Presbyterian*, sometimes get filled with an idea or possessed with a new devotion, and then passionate in their wish to do good, declare that they alone are doing any good, or are giving their industries to worthy objects. Not only so, but they have a pity, and sometimes a disgust for the trifling people who refuse to agree with them, or consent to the same impetuous spirit of revolution they are exhibiting. The singleness and concentration are good; nevertheless, the claim that they alone are good is not a right one. There are dozens of questions in society requiring discussion and settlement, the difference between which, as to importance, it might be hard to detect. The broad view that recognizes them all is the right one. It preserves the balance of thought, and it saves excitable people from a temptation to extravagance and intolerance.

A MEETING of prominent persons took place last week at the Union League House, New York, to establish temperance coffee-houses throughout that city in order to counteract the influence of liquor saloons and bar-rooms, by affording places of resort for labouring people, so that they need not frequent drinking saloons for companionship with their fellows. Dr. Howard Crosby presided, and Frederick Gore, of London, addressed the meeting, setting forth the success which coffee-houses like those contemplated had met with in London and other cities of Great Britain. Judge Arnoux submitted a plan for organizing a

company with a capital of \$150,000 to begin the movement, and a committee was appointed to solicit subscriptions for shares. William E. Dodge, D. Willis James and Morris K. Jessup are on the committee. This is one of the most important practical methods for promoting the temperance cause in our cities. Poor labouring people there have no comfortable places to which they can resort, except the liquor saloons, which are always open for their accommodation; and it is idle to expect them to change their drinking habits, unless we can place them under different associations.

THE *Glasgow Christian Leader* cannot, by its worst enemy, be accused of unduly favouring Romanism. In its exposure of Romish errors it is outspoken and unflinching. There is no political "No Popery" cry at present in Great Britain, but this is how it deals with bigoted intolerance. The secretary of a Protestant workingmen's league somewhere was far left to himself or to the evil one when he objected to the subscription made for Father Damien and his poor lepers in the island of Molokai. When a young priest goes to live in a community of lepers, cutting himself off from the world, and exposing himself to frightful suffering of body and mind, every person who makes profession of Christianity should thank God for such wonderful heroism, and go about his own task with a new heat of devotion. When the priest himself becomes a leper, and some friends raise a little money for him and his flock, one would imagine that even the sturdiest Protestant might subscribe. Is it credible that anybody, not insane, could speak of Father Damien as a child of hell whose devotion is utterly unworthy of praise or even of respect—because he is "an idolatrous priest of an abominable system"? From such devilish Protestantism as this, good Lord deliver us! It is as abominable as the cynical atheism of Paul Bert, or the stupid *belises* of Mr. Bradlaugh and Mrs. Besant. And on the whole it does more harm. According to this wonderful "Protestant," it is "unscriptural" to have any sympathy with the heroism of a Roman Catholic. Does he know that if there is one thing more unscriptural, more unchristian than another, it is the mercilessness of phariseism?

THOUGH the evils complained of in the following from the *Interior* are not so conspicuous on this side of the border, not a few of our prominent educationalists have called attention to them: Albion W. Tourgee is preaching the gospel of "Rest" in our Western lyceums, and his showing of the wreck and ruin of our American life amid the rush and crash of competition is startling. If men choose to kill themselves by overwork, there is no way of hindering them. But there is a way of hindering the grinding of young brains into imbecility in our great public schools. There is scarcely a home in all this wide land—none, we are safe in saying, in the cities and villages in which the graded system prevails—scarcely a home in which there is not one little child that is undergoing torture by being drawn on the procrustean class bed. Parents everywhere know it, and complain of it—though they do not realize the evils and sufferings involved—and yet they drive and grind on year by year with increasing severity. The prize school of the State is regarded as an honour to the town, and as conferring high distinction upon its teachers. That prize school is the feeder of the lunatic asylums and the grave-yards. It kills both teachers and scholars, and those who are not killed are intellectually maimed for life. Two young ladies who sought employment of the writer of this, and who were asked why they did not continue the occupation of teaching, replied that it was impossible. One had gone so far in nervous ruin as to lose command of her mind; the other had lost the ability to sleep. Teaching in the graded schools is sooner or later death to a woman. What good is to be gained by precipitating the rush and crash of human nerves which storm through the world upon the children and their teachers? Shall we never learn mercy and sense?