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Notes of the Week.

The meeting of the Ministerial Association of this city on Monday, 28th ult., was largely taken up with the preparations of one kind and another for Mr. Moody's meetings. The Rev. Dr. McTavish took up the subject of revivals and gave an excellent practical address. He took by way of illustration the Old Testament revival under Asa as given in 2 Chronicles xv. It has been arranged that Mr. Moody will address the Ministerial Association on Monday, November 12.

Groups of lecturers, under the Presidency of Professor Sir J. R. Seeley, and the Vice-Presidency of Mr. G. R. Parkin, are in course of formation in Britain, to preach the "Unity of the Empire." The movement has nothing specially to do with Ireland and Home Rule, but with that larger union of the United Kingdom and the Colonies which has been called Greater Britain. The London "group" consists of Messrs. C. R. Beazley, Nugent Chaplain, J. W. Greig, and eight others.

In Paris, Mr. Campbell-Bannerman, Secretary for War, has been interviewed by a representative of the *Matin*. He spoke of the relations between France and England. One can only smile, he said, when one hears every moment the word "war." It is simply ridiculous. It was strange to see a certain section of the press regard the English as the hereditary enemies of France. He had the deepest conviction that the British nation entertains only sentiments of friendship and sympathy with France.

A short time ago, in response to a circular issued by Rev. William Park, one of the conveners of the Foreign Mission, of the Irish Presbyterian Church, a largely-attended meeting was held in the Lecture-hall of Rosemary Street Church, Belfast, for the purpose of offering united prayer to God on behalf of the missionaries of our own and other churches labouring in China, and to plead for the speedy termination of the war between China and Japan. The Moderator of the General Assembly, Rev. Professor W. Todd Martin, D.D., presided.

The will of the late Senator Ross has been finally settled. Morrin College and the high school receive between them \$170,000, Jeffrey hospital \$150,000, three Anglican churches \$40,000 each, French Mission Presbyterian Churches \$30,000, Women's Christian Association \$16,000, Ladies' Protestant Home \$40,000. Frank Ross, as part of a settlement, agreed to remit \$50,000 to be employed in benevolent purposes in Carlisle, Scotland, and devotes \$30,000 to the establishment and maintenance of a home for Protestant old men and boys.

Mr. Laurier thus gives his impressions of the country which he has passed over to the *Montreal Herald*:—"It is a magnificent country; it has no superior under the sun, and its resources are illimitable. It can supply the world with bread when its boundless prairies come under cultivation. The soil is exceedingly productive, and under such cultivation as it receives from our people there the yield of grain is something enormous. The climate is the finest in the world, and, taken altogether, the country is beyond anything that can be imagined by those who have never seen there. The people are a hardy, intelligent race, thoroughly imbued with a spirit of loyalty to our British institutions. They are proud of the country and proud of being Canadians."

The well-known Rev. Dr. MacGregor, of Edinburgh, has been writing a letter in the *Scotsman* describing a tour in Brittany. He says. There is no lack of human life here or anywhere along these shores, and life comfortably and pleasantly led. The young women of the islands are handsome

pretty, and well-to-do. Referring to marriage customs he adds: The common method is for the man to ask the woman. As is well known, France has adopted a somewhat different method. There the parents select the husband. In these islands, however, there is a decided improvement on both methods, which entitles them to the name of the islands of the blest. Here the women ask the men, and the result seems to justify their action. The custom might, to a limited extent, be tried among ourselves. The result would probably be a decided diminution of the number of bachelors, to the advantage of the country as well as their own

Whatever differences of opinion there may exist amongst us on political subjects, it appears unquestionable, unless the newspapers have entered into a conspiracy to deceive the public, that Mr. Laurier in his western tour has everywhere met with a most cordial welcome. We mention this mainly to add two remarks: first, that it cannot but be a most useful, and for the position he fills, or a member of the Government fills, important education to see for themselves so large a part of the country as has been seen by the Laurier party, and which is so deeply affected by the policy pursued at Ottawa by either party. Mr. Laurier refers to this in his speech at the Winnipeg Banquet. Our second remark is that, whatever there may be in the race and creed question in Quebec, and which is often referred to in our political papers, the welcome given to the leader of the opposition, a Frenchman and a Roman Catholic, in his late tour, and wherever he has been in Ontario, shows that it has but little power in these portions of the Dominion. The force of this example ought to make itself felt in Quebec, and in time it must if it is not now.

A reception was given to General Booth in New York lately, and an address of welcome from various ministers in the city was presented to him by Dr. Bradford, of Montclair. The address had been enthusiastically and with great unanimity adopted at the Ministers' Meetings of the Congregationalist, Baptists, and Methodists. While there was no official representation of the Presbyterians, the address was signed by President Thomas S. Hastings, of Union Theological Seminary, and Dr. Charles H. Parkhurst, of the Madison Square Presbyterian Church, and would, no doubt, have been signed by a very large proportion of the Presbyterian ministers and workers in New York. The address welcomed General Booth to these shores; expressed appreciation of his great work; congratulated him that his life has been spared to lead this forward movement; and closed with an earnest hope that his visit might result in a spiritual quickening both for the Army, and for all the churches, and be the means of binding more closely together his nation and our own. It is safe to say that fully four-fifths of the Protestant ministry of New York were informally, but not less truly, represented in this address.

Lately, a deputation, consisting of Dr. Barrett, Rev. J. Guinness Rogers, and Dr. Brown, waited upon Mr. Gladstone at Hawarden Castle, to present to him a resolution of the Congregational Union, of England and Wales, passed in May in reference to his retirement from official public life, and expressive of the high sense entertained by Nonconformists of his eminent character and distinguished service to the State through a long public career. This resolution, in the form of an Address, having been engrossed, beautifully illuminated, and bound in morocco, was presented to Mr. Gladstone. Mr. Gladstone expressed his sense of the kindness which had prompted the Address, and of the loyalty which Congregationalists had always shown to him, and his admiration of the beautiful manner in which the illumination had been executed. The deputation visited the library he has recently established near Hawarden Church. His intention in founding this library and the neighboring hostel, is to enable country clergymen and others to enjoy a quiet time of study

in some subject in which they may be interested and for which they may have no opportunity nearer home

The cost of the Queen's visit to Manchester upon the occasion of the opening of the Manchester ship canal has just been made public, and as a consequence a great hue and cry has gone up from certain classes regarding the wanton extravagance of royalty. The report of the auditor of Manchester gives the total expenditure on the occasion of Her Majesty's sojourn of a few hours in the city as reaching the enormous sum of \$31,215. So far as the accounts show there can have been very few indeed of the articles mentioned required for her Majesty's own personal use. The bill has risen to such dimensions, either by the extravagance of the Manchester people in their jubilation over the completion of so great a work, or more likely by perquisites, the practice of tipping all and sundry, which so largely prevails in Britain, and to a system of grabbing not to say stealing, which a great many, from whom something else would be expected, shamelessly practise on such occasions. It is hardly fair to lay the expense of these and other things equally uncalled for and unjustifiable at the door of royalty. They are often to be met with where there is no royalty to lay the blame upon.

We have the utmost sympathy with the claims of labour, and recognize that perhaps the gravest problem of society to-day is how successfully so to adjust the claims of labour and capital that justice and general contentment will result. Samuel Gomper, president of the American Federation of Labour, in his circular calling the fourteenth annual convention to be held in Denver, on December 10th., appears to us to employ language which would mean that, at the beck of a few thousand workmen at manual labour in Chicago or elsewhere, the country may be brought into a state of the most imminent danger, one resembling almost a state of war, and yet the Government should do nothing but let it go on unchecked. There must be some limit to what are called the rights of labour, in the sense in which this word is commonly used, and this limit must be found at a point very far short of what may be called almost a state of the total disorganization of society, when every man of a certain class of labourers thinks he may with impunity do what is right in his own eyes. Nobody would so soon and so bitterly suffer from such a state of things as the very men who are loudest in their demands for what are called the rights of labour.

The Toronto Mission Union is one of those non-denominational Christian societies found in this as in all large cities, and which, besides the direct good they accomplish, do a large amount indirectly by bringing Christian people of all denomination together in common benevolent work. It dates from ten years ago, and the names of the late Messrs. Gooderham and Howland were prominently associated with it. Various unforeseen circumstances have resulted in considerable arrears, which should be made up at once if the work is not to be cramped or any of its branches closed. Notwithstanding that many volunteers give time and effort to the work of the mission, its expenses amount to about \$10.00 per day. Its object is to reach the non-church-going and neglected people of the city, and its growth has exceeded the fondest expectations of its founders. Volumes might be written telling of help and comfort brought to poverty-stricken homes, of the sick poor nursed well again, of the naked clothed, and how by this means also the poor have had the Gospel preached to them. Some among the poorest of those benefited by it proposed a self-denial week to help the mission out of its difficulties. Doing this really means self-denial to those who proposed it. This course was adopted as one means of helping the Union, which we hope may be so supported that it may be enabled to go on doing its good work.