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Notes of the Week.

It is reported that the Presbyterians are doing some active missionary work in New England, especially among the Scotch. Thirteen new churches are receiving over \$5,000 from the Home Board, of which they have had to pay \$4,000 for rent of halls.

THE second concert under the auspices of the Toronto Chamber Music Association was held in Shaftesbury Hall last week. A large and appreciative audience was present. A fine selection of classic music was performed with good taste and excellent effect. Mrs. MacKelcan was the vocalist, and her singing made a most favourable impression, every number being enthusiastically encored—a mode of demonstration that might, with advantage, be happily abridged.

DR. JARDINE, on arriving at Prince Albert, wrote a communication to the *Rockville Recorder*, in which he says: And now you ask—How do you like Prince Albert? It would be premature to reply. A beautifully situated place it is, still primitive in its appearance, but full of hope for the future. And that future depends upon the opening up of the Hudson Bay route to England in which almost every body up here has confidence. If that is accomplished and a success, Prince Albert will soon become a large city; if not, its glory will continue to be "unnamed, un-honoured and unsung." What is the great desideratum of this country? Good farming. The few good Scotch farmers? reabouts have been successful, and, even this dry year, have had good crops. But they are only few, and the country will never be a success until there is a great increase in the number of industrious and intelligent men who know how to get the best returns from the wonderfully fertile soil of this great country.

THE London *Advertiser* says: No one would care to see the clergymen of Ontario enter the arena of politics, or take up the cudgels on behalf of either party. But there is an aspect of Canadian politics which it seems to us no preacher of the truth should ignore. The mission of the Gospel ministry is to advocate truth and righteousness. Religion is to be first pure, then peaceable. It is undeniable that there is much that is morally impure in Canadian politics. Corrupt methods are resorted to in elections. Corrupt men are sent to Parliament. Corrupt measures are used to win supporters. Corrupt uses are made of public property. We do not now say by whom.

Whether by one political party or the other, or both, matters not. Let the pulpit deplore and denounce the iniquity, by whomsoever committed. Let it exhort to honesty and uprightness in public as well as in private life. There will be probably supporters of both parties in the pews. Let the shafts from the bow of truth be shot straight against the sin. Never mind who is hit. The ministers of the Gospel in Canada should raise their voices as one man to shame the political chicanery and corruption that abound and to drive them from the land.

In commending certain American journals, for declining to publish full details of the Campbell divorce case, and our leading Canadian papers might have been included in the commendation, the *Week* says: On what principle the conductors of leading journals can reconcile their conscience to relating these offensive particulars in every home they obtain access to, we are a loss to understand. The disgusting stuff comes as news, which we suppose they have to pay for; but surely this does not for a moment excuse its being thrust under the notice of every young man or woman that reads a newspaper. It is not probable that any considerable portion of newspaper readers desire to know these particulars; but even if so, that again would not warrant the pandering to a vicious taste. The evil must lie in the conductors of the newspapers; a moral weakness that would lead them into any service of the devil that they could profit by. This shameful story is of no interest to any decent American or Canadian. The knowledge that such doings go on makes one blush for humanity; and we wish for no closer acquaintance. The love of such filth is a survival of our animal state. It generally goes with the love of libel, and the same journals usually pander to both tastes.

KILMARNOCK, the *Christian Leader* remarks, will do honour to herself as well as to a distinguished representative of one of her oldest families, when she presents the freedom of the burgh to Sir William Muir, on the occasion of his visiting that town next month to open the corporation art gallery. The stock to which he belongs is a good one, and has produced many eminent men besides supplying a wife to one of our old Scottish kings, in the beautiful Elizabeth Mure of Rowallan. The next best known member of the Rowallan branch of the family was Sir William Mure, one of the most graceful of our seventeenth century poets, who composed some of the finest metrical versions of the Psalms; and in our own day another branch of the house produced a distinguished man of letters in that Mure of Caldwell, who wrote a standard history of the literature of Greece. One of the Kilmarnock Muirs, nearly related to the present Principal, was a merchant who became an intimate friend of Robert Burns in the poet's Mossgiel days, and who proved the sincerity of his friendship by subscribing for forty copies of the poet's first volume. Sir William's visit to the home of his forefathers will revive memories of an ancient house which is excelled by none in the west of Scotland, for its preservation through the centuries of pure and elevated types of Christian character and culture.

THAT inter-collegiate athletics have been carried too far and have led to serious abuses can hardly be denied. President McCosh, of Princeton, has issued the following letter on the subject: We are now in a lull between the games of 1886 and 1887. We have leisure to look back on the past and forward to the future. We have come to a crisis. It is time to meet it, if we are to keep up the character of our colleges in the view of parents and the community generally, and to make them places of high education where cultivated tastes and refined manners are acquired. I think the colleges on the eastern seaboard should come to an understanding with each other. It is their duty at present not to cast reflections on each other, but to unite to correct the abuses which have sprung up in connection with these public games on holidays,

where we are in danger of having all the evils of our horse races, with their jockeying, their betting and drinking. I venture to suggest that the colleges interested meet by representatives, and agree on some simple restrictions which will admit of our receiving all the benefits which may be had from manly exercises, of which we highly approve, without their incidental evils. I propose that Harvard, as the oldest of our number, be invited to take the lead in this matter and call us together, and I for one will feel bound by the decision come to. I have taken this initiatory step solely because I am now one of the oldest (if not the oldest) of the presidents of the colleges interested.

In the letter of the Protestant Alliance for the present month, says the *Presbyterian Messenger*, a pamphlet is referred to, which gives a list of over 3,000 eminent Protestants who have become Roman Catholics since the commencement of the nineteenth century. This list of perverts has been classified under the following headings: Nobility and gentry, containing 552 names; army, 142, including one field-marshal, six generals, and four major-generals; navy twenty-nine, including seven admirals; medical profession, forty-eight; legal profession, seventy-two; literature, thirty-six; architecture, twelve; war office, ten officials; publishers, seven names; relatives of clergymen, forty-three; clergymen—of these seventy-six names are given, including a Baptist and a Methodist minister; but the number of seventy-six clergymen does not comprise the full list of those who have seceded to Rome, as many more clergymen who have joined the Romish Church are placed under other headings, as members of universities, etc. Under the headings of the universities we find that Oxford University is made responsible for 301 names; Cambridge University for 149; other universities, thirty-one. The total number of clergymen amounts to 557. These several classes are followed by separate lists of lady perverts. Under the heading, "Nobility and Gentry, Ladies," are found 1,051 names, a remarkable list, including several relatives of Mr. Gladstone, a sister of Lord Granville, daughters of Anglican bishops, relatives of Sir S. Northcote, sisters and cousins of English judges, a sister of the late Speaker, a sister of the proprietor of the *Times*, ladies who had formerly been Quakers, Baptists, and one a Jewess.

MISS ADA LEIGH, who has been instrumental in doing a great work for English-speaking girls in Paris, is at present on a visit to Canada. In an address at Ottawa, she gave a most interesting account of the work in which she is engaged. She said: I think you will like to know how my work in Paris began. It was at the time when I was what is called finishing my education in Paris, when I went into a glove shop to buy a pair of gloves, and finding the girl who served me was English I asked her where she went to Church. She told me nowhere. I had just been prepared for my own confirmation, by a man whose name is revered in England—the late Canon Stowell, and was shocked at finding an English girl, who for four years had been to no place of worship. I asked the mistress of the shop if she might come to read the Bible with me on Sundays, and soon I had fourteen such girls. Miss Leigh went on to give an account of her having left Paris, never thinking perhaps that she would be back again. She narrated an interesting anecdote of how she, having returned, met a Scotch girl from Aberdeen, who, passing her in the street with a toss of her head, said, "I don't care what becomes of me." Miss Leigh placed her hand on the girl's shoulder, and said, "But I do," and gave her a leaflet she had prepared, signed "One who cares for youth," and bearing her address. The girl came and told her there she would never have come but for the signature, as no one had cared for her since her mother died. This girl had only two dimes in her pocket, and from this small sum arose the home. This girl helped her to find other girls, and soon a home was taken. This home was afterward purchased for \$50,000.