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NOTES OF THE WEEK.

THE Rev. Prof. Milligan, Aberdeen, lecturing lately in St. Giles', Edinburgh, the "Christian Leader" informs us, on the Church of the second and third centuries, said that if their views regarding the oneness of the officers represented by the designations bishop and presbyter were now adopted, then there would be a foundation laid for a reconciliation between Presbytery and Episcopacy which would produce a far larger amount of blessing to the land than any reconciliation of the different branches of the Presbyterian Church. Ah yes! To be sure!

THE success of the Temperance Coffee House Association has suggested other ventures of a philanthropic character. Last week a number of ladies whose interest in Christian and benevolent work is widely recognized, met in Shaftsbury Hall to devise means for establishing a coffee-house for the exclusive use of women, & to justify those employed in the various industries of the city. The promoters of the enterprise very sensibly contemplate providing means for the amusement and recreation of those to whom such an institution would be a boon.

THERE are some stalwart Presbyterians living yet, the "Christian Leader" says that the Rev. Prof. John Rogers, in his lecture at the opening of the present session of the Belfast college on the "Old Paths," smote "strolling instructors" hip and thigh. Various signs point to the speedy termination of this role of special evangelists, who are without commission and without responsibility; and when any of these become "fierce for work" in the future, they would be compelled to pass by the British churches and visit the heathen in order to be gratified.

A SHORT time ago, the swindle known by the name of grave-yard insurance was practiced in Buffalo and in some parts of Pennsylvania. Another group of infamous wretches have been discovered playing the same game at Fall River where it is said there has been collusion between the medical examiners, agents, and others for two years in a grave-yard insurance scheme. Broken-down drunkards, consumptives, and unhealthy persons, have been insured for sums ranging from \$1,000 to \$5,000, and physicians, agents, and others would hold policies till the death of the insured and pocket the insurance, or sell the policies to rum-sellers, who would give the victims enough drink to hasten death, and then collect the insurance. A suspected physician and agent have fled.

FOR two or three years past at the season when navigation closes, public attention is directed to the need of careful and thorough inspection of the machinery and hulls of lake vessels. It was supposed that during this year the record of fatal shipping disasters would be less saddening than for years past. The Inspection Acts recently passed have been in force during the season now closed, yet there has been no diminution in the number of lives lost. It is only too evident that much is still taken for granted. In too many cases ordinary and reasonable precautions are neglected. The way in which lives are exposed is fool-hardy and presumptuous. The loss of life on the Princess Louise was not unavoidable. Still less reason was there for exposing men's lives on the canvas-bottomed "Enterprise" to the danger of a storm on Lake Huron. We need a Canadian Plimsoll to sweep the floating coffins off the lakes.

SEVERAL months ago considerable attention was paid to the movements of a man named Fleming who came originally from Peterborough. He was engaged in obtaining large sums of money from greedy but unsuspecting people under pretence of investing it for them in stock and produce speculations. Many people in Canada were badly nipped by Fleming's audacious scheme. For their gratification, as well as for the warning of other rogues and fools it is satisfactory that

he and his associate have been brought to justice. John Fleming and Frank L. Loring, composing the firm of Fleming and Merriam, have been convicted of swindling. They advertised to do a commission business on the Board of Trade, and it is estimated that they collected from gullible people \$1,000,000, which they pretended to be using in speculations. Several large dividends kept the trap baited. The penalty is \$500 fine and imprisonment. President Arthur need have no apprehension that indignant Canadians will clamour for a commutation of the sentence.

FROM the time of the advent of the Salvation Army in Kingston, an Episcopal clergyman, the Rev. Dr. Wilson, has taken an active and sympathetic part in the work of that peculiar organization. If he saw his way conscientiously to do so there is not much ground for objecting to the course pursued by him. The methods of the Salvation Army are very questionable from several standpoints, but it is evident in many cases that its efforts in raising the fallen have been attended with most gratifying success. In his own church many people questioned the wisdom of Dr. Wilson's procedure. Lately, however, he attended an all-night meeting, at which the communion was observed. This last action of Dr. Wilson has scandalized still larger numbers, and he was relieved from his ministerial duties in St. George's for three months. This has been followed by an intimation from the dean of the cathedral that his services are dispensed with altogether. The persecution cry has been raised. If it can be called persecution at all, it is of a very mild type.

THE rose-pink exponent of Catholicism Monsignor Capel has lately been telling New Yorkers what he knows about home and marriage. The personal assertion of the grand Monsignor will go a long way with ignorant people. The talented lecturer, however, should remember that even credulity has its limits. A brief outline of his lecture on "Home" represents him as mixing up truth and falsehood in this preposterous fashion: It is stated as if it were an axiom that virtue goes hand-in-hand with knowledge and vice with ignorance, but I don't believe it to be true. The most learned country in the world is Germany, and Scotland is second, and yet in the matter of morals Scotland is the worst nation in the world, Sweden second and Germany third. It is not that knowledge begets viciousness, but mere knowledge of the head cannot prevent it. Scotchmen are not a demonstrative race, but if the brilliant lecturer ventured on such a statement publicly in Edinburgh or Glasgow, he would receive a reply that would astonish him. He has carefully shunned giving specifications of his charge, but that must be an awfully immoral country that carried out the advice of John Knox and established a school in every parish. The morals of Italy or Spain would not be seriously injured by a little more learning.

GREAT efforts are being made to prevent the hanging of O'Donnell, the murderer of Carey, the informer. These efforts are for the most part purely histrionic. It is significant that all endeavours in his behalf in Great Britain are confined to one section alone, the followers of Parnell and the counsel engaged by them. The most ostentatious displays of mock sympathy come from the Irish American element in the United States, and those whose political existence, such as it is, depends on the Irish vote. There are two powerful motives at the bottom of this agitation in behalf of O'Donnell. There may not be much sympathy for him personally, but there is intense hatred of England prompting home remonstrants. The handling of skirmishing and other patriotic funds has its casual advantages, and there are Irish-American patriots who have adhesive palms. From the blustering denunciations of Carey's infamous treachery, poor O'Donnell, like hundreds of others, imagined that in slaying the informer he would obtain imperishable glory. To be hanged as a common murderer is, look at it how you will, a very hard and unavailing fact. There is neither gain nor good in glorifying murder,

and it is necessary that so long as capital punishment is the law of the land it should impartially be meted out to the murderer. It is wrong and undesirable that a premium should be put upon assassination.

YEARS ago the Presbytery of Paris either assumed or had bestowed upon it the honourable distinction of being the model Presbytery. The descriptive epithet is merited. The brethren not only attend with promptness and efficiency to the regular business coming before them, but they have occasionally time to discuss subjects of popular interest. The discussion by church courts of practical moral and educational questions will have a beneficial result. The Paris Presbytery at its last meeting considered the claims of University College to further legislative aid. The Rev. F. R. Beattie, of Brantford, moved, seconded by Rev. W. A. McKay, the following resolutions—"That whereas the question of the proper equipment and support of University College and the University of Toronto by legislative grant is now under discussion; and whereas, several of the denominational colleges of the Province have in various ways expressed their intention to oppose such grants, except on certain conditions; Therefore resolved, that, while this Presbytery cherishes the best wishes for these denominational colleges and their work, yet at the same time the Presbytery is of the opinion that the true interest of higher education in the Province, of our university system in particular, demands the proper equipment and liberal support of our provincial institutions in Toronto by the Ontario Legislature, as their needs may from time to time require." It was moved in amendment by the Rev. W. T. McMullen, seconded by Mr. Allison, elder: "That the Presbytery, while in favour of the maintenance and proper equipment of the Toronto University and University College, at the same time does not feel called on to express judgment in fuller or more explicit terms at present." On the vote being taken, sixteen voted for the motion and seven for the amendment. The yeas and nays being taken, fifteen voted yea and eleven nay.

WEEKLY HEALTH BULLETIN.—The weather of the week has, as has been remarked for several weeks past, been of a very unsteady character. Barometric pressure has fluctuated, though not with extreme variations. The temperature has on the whole been considerably higher than the normal, while the humidity has been excessive. The humidity of the air was below the average, although copious rains had fallen in many localities. A remarkable fact in this connection is stated by Dr. Ballard, in a report of the sickness for twelve years in St. Mary, Islington, viz.: "That in winter, on the whole, the years with the greatest average humidity were those with the least sickness; and that on the other hand rain fell more frequently in sickly winters than in mild ones." It is, in fact, the bearing of which on disease is well worthy of consideration, viz., that humidity of the atmosphere by no means corresponds with the periods of greatest rainfall. It will be, therefore, remembered that while trees may not increase the absolute rainfall, they yet seem in a marked degree to increase and regulate the atmospheric humidity. Such humidity is useful in preventing extreme changes of temperature, and hence ensuring danger from cold. We are not surprised then to find again reported an unusually small amount of sickness for the season of the year. Bronchitis is somewhat less in amount than last week; but Influenza has made a great advance, increasing from 3.0 to 7.1 per cent. of the total diseases. Rheumatism has likewise made a rapid advance in lateral distribution, appearing in nine of the Districts. It has similarly very considerably advanced in percentage degree of prevalence. Fever, Intermittent, has somewhat decreased, but Typhoid or Enteric has remained stationary. Amongst the contagious Zymotics, Scarlatina is the only one which has shown any tendency to advance, but it has noticeably increased. Whooping Cough and Diphtheria have remained stationary; while Mumps and Measles have for the time being dropped from the list of the twenty most prevalent diseases.