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Editorial Jottings.

DEAR reader, pause a moment, and listen to the old tale, but none the less true because old: Time flies. On, on, ever on, never backward, never staying. Are the fleeting hours, with their golden opportunities, laying up for you a store of wealth which neither moth nor rust corrupts, nor thieves steal? Or are lost hours adding power to the dread voice which will to some—alas, to many—most assuredly speak as the door of eternity is reached, "Too late—ye cannot enter now!" Ah, walk circumspectly, i.e., walk with Christ, thus redeeming the time, and escaping the evil days.

THE trial of the Andover professors for a breach of trust in holding tenets contrary to the written creed of the seminary, which creed was really a compromise, and born of controversy, as, indeed, most all are, is another instance of the folly of men of one generation endeavouring to impose their narrowness on succeeding generations. Of course it is said that men have a right to say how their bequests should be used—a statement which we on scriptural grounds utterly repudiate. If the accident of birth, opportunity, or place, has placed wealth in a Christian man's hands, that wealth is not his own with which he may do as he likes—he has it in trust for the owner; that is, for God. It is the height of Pharisaical conceit for any man or little circle of men to act as though all the concentrated wisdom of the age were concentrated in their brains, and to think that they have a right to control the thoughts of future generations by locking up in certain lines what was never truly theirs. This we say, not out of sympathy with the tenet specially prominent in this controversy, for we have none, but against the apparently accepted but utterly false principle that a man with means is

under no law but his own whims in the disposition thereof.

APPROPOS of this folly of imagining ourselves to be wholly wise, and as illustrating the saying that the wisdom of to-day is the folly of to-morrow, there comes to us now some fresh light from the ancient monuments of Egypt. The fourth dynasty was the time when the Gizeh Pyramids were erected, and which point to great proficiency in mathematics and in building. The excavations carried on under Professor Maspero from 1881 to 1885 reveal some startling facts, new alike to savans and to the public. Funerary texts found in the pyramids of the fifth and sixth dynasties point to an inevitable inference that "not only must human sacrifice have once been practised in Egypt—a rite, indeed, which seems never to have become extinct in the country—but, as among the Polynesian islanders, it must have been accompanied by cannibalism." The highest civilization of the old heathen world side by side with the rudest barbarism.

THE advantage of Total Abstinence as a rule against even moderate drinking is nowhere more practically seen than in the mortality tables of life insurance societies. Forty-five years ago "The United Kingdom Temperance and General Provident Institution" was established in England, being the first to recognize the principle of keeping the total abstainers in a separate class. The experiment has proved a successful one; the results, after a few years' trial, were surprising and convincing. During the first five years of its existence the "United Kingdom Temperance and Provident Institution" issued 1,596 policies, and the average death rate was seven and a half per 1,000, while it ranged from thirteen to twenty-six in four other offices. There were, of course, other causes at