

## Notes of the Week.

Our highly esteemed contributor "Outis" spoke out plainly against Lotteries some few weeks ago, and we desire now to support his plea, and protest against this very fascinating but highly dangerous practice. We know that we shall be met with the retort that the Church readily accommodates herself to them in the shape of "grab-bags," "post-offices," "cake-guesses," and even *chances* for the more expensive and valuable articles at bazaars, fairs, &c., and that what is quite consistent for a religious purpose is to Christians altogether infamous when practiced by worldly persons for their own personal benefit. Unhappily there appears to be truth in the counter-charge, and it is not so much to the worldling as to the Christian that we wish to address ourselves. We do most emphatically condemn all Lotteries, but more particularly Church Lotteries, as in every way out of harmony with the Christian Religion, and most damaging to good morals and honest business dealing. It will be simply impossible to prevent gambling and other similar forms of vice, so long as the churches are quite ready to accept the principle when they are in want of money. There are so many valid reasons and arguments against everything of the kind, which must at once occur to all right-thinking people, that we shall not now mention them, but we only wish to say that so long as the Clergy permit these things in their Parishes in any shape, their mouths are shut against condemning the evil practice which has ruined and is ruining so many who otherwise would have been successful and honourable business men and consistent Christians.

The attempt has been made in Canada to bring together in the same class-room both sexes among the students preparing themselves for the medical profession, but recently the lady students have felt that delicacy and propriety compelled them to withdraw. It appears, however, that they think themselves aggrieved, and that their position has been made uncomfortable and untenable by the enemies of co-education. They have accordingly issued a document, in which they set forth their grievances and explain their difficulties, and fasten them upon the Professor of Physiology and the male students. Without wishing to champion either side in this controversy, we cannot but think, after having had large experience in the class room of a Medical College, that where men are being educated for Physicians, there women ought not to be allowed to enter. Co-education of the sexes in this particular branch of science is grossly inconsistent with that delicacy and reserve which women doctors, no less than other women, should possess. It is utterly impossible for a Professor to do justice to his subject, in some of the branches at least, with the two sexes in the same class, and the male students may well complain that they are the sufferers. If women wish to be educated as doctors, let them have colleges of their own, or classes formed for them independent of the ordinary class.

The Toronto Branch of the Dominion Alliance is beginning an agitation to have the sale of liquor and other goods separated. We believe no more important step could be taken, and until such a law is placed upon the statute book but little headway can be made in the direction of suppressing the liquor traffic. Already in some Canadian cities it is made compulsory upon persons securing licenses that their liquor business shall be kept distinct from the sale of other goods, and we are glad to know that so important a city as Toronto is moving in the same direction.

It will be remembered that M. de Lesseps behaved so strangely towards England with reference to the Suez Canal during the Egyptian War, that a second Canal, to be solely under English influence, was freely discussed in the English press, and enthusiastically entertained by the English people. The sudden collapse of the war, or rather the wonderfully quick march of events, gave England nominal control, and for a time nothing further occurred, but now the project is being revived, and is being advocated with increasing force. It is stated that the present Canal is much too small to do the work required of it, and that it will have to be widened and deepened in some places, at a cost of fully fifty per cent of the previous outlay. An enlargement is opposed by the Suez Canal Co., but the interests of England and the growing and constantly increasing trade with the East will prompt English capitalists to cut a greatly improved and enlarged Canal, or else lead to an increase of the present one, when the new work will no doubt be done with English money, and Englishmen will obtain a controlling influence in the Company which she does not now possess.

The announcement that the Societe Postal General of France has made an offer to the Canadian Government to start a fortnightly line of steamers between Havre and Montreal direct in consideration of a subsidy will be taken as another proof that Canada is attracting attention beyond the limits of the Empire. We hope the subsidy will be allowed, for it will then become the interest of the company to promote emigration, and to make known the advantages and capabilities of the Dominion. It is not easy to induce Frenchmen to emigrate from their own country, but probably Canada would present a more inviting field than perhaps any other portion of the world.

There seems to be a growing feeling manifesting itself in the Presbyterian Established Church of Scotland in favour of Episcopacy, and for union with our Church in that land. The Moderator of the General Assembly in 1882, in his closing address, gave expression to sentiments which show that the time is near at hand for efforts in the direction named. Principal Tulloch, so commanding a figure in the Scottish Church, in a speech in the same Assembly, also spoke in a way to lead us to the conclusion that many, at least of the best minds among them, are not satisfied with their present isolation. On the other hand, Bishop Chas. Wordsworth, Bishop of St. Andrews, in his last Charge, spoke most emphatically in its favor; and the Bishop of Truro (now Archbishop-elect of Canterbury), in his recent Charge, after referring to some views which had been expressed on the subject, said: "I would enforce them by reminding you of the near approaches (formerly incredible) to each other, of the Scottish Episcopal and the Established Presbyterian Churches. When we think of their history, so ennobled and so stained, so inveterate on both sides, and so heroic, and mark their attitude to-day, the hardest man may believe that it is no will of God that any devotion or faith should war for ever against faith and devotion; or the folds of the flock stand 'like cliffs that have been rent asunder,' and 'dreary seas flow between them hopelessly and unalterably.' We may have our faith in the future stimulated by a knowledge of these facts, and our prayers for Unity made more earnest and constant. Hasten the time, O Lord, when as brethren we shall war a common warfare against thine enemies—the devil, the world, and the flesh!"

We are glad to chronicle the fact that Mr. Justice Loranger has declared labor unions for extorting higher wages illegal, and awarded an employer \$20 damages against a man named Bourdon, a member of a union, who induced a fellow workman to desert his master's service. This is the only way to prevent reckless and uncalled for strikes, which are often brought about by causes which will not bear the light. Trades unions for the protection of workmen are valuable, but for taking advantage in an arbitrary manner of the employers' necessities, when the wages are fair for a fair day's work, Justice Loranger's law will become necessary.

The Evangelical Alliance, an association representing the various Protestant bodies, following its common practice for some years past, has issued notices for a week of prayer, beginning on Sunday next, and to be continued during the following days. We can have not a word to say against any attempt to draw men's hearts from earthly things to the consideration of those higher concerns which make for the peace of the soul, or for any efforts to arrest the attention and arouse the consciences of the men of the world as well as others, but we sincerely regret that the Church's Year, as old as Christianity itself, should have been ignored, and that times and seasons, unknown for very many centuries, should have been substituted. The Season of Lent is observed by the Catholic Church in all its branches the world over as a time for special services, when for forty days various means are used to do for men what the Evangelical Alliance seeks to do by its Week of Prayer. Why then should another time be chosen—a time when festivities are indicating the joy of the Church of Christ at the Incarnation of her Lord—to inculcate sorrow and penitence, humiliation and fasting, thus increasing the distance between us, when every effort should be made to draw us all together? Let the Evangelical Alliance adopt the Season of Lent for its yearly services of special prayer, and so extend the time while making it a season common to all Christians.

Quite a shock of an earthquake was felt in Halifax a little after ten o'clock on Sunday night. The writer was sitting in a room on the west side of a house in the south end of the city, when the house fairly rocked to and fro, and the glass rattled for fully twenty seconds. Fortunately it was not generally felt, and but small notice was taken of it. Another but lesser shock occurred a little later on, after the large congregations had gathered in the churches, but it was noticed only by a few.

A leading secular paper, after referring to Dr. Benson's most successful career at Cambridge University, to his admirable work as Head Master of Wellington College, and to his energetic sagacity and administrative capacity as Chancellor of Lincoln Cathedral, thus concludes a very interesting article:—"He became Bishop of Truro in 1877, and has put a life into that part of England which throbs and beats in every part of the diocese. From this centre during the past five years he has been developing a model diocese of the Church. A High Churchman, a thoroughly trained ecclesiastic, in sympathy with his age, intensely in earnest in all that belongs to vital Christianity, in the prime of life, and endowed not more with ability to inspire others with his plans than to realize them in his own heart and mind, he brings to the position of Archbishop of Canterbury some of the best and rarest qualities that are to be found in any English ecclesiastic of the day."