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Notes of the Week.

THE special course of study for women in McGill University begins this week. It provides for the admission of any ladies desirous of attending one or two courses of lectures. These will include chemistry, botany, zoology, experimental physics, logic, metaphysics, English and rhetoric, as well as classics. Modern languages and mathematics will be open for those who are fitted to enter the classes in these subjects. These lectures are intended to serve the purpose hitherto provided for by the lectures of the Ladies' Educational Association.

IN various Canadian cities and towns the Salvation Army has been experiencing rather hard lines of late. Brutal attacks have been made on the soldiers as they were marching through the streets. These exhibitions of rowdism are simply disgraceful and ought to be repressed with a firm hand. Some may reasonably enough object to the methods of the Salvation Army, but that does not justify senseless onslaughts on those who seek to do good in the way they think right. One thing is in favour of the Army. Its members do not retaliate in kind. They have learned the lesson that they can overcome by non-resistance.

THE New Brunswick Sabbath School Association has held a very profitable and successful convention at Fredericton. Ministers and Sabbath school teachers of the various evangelical denominations took part in the proceedings. The Rev. George Bruce, of St John, read an admirable paper on "The Teacher's Self-Improvement for the Work." Among the officers of the Association are Rev. T. F. Fotheringham, President, and Rev. Neil McKay, one of the Vice-Presidents. The convention resolved, That we pledge our earnest effort in behalf of the temperance movement, and urge that the subject be carefully taught in our Sabbath schools.

ONCE more reckless disturbers of the peace in Belfast have engaged in disgraceful rioting. This time the police and military have acted with more firmness and determination and as a result a large number of the rioters have been apprehended. It is to be hoped that exemplary punishment will be meted out to them. Whatever the nominal religion of the rioters, they ought, without respect of persons, to receive a fair and speedy trial, and when convicted to have an opportunity to make the discovery that law and order must be respected. Sharp and decisive dealing at the first would have saved Belfast from having its good name tarnished by the disgraceful doings of the last few months.

SEVERAL Spanish regiments last week attempted a Republican revolution and most signally failed. Republican sentiments are by no means rare in Spain, but those holding them made no response to the appeal of the misguided military. A few lives were lost, but there was no serious fighting between the revolutionary soldiers and those who held to their allegiance. The suggestion is made that the uprising was not so much in favour of republicanism as a desperate attempt on the part of the officers, who saw no chance of promotion, to better their position by a general overturn. It is probable that the leaders of this abortive movement will be subjected to the severest penalties martial law can inflict.

SIR Wm. DAWSON, since his return from the British Association meeting at Birmingham, states that the Government of New South Wales offered a free passage to forty or fifty members of the association to attend a meeting to be held at Sydney, and the arrangement made was that if a sufficiently representative delegation could be obtained the invitation would be accepted, and those who go out will hold an accessory meeting in Sydney. This meeting will be held in January, so that it will not interfere with the regular meeting of the association in August or September.

her It is hoped, said Sir William, that the Canadian Government might send a delegation to Sydney on that occasion, which would serve to draw the Colonies together.

THE following resolution was passed at the Fourth Annual Convention of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of the Maritime Provinces, held at Windsor, recently. In view of the evils arising from the circulation of impure literature, and deploring the sentiment which would seem to demand it, resolved. That we, the Woman's Christian Temperance Union of the Maritime Provinces, respectfully ask the editors of all daily and weekly newspapers that reports in detail of criminal cases and confessions of depraved convicts may not be published in their columns. In the opinion of this Union the effect of such reading is demoralizing in its tendency, and not only as members of a Christian temperance union, but as mothers do we plead that such reports may be withheld for the sake of our young sons and daughters.

IN a reference to a communication concerning the Rev. G. Al Howie, the blind preacher, which recently appeared in THE CANADA PRESBYTERIAN, the *Christian Leader* remarks. Are the Canadian brethren who object to Mr. Howie simply on account of his blindness aware of the fact that one of the most highly-gifted and successful ministers of the Church of Scotland is blind? Have they ever heard of Professor Fawcett, the late Postmaster-General? Is it not incumbent on Christians above all men to encourage a brother who is so heavily afflicted? And can they not conceive of great and blessed compensations being provided both for the faithful blind minister and the congregation that accepts his services? We fear it is the writer of the letter to Mr. Howie, who tells him with brutal frankness "our vacancies do not want you," who is really blind.

BISHOP WORDSWORTH, of the Scottish Episcopal Church, in his charge at the annual Synod of Perth on the "Study, Use and Value of the Book of Common Prayer," criticised the inscription on the memorial to Jenny Geddes in St. Giles'. It is a bad omen for a nation, he said, when, in bestowing public marks of distinction, it confuses the first principles of right and wrong and crowns with honour what ought to be branded with infamy and disgrace. Instead of saying she "struck the first blow for freedom of conscience, which ended in the establishment of civil and religious liberty," it would have been more true to say that "it was the first act which led to the consummation whereby it was made penal to use the Book of Common Prayer." The good man is entitled to his opinion, but it is just probable that Jenny Geddes' fame will outlive the Bishop's.

THE essential difference between the scientist and the charlatan is finely illustrated by the bearing of Sir William Dawson and that of some who are persistent in their predictions of coming convulsions. In an interview the President of the British Association said, in answer to a reporter's query: Have not the recent earthquake convulsions been a striking verification of your opening address, Sir William?—It was one of those remarkable coincidences which sometimes happens, replied the great geologist. But I have no desire to be made to figure as a prophet, as some would have it appear. It was most remarkable, though, that at the very moment when I was speaking of the likelihood of such events they should occur. What is your view regarding the prediction of another startling earthquake this month?—There is no reason to believe that there will be such a repetition, as when such disturbances take place they are usually followed by a period of quiescence. But, mind, I do not predict this, as there can be nothing positively certain regarding these great convulsions. But as a general rule these great earthquakes give no reason for belief that others will follow, and I regard such a prediction as the one which I see has just been made as the greatest nonsense.

LAST week the twentieth annual meeting of the Ottawa Young Men's Christian Association was held. From the reports submitted it is evident that the Association is in a healthful and flourishing condition. The treasurer's report showed a very satisfactory state of affairs. The receipts during the year had amounted to \$2,135.49, with a balance on hand of \$6.12. The actual liabilities amounted to \$188.41, showing a decrease on last year. The report of the building committee referred to the purchase of the lot at the corner of Queen and O'Connor Streets for \$4,000, and to the new hall which would cost \$16,000. It was decided not to commence building until the full amount had been subscribed. The secretary's report gave a most exhaustive account of the work of the association during the past year, of the success which had attended the efforts of the active workers and of the encouraging prospects for the future. The secretary had visited many places on association business, chief among which was the Secretaries Convention at Harrisburg, Penn. Ninety-nine new members had been received, forty active and fifty-nine associate. The active membership now reached 411, besides which over 100 students availed themselves of the rooms. A well deserved tribute was paid Mr. Edward Whillams, Assistant-Secretary, for his unceasing efforts in behalf of the association. The following officers were elected: Jas. Gibson, President, re-elected; Geo. May, J. McMillan, N. S. Tarr, E. Seybold, S. S. Sinn and A. J. Stephens, Vice-Presidents; B. H. Teakles, Treasurer; E. L. Britain, Librarian; Gus A. Kuhring, Secretary; C. Falconer, A. Chisholm, W. Cairns, T. W. Kenny, Jun., H. S. Campbell, E. Living, F. A. Coffin, D. D. McPherson, T. Crawley, G. S. May, R. McLellan, W. Little, Geo. Pennock, J. Thorne, W. J. Topley, H. A. Botterell, W. S. Odell, W. R. Stroud, W. A. Hunton and J. A. Monroe, Directors.

ON the subject of Christian Unity a correspondent writes to the *Montreal Witness*: This subject, which was so freely discussed in the columns of your widely-circulated paper some months ago, is again to the front by the noble utterances of the Bishop of Algoma, the Rev. Dr. Sullivan, so well known and deservedly popular here as former rector of St. George's Church. The Rev. J. Edgar Hill, of St. Andrew's, representing the grand old historic Church of Scotland in this city, has also preached on this subject and exchanged pulpits with one whose church bears the name of Erskine. Let us hope this is only a preliminary step toward his joining the Presbyterian Church in Canada. It is, however, currently reported that the good Bishop of Algoma, at the missionary meeting held the other evening, gave utterance to the following words: That as "Bishop of Algoma he was constantly in receipt of letters from parties who had been brought up in the Mother Church, and were now subject to the ravages of Methodism, Presbyterianism, Agnosticism any other isms." Now it is to be hoped that Bishop Sullivan has been misunderstood, or was indulging in a little pleasantry. If anything is to come of this union, so much desired by very many in the Episcopal Church, there must be a little more give on the part of the Church of England. It is hardly to be expected that the other denominations can give up everything and simply go into the Episcopal church; the so-called dissenters and Presbyterians have much that the liberal-minded and evangelical portion of the Church of England admire and would willingly adopt; the union otherwise might be the lion and the lamb lying down together, but the lamb unfortunately inside the lion. However, let us go on and strive to bring about a union, and thus, and thus alone, can the united Churches evangelize this country from Atlantic to Pacific, and so have live healthy churches in every hamlet, village, town and city, instead of, as at present is too often the case, poverty-stricken, ill-paid ministers of the Gospel, struggling Churches, perhaps three trying to do duty where one is all that should be required, and so add to the happiness of all lovers of unity.