

EDITORIAL NOTES.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE.
A question which is being discussed in the press with some vigor is: "Why don't men go to church?" Those who are familiar with church work in Fredericton, are aware that the proportion of women to men in attendance at our churches is not less than three to one. The same ratio seems to hold elsewhere. In France and Italy, in Germany and England, the churches are almost wholly filled by women; in America the anomaly is almost as great. It has been remarked by one observer that in the Presbyterian church this tendency is not so marked. This coincides with our own experience, but why it is so we can tell? Perhaps the fact that the Presbyterian church of the world ever is composed almost wholly of Scotchmen (or their descendants) who have always been a conservative, methodical people and very proud of their national church, is a partial explanation.

No doubt the chief reason why women predominate in our churches, is that they are more superior to men and more devoted. Man is conscious of his physical strength and feels not, in many cases, the need of help either material or spiritual. He is a rough, rugged being not over inclined to be sympathetic, and by dint of hard knocks in life has had the fine feelings which he possesses and youth more or less stunted or impaired. He is enterprising and daring by reason of his strength and apt to contrive a creed for himself or dispense with one altogether. Women, on the other hand, are with few exceptions, more sensitive and weaker. They are sympathetic and emotional. They feel the need of a help which the world cannot give. They retain, for the most part, the morality and purity of sentiment of their youth.

Women are fond of display of any kind. The more impressive a church service is the more they enjoy it, as a rule. They are fond of music and one can hardly doubt there are a few women in the world who are fond of dress. The force which will keep a woman, who has just got a new dress, out of church on the ensuing Sunday, has not yet been discovered. These influences have very little effect on the masculine mind. Few men care anything about their own clothes and very little about anybody else's. They are not particularly fond of church music.

Church-going to women who have been busy with the cares of the house all the week, is a recreation. It is not to the same extent a recreation to the man of business who has spent the major part of the week in the office and on the street.

Perhaps the absence of men at church service is to some extent owing to the inattention of the pastors themselves. As a rule their visiting is done during the day when the menfolk are at business and thus they seldom meet them. But undoubtedly the chief reason why many men absent themselves from church service, is that it has little interest for them, and probably it is not that they are urged to go by their wives, or attracted thither by their lady friends, the contingent of male devotees would be very small indeed.

A RITUALISTIC ROW.

One of those interesting ritualistic rows, by which from time to time the public mind is edified, is taking place in the church of the Assumption in Hamilton, Ont. The pastor of the church is Rev. E. P. Crawford and he appears to have taken it upon himself to invite a surplised choir to sing in the church. This a part of the congregation was strongly opposed to. Mr. Crawford, however, persisted and when the service began the gas was suddenly turned off by the opposition and the church left in darkness. The choir being unable to read their hymn books the procession came to an abrupt termination. Then the water-supply which worked the organ was turned off and throughout the service, the instrument was silent. Finally, two oil lamps and four candles were procured and with the aid of the "dim religious light" the service was resumed. There appeared to be plenty of devotion in the congregation in fact more than plenty, for when the unformed choir was singing "Crown Him Lord of all," the opposition were singing "Nearer my God to Thee" with equal fervor. So strong was the religious feeling of some people present that they greeted Mr. Crawford with hisses and groans. Then Mr. Crawford announced that he had sent for the police to eject the disturbers. Strange to say this made the opposition noisier than ever, and when the policemen appeared the church was a howling hell and the Rev. Mr. Crawford showed his Christ-like spirit by ordering them to withdraw. At the close of the service the opposition—rendered hungry no doubt by their exertions—rushed into the school-room down stairs and ate up the cake and sandwiches that had been prepared for the choir boys.

All this is very pitiable and one does not know whom to pity the most, the people who could so desecrate the Sabbath day, or the pastor who could persist in making of himself such an unadulterated ass. These ritualistic troubles are a disgrace to the church in which they originate. Why a pastor should be willing to break up his congregation for the sake of carrying out some paltry point in ritualism is more than the ordinary mind can comprehend. Why he should seek to introduce that which he knows will destroy the unity of his flock is inconceivable. Is it possible that the salvation of men can depend upon the length or width of a man's gown or whether he faces Jerusalem instead of the north pole? Can it be material to the cause of Christ that there should be candles on the altar, or that the pastor should pray in one special spot or position and no other? Surely of all the troubles which have afflicted the christian church from the earliest ages, these are the most utterly frivolous and meaningless. At this age of the world when the church is being assaulted at all points by powerful, and determined enemies, when her very existence is threatened by the onward march of unbelief, how contemptible such a strife among her defenders appears! It is as though the officers in command of a fortress, which was being stormed at every angle, sat down to dispute about their pelisses or to argue out the latest novelties in hair-dos, while the enemy was swarming over the walls. Nay more, it is as though in the face of the advancing foe they sought to engender petty disputes and quarrels among their own troops which would make them powerless to defend themselves against the common enemy.

The tobacco-growers in Lower Canada are asking for protection. Why, they ask, should not American and all other foreign leaf tobacco be excluded by a prohibitory duty and Canadian smokers compelled to patronise the home-grown article? As a rule French-Canadian tobacco is unripe and acrid as compared with the best foreign, but surely no loyal man would refuse to burn his tongue off if necessary in order to build up a magnificent Canadian industry, and cement the bonds that bind us to the mother country.

WORKERS came out and voted in full force in Kansas cities the other day, in spite of the old question which the opponents of woman suffrage always consider a clincher—"Who will take care of the babies while the women go to the polls?" It is found in practice that this matter is easily settled. The women engage the same persons to take care of the babies when they go to the polls that they previously engaged when they went to pay their taxes.—Boston Globe.

THE ST. JOHN GLOBE thinks there is a good chance of Judge Fraser being appointed to the governorship of this province. Judge Fraser's appointment would undoubtedly be a most popular one. It would remove the doubt which has for some years, seemingly, existed in the minds of the Dominion government as to whether a disserter could safely be appointed to that position. THE HERALD thinks its Presbyterian friends are entitled to their turn as much as those who are more apostolic.

SALARIES INCREASED.

The legislature of Nova Scotia has passed a bill increasing the salaries of the members of the government. The effect of the bill is to increase the amounts received by the three departments of the premier's present salary being \$2,400, and those of the attorney general and commissioner of public works, \$2,000 each—by \$700 in each case. The allowance paid to members of the government without portfolio in Nova Scotia will on public duty be advanced from \$4 to \$8 a day. New Brunswick now pays its executive less than any of the seven provinces in Canada except that of Prince Edward Island. In Nova Scotia the salary was supported by the members of the legislature and appears to be generally approved of by the press. Mr. Blair's policy in reducing the departmental salaries in this province appears at the time to be a popular one. Those who have any conception of the tedious and exhausting duties which pertain to the duties of these offices, however, are of opinion that the salaries were unduly reduced. Certainly, there appears to be no good reason why the men who fill our most important offices should be paid less for their services than they could derive in private life.

NOT POPULAR.

With the French Von Moltke dead seems, if possible, to be less popular than Von Moltke living. The vindictive and uncharitable nature of the comments in the press are very suggestive of the feelings of the French character. France was terribly humiliated in 1870, but seeking to lessen Von Moltke does not lessen that humiliation.

The Parisian press is still engaged in its literary and military autopsy of the dead general. The figures speak of him as a terrible, calculating genius. When, in 1870, they aroused him in the middle of the night to inform him of the declaration against France, he rubbed his eyes and answered: "Fourth drawer on the left!" Then he fell asleep again. In that drawer was found his plan of campaign, and in the war office in Berlin today there are, it is said, three plans of campaign—a work of Moltke's hand alone— one against France single handed, another against Russia single handed, and the third against France and Russia combined. Some French military critics regard Moltke's plans as moonshine, and attribute his victories to that fortune which in his case always favored the best artillery and the power of numbers.

ABOLISHED.

Imprisonment for debt in Nova Scotia is abolished by a law which went into force on May 1st. The creditor, however, may obtain an order for the examination of a debtor who fails to pay a judgment; the debtor's circumstances will be inquired into, and he will be required to pay the amount either in a lump sum or instalments, in default of which he will be imprisoned, not for debt, it is to be presumed, but for disobeying the order of the court. The relief of the debtor, says an exchange, would be somewhat illusory were it not for a further provision that the creditor shall leave the debtor in jail for a period of ten days without seeking to have the matter settled, the debtor will be discharged from custody and will be able to hold the creditor liable for the amount of money paid for his maintenance in jail.

DEMOCRACY AND CHRISTIAN UNION.

Toronto Globe.

A Taylor Innes, in an article in the Contemporary Review, contends that the tendency of churches in the English world—making that phrase include the British Empire and the United States—is to become more and more democratic. That tendency he discerns even in the church of England. The most illustrious member of that communion, Mr. Gladstone, said 40 years ago—"I am deeply convinced that among us all systems, whether religious or political, which rest on a principle of absolutism must of necessity be not indeed tyrannical, but feeble and ineffective systems; and that methodically to enlist the members of a community, with due regard to their capacities in the performance of its public duties in the way to make that community powerful and healthy, to give a firm seat to its rulers, and to engender a warm and intelligent devotion in those beneath their sway. Can it be thought that this being true of civil is false in regard to ecclesiastical affairs?" Mr. Innes, however, rests his case mainly on the growth of the christian churches outside of Anglicanism and Roman Catholicism. Even in England, with its 35,000 churches, the non-conformist places of worship largely outnumber those of the Anglican church and the Catholics taken together. The only colony in which these two bodies, taken together, make even a half of the population is Canada. This state of things is of course due in the main to the great preponderance of Roman Catholics in Quebec. The adherents of the church of England in Cape Colony are not one-tenth of the population. There are 6,000 congregations in Australia, and the Roman Catholic and Anglican congregations taken together amount to only about one-third of the whole. Of the United States Mr. Innes says:—"That vast majority of the race clusters in and around 92,000 places of worship, not one-tenth of which belong to the Roman and Anglican tradition. By

WIFE-MURDERER HANGED.

Execution of James Kane at Belleville.

BELLEVILLE, Ont., May 21. James Kane was this morning executed here for the murder of his wife. The prisoner took breakfast, eating a good meal, and engaged in his last preparations for eternity. At 7:15 the executioner entered the prison and within a few minutes completed his preparations. It was not until 8:15, however, that the procession for the scaffold left the condemned man's cell. Two minutes later the rope was adjusted around Kane's neck and at 8:20 the drop fell. The prisoner died without speaking. He was pale and composed, but seemed to die hard, his groans being painful to hear. The prisoner's last night was spent quietly as usual. At midnight he lay down and slept quietly until four o'clock a.m. Half an hour later his daughter arrived and at 7:15 bade her father farewell. At five o'clock the prisoner's spiritual advisers, Mr. Farrelly and Father O'Brien, arrived and engaged in devotional exercises.

The story of the murder thus expiated is as follows: Six years ago James Kane, formerly a soldier in the British army, took as his second wife a widow named Elizabeth Skinner. Kane was an Irishman 46 years old, and a Roman Catholic. The woman was English, 49 years of age, and a protestant. Both had families, but while Kane's children had left home his wife's family was with her, or at all events in Belleville. For a week prior to the murder Kane and his wife had not been living together, she residing with her sons, Alfred and James Skinner, children by her first husband. On the afternoon of Monday, March 22 last, Kane went to the shop of James Skinner and asked his step-son where his mother was. He was told that she was assisting at Fred Skinner's, who was removing from a house on Church street. Kane immediately went to the house in question and was near the door by Alfred Skinner, who was leaving the place. He entered the kitchen door and met his wife. Mrs. Alfred Skinner, hearing screams, called to her husband and told him that Kane was in the house with his (Skinner's) mother and was holding her. Skinner rushed in to the house and knocked Kane down. Mrs. Skinner also entered at the same time and Mrs. Kane staggered towards her, but fell immediately to the floor and in a few minutes was dead. In Kane's possession was a razor which he had used to cover his face with blood and with which he had stabbed his wife near the heart, causing her immediate death. The murdered woman never spoke a word. When informed that he had killed his wife, Kane said he was proud of what he had done, and he also expressed the wish that he had killed some of her boys, claiming that it was through them that he had committed the deed. While in jail he confessed that his sentence was a just one.

LOVE WILL FIND A WAY.

A Girl Sets Fire to Her Father's Bed and in the Excitement Drowns.

Sadie McClave, 14 years old, is the spirited daughter of John McClave, a New York canal boatman. She adopted a novel and startling method on Saturday morning to cease the vigilance of her father and see with the man of her choice.

The latter, a man of 35, who was known as James Moran, was employed on a canal boat, unloading coal at the Orange street bridge in Rossville, and was directly adjoining the Sadie, owned by McClave and named after his daughter. McClave did not relish the idea of his bright-eyed child deserting the old canal boat to fill the cabin of another's; and when Moran began to pay marked attention to the girl he was unconsciously ordered to give up his suit.

Notwithstanding every precaution on the part of McClave, the pair met frequently, and finally Moran induced his child sweetheart to elope with him. A plan of action was arranged that was worthy of a farce comedy. The girl slept in the cabin. Above Sadie's bunk was a small window, and when she climbed into the bunk on Friday night without removing her clothes one end of a string was fastened to her little finger and the other end hung out the window.

Shortly after 12 o'clock a sharp pull on the cord aroused the young woman from a fitful slumber. This was a signal from her sweetheart, who was on the outside awaiting her appearance. Stealthily entering the kitchen she drew a shovel of live coals from the stove and placed them under her father's bunk. A scream aroused captain McClave, and when his daughter cried to him that the boat was on fire he sprang out of the bunk, and breaking open the cabin door, which he had locked to keep his daughter captive, shouted for help. A dozen boatmen responded to his cries and just in time, for the coverings of the berth, which had been cast off when the captain sprang out, had taken fire from contact with the coals.

Within ten minutes, however, the fire had been extinguished, and after the excitement had subsided McClave bethought himself of his daughter. A thorough search for her on the pier and in the neighboring canal led to no result, and upon returning to his own boat the captain came upon a note which his daughter had left, informing him that she had eloped with "Jimmie."

Capt. McClave said next night that his only regret was that he had not been able to pay somebody else to do the work that Sadie had been accustomed to doing.

A SENSATIONAL DIVORCE CASE.

Mrs. Mary A. Howland, a pretty, black-eyed little woman of Providence R. I., was defendant in a suit for divorce brought by her husband, the Rev. H. E. Howland. Mr. Howland is in charge of the wayside Mission, on High street, and the women of his flock filed the court room, the juror's chair being a premium. The Rev. Mr. Howland tried to shake hands with his little son, nine years old, when his mother, who has charge of him, pulled the boy away, saying: "He is my boy, and I will not let you shake hands with whoremonger Mr. Howland sitting down and wept. Mr. Howland said he knelt down to pray one night and his wife threw her shoes at him. He said his wife had thrown forks, razors and carving knives at him, and on one occasion was baptizing converts she expressed the wish that he might die in the water. She had also threatened to cut him from limb to limb. Mrs. John L. Sullivan, he said, was a member of his flock at Centerville and his wife was evidently jealous of her. Once in his sermon he said this expression—"I hope to meet you all in Heaven," when his wife scandalized the whole congregation by shrieking aloud: "Did your mother tell you to meet Mrs. John L. Sullivan in heaven?" This remark broke up the service.

EDISON'S LATEST.

Edison has evolved a novel idea which he purports exhibiting at the world's fair in Chicago. In a recent interview he said: "The details are somewhat hazy. My intention is to have such a happy combination of photography and electricity that a man can sit in his own parlour, and see depicted upon a curtain, the forms of the players in the opera upon the distant stage and to hear the voices of the singers. When the system is perfected, which will be in time for the fair, each little muscle of the singer's face will be seen to work. Even the color of his or her attire will be exactly reproduced, and the stride and positions will be as natural as those of the live characters. To the sporting fraternity I will state that ere long this system can be applied to prize fights. The whole scene with the noise of the blows, talk, etc., will be truthfully transferred. Arrangements can be made to send news of the mill a la stock and race ticker.

ROUND THE WORLD.

The Week's Events in Brief—The Cream of our Exchanges.

Many destitute Russian Jews are arriving in England. A daughter has been born to the duke and Duchess of Fife. Socialists made a demonstration against Henry M. Stanley at Sheffield, Eng. The Rome Reformers report that the Emir of Dongola has given his consent to the re-occupation of that province by England. The London Times expects the Russian government to withdraw \$15,000,000 in gold from London during the next month or two. The Austrian government has despatched an ironclad to Corfu to protect the rights of Austrian subjects residing on the island. The Prince of Wales is said to be suffering from muscular rheumatism in the legs which prevents him from standing for any length of time. Since the opening of the railway from Mexico to Vera Cruz, raw sugar has begun to be exported to Liverpool from the ancient land of the Aztecs. Mayor Shakespeare, of New Orleans, has requested governor Nichols to give Italian consul Corti his passports, as his presence is dangerous to the peace of the city. It is now rumored that the czarwitch and his companions got into trouble in Japan while out larking, having behaved in an unruly manner at a place of amusement. At a mass meeting of Italians in Boston a movement was started to erect and present to the city of Boston a statue of Christopher Columbus, to cost \$100,000 or \$120,000. Extensive additions are to be made to the batteries at Inch Keich for the protection of Edinburgh and something will soon be done to improve the defences of Portsmouth. Prof. Wiggins predicts a dry summer this year, and attributes it to the increased use of electricity in towns and the use of wire fences in the country, thus keeping away the storms. In Winnipeg they ask \$20 a foot less for a corner lot than for an inside one, because it costs so much to clear off the snow in winter around corner lots that people don't prefer them. The Vienna correspondent of the London Times says a marriage has been arranged between the czarwitch and the Princess Helen, fourth daughter of Prince Nicholas of Montenegro. Several boys who were candidates for a naval cadetship from the Eighth Michigan district, were rejected because the examining physician found that their hearts had been affected by smoking cigarettes. The skin of Henry Welch, a patient at the Presbyterian hospital, Montreal, who died recently, turned in six months from white to a color as dark as that of a mulatto. The case attracted great interest among physicians. Swarms of young locusts are appearing in upper Egypt. The Egyptian government is issuing instructions on the best means of coping with the plague and preventing the utter destruction of the cotton and maize crops. A despatch from Berlin says: A horrible tale comes from Mannheim. The wife of Fritz Hebler of that place killed her child, cut its body to pieces and pickled the fragments with a batch of sauerkraut, of which Hebler unsuspectingly partook. Rats attacked two children, twins, who were sleeping in their mother's bedroom in a house in Halifax, Tuesday, and large pieces of flesh were bitten from both. Poisoning set in and it was with difficulty that the danger of fatal results was avoided. A Paris despatch says the press announces that a contract has been signed between Russia and the Chatterland mine factory by which the plant and its employees are at the absolute disposal of Russia, who has given an order for 3,000,000 new rifles. At a conference at Glasgow on Tuesday representatives of Scotch miners it was decided to recommend all the mining districts in Scotland to contribute to the support of the strike miners of the south-east, and also to take steps to restrict the export of coal to the continent. Mr. Parnell is now free by law to marry Mrs. Kittie O'Shea. Whether or not he will do so as soon as possible, remains to be seen. But it seems to be conceded on all hands that if he shall take this step his act would strongly hasten the movement to reunite the warring factions of his countrymen. A despatch from Washington says crops are greatly retarded in New York owing to the absence of rain, oats and grass being most damaged. Like conditions are reported from New England, where fields and pastures are being more injured by cool, dry weather. The prospects for fruit in New York and Pennsylvania are excellent. A terrific hail storm near Gainesville, Texas, damaged a section about fifty miles in width. Crops were destroyed, and orchards laid waste by the wind if every locality visited by the storm. Rabbits, birds and other small animals were killed by thousands by the hail. No person is reported hurt. The total loss is half a million. A despatch from Atlanta, Ga., says Rev. E. R. Carwell, a noted Baptist evangelist, after a careful revision of the calculations of Cummins concerning the prophecies of Daniel relative to the world coming to an end, has placed the final overthrow of all things in the year 1901. He makes an ingenious and interesting calculation, and there is a ring of certainty in his predictions that has taken hold of a number of persons. Bismarck's old suggestion that German labor unions might be checked by the introduction of Chinese labor, seems prophetic in the light of events now attracting attention in the labor world. Already many natives have been replaced by Chinamen. The newspapers are taking the question up and expressing the hope that the government will interfere to prevent what bids fair to be a system of virtual Coolie slavery. A sow belonging to Wm. L. Ward, Alton, near Kentville, N. S., got from the pigpen last Friday night, and getting into the stables attacked and killed a valuable cow. It seems that some time since Mr. Ward lost a cow and has since been feeding portions of the carcass to the sow, and her appetite must have been whetted and her vicious nature dangerously aroused by the unusual diet, as recent developments show. A. C. Thomas, who lives in Gadsden county, Fla., and is only 35 years old, is reported to be the father of thirty-two children, all of whom are alive. His wife is three years younger than himself and they were married only fifteen years ago. Twenty months after marriage they found themselves the parents of four bright and beautiful children. With almost unvarying regularity every since the family has been increased by the addition sometimes of twins, sometimes of triplets, until the number has reached thirty-two.

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Northern Red Clover Seed,
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Turnip Seed,
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Just Received, a choice lot of Feed, Seeds, and Fertilizers, consisting of

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ALSKA CLOVER SEED,
RED TOP GRASS SEED,
CANADIAN VETCHES SEED RYE,
SEED BARLEY,
CARLETON COUNTY SEED BUCKWHEAT,
P. E. I. SEED WHEAT,
GREEN SEED PEAS,
CANADIAN FIELD PEAS,
LARGE POTATO PEAS,
FURFLETOP TURNIP SEED,
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LIME, LAND and CALCIUM PLASTER

ALWAYS IN STOCK:
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CLOTHS AND TWEEDS,
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