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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

A PARTIAL solution of the medical education of women question is likely to be arrived at in a practical way at a no distant date. An agitation has been commenced for the establishment of a ladies' medical college in Toronto, and it is thought a commencement on a small scale will be made to open a college in the fall. A lady practitioner in Toronto thinks of donating \$10,000 to further the project.

THE Irish Sunday Closing Bill has been re-enacted in the Imperial Parliament. Before its first passage it was strenuously opposed. So great, however, have been the benefits resulting from the enforcement of the Act, that this time no difficulty was experienced in obtaining for it the assent of the Legislature. Its provisions have in some instances been made more definite, and in its operations the five towns previously exempt are now included.

THE rapid advance the temperance movement in England is remarkable. London medical publications assert that since October, 1880, a million people have adopted the blue ribbon, and over half a million have signed the pledge. It is not only among one class of the English people that this progress in temperance principles is observable. An influential meeting was held in London lately, at which twenty-one abstaining mayors of cities and towns took part.

IN connection with the Celtic Chair in Edinburgh University the Halifax "Presbyterian Witness" says: "We have the greatest pleasure in learning that Rev. John McKinnon, late of Hopewell, and of Georgetown, P.E.I., has been appointed to the Chair of Celtic Literature in the University of Edinburgh. For many years Mr. McKinnon was a most faithful and efficient minister of the Presbyterian Church in these Provinces. Two years ago he proceeded to Edinburgh where he has laboured as assistant to Dr. MacLachlan of the Free Church. He will fill the Celtic Chair with honour to himself and to the satisfaction of the patrons of Gaelic literature.

THE Boston Monday Lecture course for 1883 has been completed. It has been of more than ordinary interest, on account of the Rev. Joseph Cook's recent trip around the world. He went with his eyes wide open and returned with extended knowledge, the result of accurate observation. His latest lectures have treated of subjects of vital interest to the cause of Christianity. Those who were privileged to listen to them enjoyed a rare privilege. Their perusal cannot fail to be very profitable and instructive. At the last lecture of the course the Rev. James Jolly, of Chalmers Territorial Church, West Port, Edinburgh, took part in the devotional exercises.

THE first instance of a non-commissioned officer of the line being promoted for services in the Egyptian campaign is that of Sergeant Thomas Souter of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, who has been promoted to a commission as lieutenant in the Black Watch. It may be mentioned that Lieutenant Souter was one of the batch of non-commissioned officers specially mentioned in Lord Wolseley's last despatch as having distinguished themselves during the campaign, and more particularly at the storming of Tel-el-Kebir. This is also the first instance in which any non-commissioned officer of the Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders has been promoted to a combatant commission since the days of the Crimean campaign.

THE death of Peter Cooper the well-known New York philanthropist occurred in that city last week. He had reached the advanced age of ninety-two. Like many of the prominent business men of America he enjoyed few educational advantages in his youth. Though occasionally influenced by absurdities, he was shrewd and intelligent in business matters and after engaging in many enterprises he amassed a handsome fortune. He was the Greenback candidate for

the Presidency in 1876, but the vote cast for him was inconsiderable. The Cooper Institute, with its free classes, lectures and library, is an immense boon to the people of New York, many of whom avail themselves of its advantages. Its erection and endowment will continue to be Peter Cooper's most enduring monument.

NOTWITHSTANDING the great demand for whiskey the supply in the United States exceeds the requirements of the market. The producers of this destructive agent do not relish the idea of paying the duties to which it would be subjected if retained longer in bonded warehouses. They have hit on the device of sending it into Canada, whence they could re-import it as the state of the market required. Canadian distillers thinking this would be to great a favour to bestow on their American co-workers, went to Ottawa to present their views to the Government. The American authorities are prepared to allow a barefaced evasion of its excise duties, by permitting the whiskey to be sent into Canada, and immediately returned to the United States duty free. The Canadian Government, however, very properly decline to be a party to such a questionable mode of procedure.

IT appears from a return, moved for by Mr. Foster, and laid on the table of the House of Commons last week by the Minister of Customs, that the total value of the spirituous liquors imported into Canada from 1868 to 1882, inclusive of both years, was \$27,766,308; the value of the quantities entered for consumption was \$25,067,803; amount of duty, \$22,003,350.23. During the same period 54,993,866 gallons of spirits were manufactured in the country; number of gallons entered for consumption, 49,743,240; duty collected, \$42,130,423. For the purpose of manufacturing, 86,788,405 lbs. of grain, 74,965 gallons of molasses, and 2,201,209 lbs. of sugar used. Of malt liquors, 128,495,494 gallons were produced, 399,927,788 lbs. of malt were used in consumption, and \$226,352 was collected in duty, exclusive of the malt duty. The heaviest tax Canadians have to bear.

OCCASIONAL though infrequent glimpses into the dreary monotony of conventual life are afforded to the people. A very sad case at Montreal is now attracting attention. A young and accomplished lady is immured involuntarily in one of the many religious houses with which the Province of Quebec is so amply provided. She has entered on her twenty-second year, and now finds that the religious fervour under which she sought conventual seclusion has passed away. Family affections have re-asserted their strength, and she and her relations have made repeated and earnest appeals to the ecclesiastical authorities for her release. Hitherto urgent and plaintive cries have been in vain. There is something inhuman in a system that relentlessly tramples on the finer feelings of the heart, and ruthlessly breaks family ties.

AT a gathering in the West Parish Church, Inverness, recently, the Rev. Gavin Lang, late of Montreal, expressed himself as being in favour of the introduction of instrumental music in churches. He did not know, he said, whether it would be agreeable to the parishioners of the West Parish Church that they should have an organ introduced into the services, but they would see that in a great many other parish churches in Scotland organs were being introduced, and he thought they had been found of help in the service of praise. Perhaps he was treading on dangerous ground by touching on such a subject in the heart of the Highlands. He had not always been of the same mind, but his experience in Canada had taught him that instrumental music was of great service in conducting public worship. The great mistake of the organ worship was that in some cases it was carried too far and drowned the voice of the people, but as a director of music it was decidedly of assistance.

THE "Scotch" psalms, that compilation produced by England 233 years ago, and to which Scotland is

still so much attached, have considerably exercised the hymn-book committee of the Presbyterian Church of England. The course they have finally adopted is as follows: In their forthcoming volume of "Church Praise" an edition is printed which includes the venerable collection in its entirety. In another edition there is a selection from them of those most frequently used in public worship; and they also give portions from the Bible Psalter for chanting, being guided in this by so high an authority as Sir Herbert Oakeley, professor of music in the University of Edinburgh. The music was placed under the care of Dr. E. J. Hopkins, organist of the hon. society of the Inner and Middle Temple, who promised to make it "the very best book" with which he has been connected, and for the last eighteen months he has been at work to make his promise good. The arrangement of the hymnal is mainly that of the apostolic and the Nicene creeds.

A STRIKING illustration of the instability of worldly greatness is found in the fact that while the silver wedding fêtes were proceeding at Berlin the daughter of an Emperor died in the most abject poverty near Cologne, and was buried by the communal authorities. She was unmarried, and lived in a wretched room, hung round with portraits of the Bonapartes. She was a daughter of the first Napoleon, and was born in 1811 in the palace of the Archbishop of Cologne. William III. was her godfather, and she received the title of Countess de Falkenberg. She was brought up at Montjoie at the expense of her father, and then placed in a convent in Italy, which she left when about thirty years of age. Some say she was too fond of luxury; others that she was too generous; but at all events she soon got through a considerable property, and returned to Cologne penniless at the age of fifty. A prominent citizen allied to Napoleon III., but no notice was taken. She, poor thing, dropped her title, and earned a miserable pittance by needle work, supplemented by a small allowance from a rich family living near the Rhine, who claimed left handed descent from Jerome Napoleon, King of Westphalia.

WEEKLY HEALTH BULLETIN.—A reference to the Weather Report for the week shows that not only has there been an unusually slight barometric pressure, but also that the amount of rain has been almost none, and the air has been bright and unusually cold for the season. As a result of the weather for the past week, Bronchitis has resumed its position of the first disease in degree of prevalence, Influenza having perceptibly receded. Pneumonia has advanced, but in a less degree than Bronchitis, while Neuralgia and Rheumatism hold much the same position as they did last week. Amongst fevers, Intermittent maintains its hold in spite of any increase in other diseases in its three favourite districts. The prevalence of winter Diarrhoea, which has been previously commented upon, and which has likewise been noticed by other Boards of Health, shows this week a spread in its area of prevalence, although its absolute degree of prevalence remains much the same as before. Its persistence in District VI., bordering on Lake Ontario, is quite remarkable, it amounting to 5.7 per cent. in a total of 773 reported cases of diseases. Amongst Zymotic diseases the advance of Measles, remarked upon in several recent Reports, is enormous, it amounting to 10 per cent. of the total diseases reported. Its infectiousness remarked upon last week shows itself most markedly in this way, as the little regard paid to its presence in a family makes this a centre from which it is spread rapidly in every direction. Along with this fact, it is, however, pleasing to note the retrogression of other contagious diseases, such as Scarlatina and Diphtheria. Smallpox, which has frequently been noticed to be present with Measles, is reported to have broken out in a town in Central Ontario. The urgency of vaccination precautions in this connection has been frequently commented upon; but attention is again directed to its preventive influence in this disease. Erysipelas this week appears to have receded slightly from its position of last week.