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Notes of the Week.

There are 8,000 or 10,000 Icelanders in Manitoba, and more are coming. The climate of the island is said to be steadily getting worse, and (if the Copenhagen authorities don't prevent) the whole population—some 70,000—may become Canadians. They are an industrious and moral people, and will make good citizens.

We have no sooner got through with congratulating and feasting our new Governor-General and his Lady, than it appears that they may have to leave us and return to the place from whence they came. They have actually dared to exercise their own judgment and act on principle in declining to attend some theatricals of which they disapproved, to be given in connection with the Ladies' Guild of Grace church, Ottawa. It is the "first time that vice-regal patronage has been refused," and certain ladies are highly indignant. We do hope that Lord and Lady Aberdeen will not be utterly crushed by the blow which has so soon fallen upon their devoted heads.

Very unusual additions have been made to the book treasures of McGill University. By purchase 444 volumes; various donations 54 volumes; from Mr. Peter Redpath a splendid donation of 522 volumes; from Sir Donald Smith a similar gift of 605 volumes and 55 parts, and from Mr. W. C. McDonald, a complete reference library now installed in the Physics Building, of 1,339 volumes, having cost five thousand dollars. This last includes a complete series of all the most valuable records of the development of physical science and may be called in that respect a complete collection, having been gathered without limit as to cost. The total number of volumes in the library is now 26,807 volumes.

The hapless Matabeles of South Africa are surely to be pitied. It is not quite clear what wrong they have been guilty of, besides falling foul of a powerful, and so far as can be learned, not over scrupulous mercantile company, and for this a small force has been sent against them, equipped, of course, with the latest European weapons of war. We are told that so deadly was their effect that the poor savages were literally mowed down by the thousand. We wonder how the Jews of old could be guilty of such atrocities as we read of, but here are we in this year of grace 1893, practising, with a hundredfold greater odds in our favour, a butchery upon these poor people which make one's blood run cold. Had the Matabeles done such a thing against us, it would have been regarded as a massacre so dreadful as to rouse the indignation of the whole nation, and call for prompt vengeance. We do it, and it is called a victory.

The strike of miners in Great Britain which has once and again appeared to be on the point of settlement and always failed to get settled, is being attended with consequences so grave, not only to the miners themselves, which are sad enough, but to a great number of others as well, that the subject has been brought up in the House of Commons. Mr. Gladstone made the statement, that he had addressed a duplicate letter to the employers and miners, respectively, proposing a free discussion of the points at issue between the parties, under the chairmanship of Lord Rosebery. This proposal has been agreed to, and resulted

in an amicable settlement. Such serious disturbances in the labour market occurring from time to time show in a very striking and painful way, how much remains yet to be done to secure in some permanent way, the contentment, peace, and comfort of the multitudes of the sons of toil.

It is not often that the death of a medical man excites so much and widespread interest as that of the late Sir Andrew Clarke, of London, well known as the physician of Mr. Gladstone, has done. Nor is it often the case that apparently so much depended indirectly on the life of a doctor. His perfect knowledge of Mr. Gladstone's constitution, and the authority which, it is said, he could exercise over him as to what he might or might not do, and the important issues depending upon the life of the Prime Minister, invest the death of Sir Andrew Clarke with a national importance. His professional career was one which may well be pointed to as an example and encouragement to others. He entered upon the struggles of professional life in London wholly without the aid of relatives, friends, or even acquaintances. If a man under such circumstances can attain the highest professional rank in the great capital of the world, surely no one should be discouraged.

The Montreal Witness of last week contains a cut of the exterior of the Royal Victoria Hospital, and views of various other parts of it. It is a noble-looking building, and well equipped for its work of mercy to the suffering. It is a magnificent monument to the wise and generous liberality of Lord Mount-Stephen and Sir Donald Smith. Montreal has good reason to be proud of the public spirit of its wealthy men, of which it has so many and magnificent evidences. It is a good thing for the whole Dominion that its chief commercial city should exhibit this spirit. Its tendency is to spread, and we hope our country may furnish an illustration of it, until every one of our large cities may contain some visible and tangible evidences of the liberality and public spirit of its men of wealth. Toronto is following the example, and no doubt as time goes on the whole Dominion will become more and more enriched with such specimens of the unselfish devotion of wealth to promote the happiness and welfare of the people at large.

The Rev. Dr. MacVicar has been interviewed during his brief visit to the city respecting the state of feeling among our French-Canadian fellow-citizens in Quebec. He repeated what our readers have again and again read in our columns, that there is among them a growing feeling of unrest and dissatisfaction, especially as regards their schools, the exactions of the Church and the efforts of the hierarchy to muzzle the press. The chains of ignorance and ecclesiastical domination by which the people have so long been bound are more and more beginning to give way. This is, says the Doctor, largely owing to the diffusion of information through missionary schools, and the work of the missionary, contact with the English population, the effect of the exodus to the United States, and to the influence of the press. This latter lends importance to the attempt, which we heartily hope may be speedily successful, to establish a newspaper largely connected with our French work, and calculated to enlighten still more the minds of the people by the diffusion of religious truth.

PULPIT, PRESS AND PLATFORM.

Hammond: O what a glorious thing! how rich a prize for the expense of a whole man's life, were it to be the instrument of rescuing any one soul.

Rev. Dr. McLeod: The most important step now to be taken in the temperance reform, is to bring out a few prominent, independent candidates for Parliament, and transfer the fight to the floor of the House.

Rev. A. McWilliams: "Who hath redness of eye? They that tarry long at the wine," etc. This then being true, for the body's sake, that it may be healthy, strong, pure and comely, and that it may live out God's allotted time, and that it may be able to perform its functions and the duties imposed upon it by God, shun the intoxicating cup as you would the fangs of a viper.

F. C. of Scotland Monthly: There is something melancholy in the confession which is being made that the New Testament revision movement was a failure. The new revision has not only not replaced the old one, but it is not even meeting with a general sale to read along with it. Copies are now being offered "for purposes of charitable distribution"—those at 1s. for 2d., and those at 1s. 6d. for a halfpenny.

Dr. N. Macleod: There is a vast amount of exaggeration of the subject of the religious condition of the people. There is reason for believing that in the rural districts there is no falling off at all, and even in the large cities churches were never more numerous and better attended than they are at present. The state of matters was far better in this respect than it was fifty years ago, when Dr. Chalmers entered upon his great scheme for church extension.

Interior: The assassination of the Mayor of Chicago was the harvest of a sowing, and there will be more of it. When murder is placed in the catalogue of virtues, and the new view illustrated by wholesale pardoning of criminals, we must expect minds which are at once weak and vicious to enter upon that easy road to fame. If this miserable murderer were hung, a monument would be erected to his memory. But there is no danger to him of that.

President of the United States: On Thanksgiving Day let us forego our ordinary work and employments and assemble in our usual places of worship, where we may recall all that God has done for us, and where from grateful hearts our united tribute of praise and song may reach the Throne of Grace. Let reunions of kindred and social meetings of friends lend cheer and enjoyment to duty, and let generous gifts of charity for the relief of the poor and needy prove the sincerity of our thanksgiving.

Belfast Witness: To fight evil with evil simply doubles the evil. The "heaping coals of fire on the head" of enemies is not the object but only the result of returning good for evil. He that returns good for evil for the purpose of "burning" his enemy, does not really give good for evil, and there will be no good result. But the only vengeance a Christian can take on anyone is this. You try to kill an enemy by making him your friend. You do that which tends to burn out the evil spirit within him.

Rev. Hugh Price Hughes: Those who object to trades unions, should remember that the clergy and ministers, doctors and lawyers have their unions, and that only the latter have succeeded in ridding themselves of "blacklegs." He would establish for the settlement of trade disputes a permanent Board of Conciliation, composed of representatives of capital and labour, and a Board of Arbitration, to consist of three members—the President to rank as judge, one representative of capital and one of labour.

Interior: Dr. Schaff will be ranked as the most learned and prolific theological mind of his times. He was a delightful companion. He was in Chicago a short time before his death, and lunched with a few friends at the Union League. He gave us in his inimitable style: "Hans Breitman made a Party," and between the stanzas joined in the laughter. Like so many foreigners of fine linguistic talents, he acquired a charming style in English. He was a fast workman, and had remarkable success in enlisting the help of others in executing his literary undertakings.

Archdeacon Sinclair: The Reformation stripped the ministry of its sacerdotal character: it cast out the words "sacrifice" and "altar" and it taught the people that the clergy were not the lords of God's heritage, but only His witnesses, His ambassadors, and ministers of His sacraments; and the real presence of the Saviour was not in the sacrament, but in its worthy receiver, the body and blood being received only by the faithful in faith; it also swept away the old system of auricular confession, than which no institution in the Church was more corrupting and degrading.

Rev. T. M. Mills: There is no subject now before the American people, at all comparable in gravity and importance to that of the saloon in politics. How to curtail and finally destroy this evil is the great problem of the hour. Its solution stands next on the world's calendar of progress. It has been called for trial and cannot be dismissed or postponed. The saloon has boldly entered politics, and it has come to stay until vanquished or victorious. The time has come, therefore, when this issue must be met. Political parties can no longer dodge it if they would. Private citizens must take steps openly for or against the saloon, with its methods and results. Neutrality is henceforth impossible; indifference is a betrayal of the trust involved in citizenship.

Catholic Review: There's my money—give me a drink! There's the clothing and food and fire of my wife and children—give me a drink! There's the education of the family and the peace of the house—give me a drink! There's the rent that I have robbed from my landlord and innumerable articles I have from shopkeepers—give me a drink! Pour me out a drink, and yet more—I will pay for it! There's my health of body and peace of mind; there's my character as a Christian. I give up all—give me a drink! There's my heavenly inheritance and the eternal friendship of the redeemed, there is all hope of salvation. I give up my God! I give up all that is great and good, and glorious in the universe! I resign all forever that I may be drunk!