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NOTES OF THE MONTH.

THOSE who deplore, not without reason, the vulgar exaggerations of the trappings and the display of signs of woe, will learn with interest that at the recent funeral of Prince Henry of Battenburg the Princess of Wales and her daughters wore neither thick veils nor elaborate crape, but simple black dresses and capes of black astrachan.

It was a simple yet touching ceremonial, from the incoming of the royal yacht, with its royal burden, to the service in the little cruciform church of Whippingham, in the beautiful Isle of Wight. From the first minute-gun that told of the Blenheim's arrival, to the last sharp tribute volley and drummers' roll that followed the benediction above the coffin, all was the unostentatious, heartfelt expression of a natural human grief, of mother for son, wife for husband, children for father. It is these simple humanities that keep a great nation so loyally in touch with their Queen.

THAT New Zealand is foremost among the colonies in Imperial sentiment is shown by the message forwarded to Mr. Chamberlain by the Governor, the Earl of Glasgow, on January 24th :

"Following telegram received from Prime Minister: Resolution passed by New Zealand colonists at Auckland: 'Recent statesmanlike and patriotic conduct of Imperial Government with reference to Venezuela and Transvaal Republic has been such as to intensify loyal sentiments to the Queen of England, making us prouder than ever to belong to Empire of Great Britain.'"

Mr. Chamberlain replied promptly :

"I have received your telegram of 24th January. Convey cordial thanks of her

Majesty's Government to your Prime Minister and people of New Zealand for their message."

OUR own Countess of Aberdeen stands not alone among the wives of colonial Governors in good works. A terrible accident occurred on the Natal railway on the night of December 30, when between thirty and forty persons lost their lives through the overturning of a train crowded with fugitives—mostly women and children—from Johannesburg.

A Natal newspaper says that on the arrival of the first relief train, the first person noticeable in the train was Lady Hely Hutchinson, wife of the Governor of Natal, who, worn and weary, yet with sleeves tucked up and her apron spotted with blood, was attending to the wounded.

All through the night she had ministered to the sufferers, bathing their wounds and ministering to their wants.

By her kind and heroic service on this sad occasion her ladyship, who so willingly turned nurse, has won the hearts of the people of Natal.

Much is written of British colonial Governors, but little is told of their wives; yet, were the records published, the case of Lady Hutchinson would be found to be but an example of their kindness, their interest, and—when occasion calls—their instant response to the needs of the colony over which they preside.

THE advanced womanhood of England recently ran against a dead rock of old-type conservatism, and great was the resultant shock.

The London School Board nominated Miss Eve to represent it on the Council of Almoners of Christ's Hospital. To this the governors of the latter institute objected; and on being asked why, answered in stately way that "the Almoners were sufficiently old-fashioned as not to desire to see women on any more public bodies than was absolutely necessary."

Nevertheless, the Board determined to adhere to its appointment, and the validity of the proceeding of the stately old Almoners in objecting to the nominated representative of the School Board, simply because she is a woman, is to be determined by the Charity Commissioners.

O these troublesome Eves!

SO BRAZIL is to remain sovereign over Trinidad Isle. Great Britain has waived her claims, and the sea-begirt barren little place continues under control of the South American Republic.

Since it is fitted only for an intermediate cable station, no very valuable interests are involved on either side; but Britain's with-

drawal of a claim which she may or may not have recognized as unjust, but which she could easily have pressed, shows that she is not the rapacious and all-absorbing real estate monster which our friends across the border would fain represent her.

No country knows better when she may in honor and with due regard to her own defenses or extension, concede a claim; and none have shown a greater desire to maintain peaceful relations with foreign powers, than Great Britain under her present gracious sovereignty.

IN connection with women guilty of minor offences, the Rev. Phoebe Hanaford, of New York, is advocating the official appointing of women as an auxiliary police force. A small measure of vested authority, she avers, would do much to aid the slum sister in her work.

This woman minister, whose work among the New York tenements gives her knowledge of her subject, declares that any woman under the influence of liquor should be induced to leave the street and restrained from drinking until she is able to realize what she is doing. If pleading, good advice and kind words fail to accomplish this, then the slum sister should be able to use her official authority, and by compulsion remove the victim to some place of shelter, where she might recover her senses, and have the opportunity to do better laid before her.

Miss Hanaford believes that the exercise of force would rarely be necessary, since the showing of the badge of authority would be usually sufficient.

Other work, such as the protection of children and dumb brutes, the handling of disorderly boys and girls, aid and information to sick or distressed women, would all come within the scope of these auxiliary police,—indeed, Miss Hanaford considers the service they could render unlimited in variety.

THE New York *Sun*, in a recent editorial entitled "Spirit of Treason," takes exception to the newspapers and political critics in the United States who, during the recent crisis, favored the English attitude. It speaks of them as "degenerates," and declares them guilty of deliberate intent to destroy American patriotic sentiment. It asserts that there is an abnormal revulsion against national sentiment perceptible in some of the New York clubs, and declares that to take sides with England in such a controversy as the recent Venezuelan affair is traitorous.

The *Sun's* diatribe might apply with force in Canada.

We have, unfortunately, among us one, perhaps more, of honorable men who, actuated by principle, decry our country and advocate its political submerging.