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## NOTES OF THE WEEK.

STATISTICS disclose the fact, that of every ten children born in England and Wales, less than seven ever reach their twentieth year. In France only one half of the girls and boys who are born attain that age, and Ireland falls even below this standard of juvenile healthfulness.

THE Czar of Russia is to be crowned after the closing of the National Fair at Moscow, in May. It is believed that the Nihilists are concentrating in Moscow, preparing for an outbreak during the fair. The line of the St. Petersburg and Moscow Railway is being searched for a mine, of whose existence some captured Nihilists gave information.

BABU KESHUB CHUNDER SEN has been obliged to leave Calcutta for a change of air. His recent anniversary address, delivered when he was hardly able to be out at all, was on the subject of the Trinity. The Bengal "Christian Herald," which takes an extremely favourable view of it, gives an epitome that makes it substantially a Christian statement of doctrine.

HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW, the poet, died at his residence in Cambridge, Mass., on the 24th ult., in the 76th year of his age. The immediate cause of his death was peritonitis. The funeral took place from his residence on the 26th. After the interment, in Mount Auburn Cemetery, a memorial service was held in Appleton Chapel, Harvard College, which was largely attended.

THE village of Bertrola, near Turin, in Italy, has renounced Romanism and accepted the Protestant faith. The Archbishop suspended the priest and closed the church against the 2,000 parishioners. The indignant villagers then invited the evangelical ministers of Turin to come and expound the Word of God to them, which they have continued to do since early in January.

MR. HOLLOWAY, of England, in memory of his deceased wife, has endowed at Egham an institution for the higher education of women. The college buildings are palatial in size. The principal is to be a woman, and qualified female physicians are to reside at the college. Mr. Holloway has conveyed to the trustees a sum of \$400,000. The students are to be allowed to choose their own places of worship.

On a recent Sabbath there was a public disturbance in Exeter, England, when a detachment of the Salvation Army undertook to march through the town in procession. The mayor had previously issued a notice forbidding the procession, on the basis of sworn statements that such demonstration would lead to a breach of the peace. The Army was pelted with stones and mud by a rabble. The police broke the procession up and arrested the captain.

DR. FLEMING STEVENSON, of Dublin, is to be next Duff lecturer. This lectureship was founded in memory of the late Dr. Duff, and the trustees belong to all the evangelical churches. They include Lord Polwarth, Dr. Andrew Thomson, Dr. Lindsay Alexander, Dr. Marshall Lang, Rev. Robert Gordon, Mr. Pirie Duff, and others. The appointment is made for four years. Dr. Stevenson will deliver his lectures in 1884, and publish them in 1885.

A NOVEL and praiseworthy movement has been inaugurated in connection with the printing and publishing works of Messrs. Nelson, of Edinburgh, the object of which is to found an institute for the improvement and entertainment of the employees, who number 600. A lending library, technical lectures, and also lectures on health, a gymnastic club, a sewing-class for the girls under the superintendence of Mrs. William Nelson, and a provident fund, are among the features.

At the recent meeting of the Presbytery of Manitoba, a resolution was passed instructing the Presbytery's Foreign Mission Committee "to meet at the earliest possible date, and communicate with similar committees of the Episcopal, Methodist and other Churches, to take united action in laying forcibly before the Government the present state of the Indians, and the necessity of compelling residence on their reserves, so as to remove them from the temptations to drunkenness and other vices which beset them in the neighbourhood of cities and towns."

THE Society for the Organization of Charity in Philadelphia, through an arrangement with the Pennsylvania Railroad and its own wood-yard, has supplied employment to all able-bodied men desiring work. In the Fifth Ward a regular shirt-making bureau has been opened, in which sixty-five women have already been trained into good seamstresses, and their families have become independent of further charitable aid through their ability to support themselves. These women receive good wages, and the shirts meet with ready sale to the trade.

THE Belfast "Witness" of March 17th says:—"Patrick's Day has come again, the only Saint's day we know of that is kept on the anniversary of a death, not of a birth. Another St. Patrick would be needed to cleanse our land of the evil spirits that have taken up their abode in so large part of it, as he is said to have cleansed it of the serpents. Whether he did as much for us as legend ascribes to him we know not. But that he was a good man, and an earnest propagator of the truth, his own writings abundantly testify, and it is well to keep such men in remembrance and follow their faith."

By her descent from Edward III., Queen Victoria is Duchess and Countess Palatine of Lancaster, and the property which goes with the title is in addition to the civil list granted by Parliament in lieu of the hereditary revenues of the Crown. This estate is not all in Lancashire, but includes some valuable property in London. The revenue is exempt from parliamentary control, but an account of the receipts and expenditures must be laid before Parliament annually. The account for the year 1881 shows that the Queen was the richer last year from her duchy by \$43,000, though, in common with her subjects, she suffered from arrears of rent and allowances to tenants.

SPEAKING at a meeting of the Scottish Reformation Society, held in Edinburgh last month, the Rev. Dr. Begg referred to the state of Ireland, and remarked that our rulers would discover by-and-by that what they had to contend against, and what was baffling their efforts, is Popery. In proof of his contention he pointed to the Protestant districts of Ireland, where everything was found well, while in the Catholic districts everything was out of joint. Dr. Begg also combated the notion which prevails in some quarters that the Romish system is now meek, and mild, and weak, reminding his hearers that Rome never changes, that her claim is infallibility, and that to admit change would be to confess that her foundations had given way.

"ANYTHING," says the "Christian Leader," "may be proved from statistics. The latest theory deduced from them is one, started by an American bishop of the Romish Church, who informs the world that the prevalence of suicide is a natural result of the spread of Protestantism! A Protestant, according to this bishop, is twice or even thrice as suicidally inclined as a Roman Catholic. By way of proving this, he points to the Prussian figures, according to which the suicides among Protestants are 187 per million, while among the Romanists they are only sixty-nine. But in Galicia, on the other hand, the proportion is sixteen Protestants to forty-five Romanists; and this fact the American bishop finds it convenient to ignore. A scientific investigation would probably show that theological considerations do not really enter into the

solution of the problem to the extent which our American friend supposes."

LETTERS from Paris say that the movement for separation of Church and State is gaining strength in France. Upwards of 100 deputies have assured M. Boysset of their willingness to support his proposition for the repeal of the Concordat. If M. Boysset's motion should be adopted, the result would be the suppression of the budget of public worship after this year, and the putting of all religions on a separate and independent footing, and Catholic bishops and priests would be no more to the State than the Rabbis, or even the ministers of the Free Churches. M. de Freycinet is strongly opposed to the abolition of the Concordat, and desires to have it maintained as the best thing possible for France. In the debate which has taken place on the motion, some contended that it was an international treaty and could not be abrogated by France without previous negotiations with the Vatican. The majority, however, seem to hold that it is only a French law, and can be repealed whenever France is tired of it.

PART IV. of Inspector Langmuir's Report deals with "Hospitals and Charitable Institutions aided by Provincial Funds." The hospitals in receipt of grants from the Provincial Government are as follows: in Toronto, the General Hospital; in Hamilton, the City Hospital; in Kingston, the General Hospital and the Hôtel Dieu; in Ottawa, the County of Carleton General Protestant Hospital, the Roman Catholic General Hospital, and the House of Mercy Lying-in Hospital; in London, the General Hospital; in St. Catharines, the General and Marine Hospital; in Guelph, the General Hospital and St. Joseph's Hospital; at Pembroke, the General Hospital. The Houses of Refuge aided by the Province are fifteen in number, three being situated in Toronto and vicinity, two in Hamilton, two in London, two in Kingston, two in Ottawa, one in Guelph, one in St. Catharines, one in St. Thomas, and one in Dundas. Of the other institutions coming under the Charity Aid Act, twenty-five are orphanages, whereof eight are situated in Toronto, four in Hamilton, three in Kingston, four in Ottawa, two in London, and one each in St. Catharines, St. Agatha, St. Thomas and Fort William. The remaining institutions on the aid-receiving list are Magdalen Asylums, two of which are in Toronto, and one each in Hamilton, Ottawa and London. The system on which appropriations are made to these institutions is somewhat intricate, but quite reasonable, the amount of the grants being made to depend partly on the work done and partly on the support given from sources other than Provincial. The following are the grants for the year: Hospitals, \$44,832.44; Refuges, \$19,942.11; Orphanages, \$11,536.11; Magdalen Asylums, \$1,207.86; total, \$77,518.52. It is evident from the reports that these institutions, though not strictly Provincial, are under very thorough inspection. Taking this into account, along with the still more exact and systematic supervision of institutions entirely under Government control, it can easily be understood that the work of inspection is a most laborious one, as well as one that requires extensive knowledge, mature judgment, extraordinary energy and untiring vigilance. The present Inspector possesses these qualities in an eminent degree, and the results of their exercise during his tenure of office are apparent in the vast improvement which has taken place—an improvement extending over the whole field, but nowhere more marked than in our common gaols, which, instead of being schools of vice and crime as they once were, are now provided with abundant facilities for the protection of the younger and more inexperienced inmates from the evil influence of hardened criminals, and in a fair way of some day serving the purpose of moral reformatories. Mr. Langmuir's resignation of the Inspectorship in the midst of so much success is greatly to be regretted, and it will be found extremely difficult to fill his place in such a way as to preserve the ground already gained and carry the work forward to its full development.