

This mysterious society owns no wealth, but distributes fortunes. It has no minutes, for history keeps them; no members' roll, for no one could make it. Its entry money is nothing; its subscription, all you have. The society never meets and it never adjourns. Its law is one word—loyalty; its Gospel one message—love. Verily, "Whosoever will lose his life for My sake shall find it."

IN THE SOUTH.—Some of the papers state, "In middle Florida, a Conference of nine churches, in West Florida, a Conference of twelve churches, and in south-eastern Georgia a group of twenty churches, have recently left the Methodist denomination, and voted to become Congregational. In north-eastern Alabama, three District Conferences are ready to take the same step." Before the war, there was but one Congregational Church in all the "South." The reason was well known; they would make no compromise with slavery. Now, "Freedom broadens down" toward the South.

THE ELECTIONS.—The Provincial General Election of Quebec has resulted in an overwhelming majority for the new De Boucherville administration. The victorious party say their Province has made short work of Quebec "boodling"—which seems to be the accepted if not graceful name for public speculation—while Ontario, in a series of by-elections, has justified "boodling" at Ottawa. Politicians must settle the question; but it seems so. Nevertheless, honesty is the same thing—only a little more conspicuous when it fails—in a Government or a Party, as it is in a person.

TEMPERANCE.—

"We want at all times to hear of all our ministers throwing off their coats and working in the great temperance movement whenever they are away from home. No one can tell how far his influence can reach for good." This from the CANADIAN INDEPENDENT, surely does not suggest that the ministers only dare to work for temperance when they are away from home?—*Royal Templar.*

Certainly not; probably we were thinking at the time of the dozen Congregational ministers from Canada then in Europe, from any one of whom we had not then, and have not yet, heard one word of anything they had done for Temperance. What is the matter, brethren?

WANT OF SPACE.—"A pent-up Utica contracts our powers"—for no sooner do we "with pains and perspiration," prepare some quoted articles and stimulating clippings, than contributions and church items come in—so long, so many, and (generally) so good, that all we can do is to put them in; and extract a little paragraph of the good article we regretfully lay by, to put into the "Jottings." By the way, why don't some of our active-minded brethren contribute to the Jottings? We give the formula of success: in ordinary contributions, you need to copy out your first draft, reducing its length one-half without leaving anything out; in "Jottings" you reduce to one-fourth.

A ROMAN CATHOLIC DEFINITION.—The following, from an eminent Roman Catholic professor, writing in the *N. Y. Independent*, correctly defines the Roman claims. But do not the leaders of the "Advanced Thought," Dr. Briggs, of New York, and all the rest, set up the very same claim for themselves that the Romans do for their Pope and bishops?—

There exists, then, in the Church of Jesus Christ a living, perpetual and infallible authority, constituted, according to the will of Christ, by the successors of Peter and of the other Apostles. . . . Jesus Christ has instituted in His Church an apostolic succession, a teaching body, invested with the mission of announcing to all peoples the revealed truth, and speaking to the faithful with a divine authority, based on the formal promise of the special protection of the Divine Saviour and the assistance of the Holy Spirit of Truth.

DR. BRAND.—The motive which leads one to acquaint himself personally with social vice as a means of becoming more useful as a Christian, is not of God but of the devil. It is contrary to both Christ's precepts and example. It will give you experience at the expense of spirituality. The *clean* soul is the soul that God can use. . . . Many persons with fair exterior indulge in forming imaginary pictures, the reality of which would be crime. The very passing of a base imagination through the mind leaves a stain which cannot be effaced on earth. For memory always co-operates with imagination and reproduces and dwells on the debasing thought, or disgusting sight, or licentious phrase, till its pollution is perpetuated in the soul.

DEATH OF MR. H. J. CLARK.—Mr. Henry J. Clark, the well-known publisher, (Copp, Clark Co., Front St., Toronto), died on Saturday, 5th