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Notes of the Week.

IF recent statements are true, the romantic interest attaching to the small boys who went from New Jersey to Paris to be cured of hydrophobia by M. Pasteur's method has met with total collapse. Dogs bitten by the dog which bit the boys have been kept in seclusion and carefully watched for weeks, and instead of showing symptoms of rabies, they are in excellent health. It is often asserted that this is an unimaginative age. It does not look like it.

THE papers always have ample space, says the *Illustrated Christian Weekly*, for the record of murders or other crimes, of slugging matches, of billiard tournaments, of anything sensational and garish. But they are careful how they "throw away valuable space" on a record of philanthropic and religious movements. But let us for our encouragement remember this; that these enterprises go on even if the daily press does not trumpet them. There is vitality in Christian purpose. It has what athletes call "staying power." It goes steadily forward, whether men will hear or whether they will forbear.

THE Union Theological Seminary of New York city has been presented with the table used by the New Testament Revision Company, and has placed it among its other historical relics. Plates on which are engraved the names of the revisers are on it, showing, also, where each member sat. It will be interesting, no doubt, especially to those who took part in the work, though the general sentiment appears to be that the New Testament revision comes so near being a failure that such memorials as this table are not likely to grow into great impressiveness. They will, in the minds of many persons, keep up the thought of a great opportunity that was thrown away.

AGITATION for the expulsion of French princes has met for the present, at least, with a decided check. Every now and again extreme radicals profess to fear danger to the Republic from the presence in France of descendants of Orleanist and Bonapartist families. Just now the French people are so generally out of sympathy with the representatives of former dynasties that even did these latter not quarrel hopelessly among themselves, no danger need be apprehended. A large majority in the Chamber of Deputies seem to take this view of the matter, for the fiery eloquence of Clemenceau failed to convince that deliberative body that the safety of the Republic required the expulsion of the princes. The vote against the proposal to expel the princes was large.

SEVERAL weeks ago it was discovered that a scoundrel in Montreal had been using a post-office box for the purpose of inveigling unsuspecting young women to their ruin. Influential journals exposed the criminal nature of the correspondence the man sought to carry on, and called for prompt action on the part of the post-office officials, that the offender might be identified and punished. Strange to say, a policy of evasion was for a time practised. It was suggested that the party renting the box was eminently respectable, and that some other person had used the specified box. Now a name is given, but it is hinted that it may be fictitious. It produces a very bad impres-

sion when such a gross misuse of the postal service is not firmly and at once exposed and punished.

MEMBERS of the Y. M. C. A. in connection with Toronto University some time ago undertook to erect a suitable building in which to hold their meetings. Their effort has been crowned with complete and gratifying success. Last week the opening ceremonies were held, though the building is not yet out of the contractor's hands. An afternoon reception was given by a number of ladies who have taken an active interest in the movement, and in the evening the building was crowded to its utmost capacity—Mayor Howland presiding. Dr. Daniel Wilson opened the meeting with prayer. Mr. McLeod, the energetic secretary of the Association, read the report which showed that financially the institution was in a most satisfactory condition. The Rev. G. W. Stewart, B.A., Mr. Wishard, President Wilson and Professor Young delivered brief addresses. The Association has an important work to do.

THE commemorative services in connection with the one hundredth anniversary of St. Gabriel Church, Montreal, began on Sunday last. The Rev. John Cook, D.D., LL.D., of Quebec, preached in the morning, and the Rev. Henry Wilkes, D.D., LL.D., in the afternoon. After sermon the Communion was dispensed, the Rev. Dr. Cook and Rev. James Barclay, M.A., of St. Paul's Church, assisting. In the evening the Rev. Robert Campbell, M.A., the pastor, gave an interesting historical sketch of the church. Next Sunday, March 14, for the morning service the Rev. William Reid, D.D., of Toronto, is announced. In the afternoon the Venerable Archdeacon Evans, M.A., Rector of St. Stephen's Church, will preach. At the close of this service also the Communion will be dispensed, the Rev. Professor Scrimger and Rev. Dr. Reid assisting. In the evening the Rev. George Douglas, LL.D., will be the preacher.

THE Presbyterians of Ulster have given several expressions to their strong opposition to the Parnellite movement. The Presbyteries, without waiting for the submission of a definite measure to Parliament, have been unanimous in their condemnation of the principle of Home Rule. The Irish Presbyterians are very much in earnest. Last week they sent a deputation on behalf of the General Assembly to present an address of welcome to the new Lord-Lieutenant, Lord Aberdeen, in which they assure him that the maintenance of the Union in its fullest integrity is essential to the peace of Ireland. Lord Aberdeen, a good Presbyterian elder himself, answered diplomatically by saying "he hoped that at no distant date an era of peace would be inaugurated in Ireland." In response to a request by the Irish Episcopal bishops, the Archbishop of Dublin has appointed a Synod meeting for the purpose of formulating an expression of opinion in the Episcopal Church on the present state of Irish affairs.

IN a communication to the *Herald and Presbyter*, Mead Holmes, of Rockford, Ill., urges the claims of the Dubuque Seminary as a training school for German Presbyterian ministers. He states that investigation brings out the surprising fact that in the United States are 8,000,000 Germans—men, women and children—families speaking the German language. In Chicago are 200,000, one-third the entire population; in Milwaukee and St. Louis the proportion is still greater. This vast German element in our land is one-half Roman and Infidel; one-half Protestant—embracing Lutherans of various types, mostly Ritualistic, Evangelical Methodists, German Reformed, Baptists, Dutch Reformed and Presbyterians. Among all are twenty colleges and theological seminaries; not more than 2,000,000 are under evangelical instruction; 6,000,000 are almost entirely unreached by the Gospel. These multitudes are here to stay, and by birth and immigration rapidly increasing. Generally poor, for years they take their chances, controlled by circumstances, retaining strongly their peculiar notions and

prejudices, yet appreciating any kindly effort on their behalf. Not a few are educated, self-reliant and aggressive, using the press with great skill and success. They issue nearly 1,000 daily, weekly and monthly papers, publish books, establish lectureships, organize societies, all presaging a distinctive nationality for a century to come. German immigration will continue, and the German language be spoken in this country beyond the time of any man now living.

SAM SMALL has a direct way of speaking. Here is what he felt constrained to say in Chicago last week on the subject of "Charity Balls": We had one of these charity balls in Atlanta last year, and every evangelical church in that city turned their batteries of the Gospel loose on the concern, and they fired into it indiscriminately, and they fired shot and shell into the camp of those originating the affair, and bossing and controlling it, and they ruined the concern almost, and there was but one minister in that whole city of Atlanta, who had the brazen effrontery to stand up in his pulpit and endorse the charity ball, and it was not three months afterward until this very man was found in a brothel in Cincinnati, and his trial has just been concluded, and resulted in his dismissal from the Church. You yoke yourself up with anything that the devil has to do with, and he will get you in a mud-hole, sure. I know that different people possess different ideas on these subjects. I know that people think these instrumentalities may be turned to good account. I know that people imagine they can soften and mollify some of the practices of this world by hitching them up with the Gospel in some shape. But why not hold a charity fair bank? Why not run a mission lottery scheme? Why not have a Gospel theatre to help out the Church? There are churches here in Chicago in which there are millions and millions of dollars of capital represented in the pew-holders, and yet they go out holding little tents and fairs and bazaars to get up money to keep the Gospel running. No true man, no man who has got any respect for the religion he professes, no man who has got any respect for the Christ he claims to serve, will allow himself to be engaged in any such pigglety, picayune business as that in the name of God.

It is occasionally taken for granted that an intelligent community cannot easily be imposed upon, and yet with all our boasted enlightenment humbug flourishes. An appeal to human greed, if cunningly made, is sure to find victims, as the following story from Missouri testifies: A vile schemer pretended to have been specially ordained by God to form a new secret order, from which was to grow a new and the only true religion. Accordingly he began establishing the order of the Star of Heaven. He would grant a charter to any six persons who applied for it, provided each paid him the common fund, \$25. Charter members pledged themselves not to take more than six members into a lodge, thus allowing only twelve members of a lodge. Then he had prophetic visions in which great avenues of wealth were opened up to him. On the basis of these visions he induced his dupes to mortgage their farms to the Order, and thus it became a sort of loan association. The secretary had charge of the notes, deeds and mortgages of the lodge, which he turned over to the treasurer, who converted them into cash. Smith was the financial agent of all the lodges, and here is where the swindle is. When the lodge was organized the first duty of the financial agent was to purchase land near some town, divide it into town lots, which were purchased by members of the lodge from the financial agent, as follows: Members paid \$50 for a lot—one third cash and a note for the balance bearing ten per cent. interest, and gave a mortgage on the lot. He then got \$50 from the treasurer, gave it and his note to the financial agent, and gave the treasurer a receipt for \$50. The agent returned \$50 to the treasurer and had the note for \$100. In this way each member got a lot, and the agent many notes from \$100 to \$500 each. The notes were good. The agent sold them, and got rich in this manner. His victims are numbered by the hundreds.