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Toronto, Feb. 17, 1898

NOTES AND COMMENTS.

A hopeful ring ran through Sir Oliver Mowat's address to the Medical Students on Saturday. The subject was Sir Oliver Mowat "Evidences of Christianity" chosen on Christianity. at the special request of the students. One notable passage was devoted to the hold of Christianity on the present age. He argued that the contention that Christianity was a fable and belief in it rapidly dying out was as false as it was foundationless. There never had been a time when so many eminent men were strong believers in Christianity as to-day. The fact that so many great and good men were believers in Christianity did not prove it to be true; but it effectually meets the assertion of the agnostics. Christianity was steadily progressing; a century ago the number of Christians was estimated at 200,000,000, to-day the estimated number was 400,000,000. A great increase had also taken place in the number of organizations working for the cause of Christ, while the amount of energy exerted in the cause and the spiritual enthusiasm which existed was unparalleled in the history of the world.

By the death of Mr George Maclean Rose, one of the most prominent temperance and social reformers of Death of a Tem- Canada has passed away. Mr. Rose perance Reformer. was a native of Caithnessshire and settled in Canada many years ago. A printer by trade his native taste for literature was easily indulged and both as a writer and publisher he served his country well. The temperance cause had no truer friend and during the best part of his active life he brought the influence of wise counsel and sterling example and practical ability

to its aid. As a citizen he was honoured, and his death will be sincerely and widely mourned.

We are pleased to draw attention to the report of successful work accomplished by the Tract Society last The Tract month. The Colporteurs sold 180 Society. Bibles, and 1,221 volumes of religious literature in carrying on their work among the lumber camps and new settlements in the back lands. Rev. Dr. Moffat is busily engaged addressing meetings and directing the good work, having delivered thirty addresses during January, a record probably unequalled in the experience of any other veteran worker in Canada. Mr. Bone is prosecuting his work in western and Mr. Potter in eastern Ontario. The Society deserves well of the Christian people.

Queen's Alumni Conference brought together many prominent ministers of the church who revere Queen's Queen's Alumni University as their Alma Mater. Conference. And the loyalty which is so marked a trait of Queen's men was in evidence throughout the entire proceedings. The topics of the conference were of wide range and variety and the programme, as a whole, was consequently valuable as well as interesting and comprehensive. In addition to the subjects of close theological bearing, there were papers on public and social questions such as Professor Shortt's paper on "The Social Life of the Canadian People," which elicited an admirable discussion touching the national impulses of the people, and other matters. But of course the theological subjects were in the ascendant as far as the clergymen were concerned, and admirable contributions by able speakers never failed at all the Sessions.

The Board of the Halifax Presbyterian College is proposing to make an addition to their building which shall Pine Hill contain a Library, Reading Room and two class rooms. Plans have been advertised for, in the hope that they may be able to proceed during the coming summer with the erection of the building. Our brethren in the East are to be congratulated on such an evidence of prosperity in their educational work

The sixteenth year of the Christian Endeavor Society which closed recently has been the best year of all. Christian Abroad it has seen the inauguration of vor Progress a United Society for India, Burma and Ceylon, the establishment of an Endeavor paper for India and of a number of Unions in South and North India. In South Africa the movements have received a great impetus. Great Britain has passed the 5,000 line; and from all the English colonies come reports of progress. The year shows an increase of 5,000 in the number of societies and of 250,000 in the membership.

Two missionaries, sent by the Presbyterian Home Mission Board of the United States to the Klondike, Mission Work report their arrival and give a vivid in the Yukon. picture of the difficulties of the situation. They were the only American missionaries to get