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Notes of the Week.

A memorial was lately presented at the Town Hall to the Lord Mayor of Belfast, very influentially signed, asking that a public meeting of the citizens should be called to take into consideration steps for suitably commemorating the "record reign of our most beloved Queen." It was suggested that as there is now an Albert memorial dedicated to the memory of the late Prince Consort, there should be erected a statue of the Queen which would be an ornament to the city, and at the same time a lasting memorial to the loyalty of Belfast.

The public may well be congratulated, as also the authorities of the C.P.R. and its telegraph employees, upon the final settlement, for some time at least, of the differences which lately threatened so seriously to interfere at a most inopportune time with the business of the whole country. After friendly conferences held, it is announced that a final understanding has been reached, and a one year agreement signed, regarding the duties of the men. All parties state that all differences have been disposed of in a manner satisfactory to all. In this we have another evidence and illustration of the more excellent way of settling differences by conciliation rather than by attempted coercion.

Where the stronghold of the liquor traffic in the United States may be found is made very plain in a statement found in *The Voice*. The United States Brewers' Association is a powerful organization, and of the twelve presidents which it has had, eight were foreigners, and three of the remaining four were of foreign descent. Most of the beer barons, like the saloon-keepers, who are their distributing agents, are among the imported evils of the country. Of all the many imported evils which our neighbours have had to struggle against, this is one of the most gigantic, but time, and work, and patience, and prayer will, we confidently believe, enable them yet to overcome it to a great extent, eventually altogether, we hope.

Among other large gatherings of which Toronto is next summer to be the scene, and additional to those which have already been noted, such for example as the British Association for the Advancement of Science and the Convention of the World's W.C.T.U., it appears that two eminent Methodist clergymen from the United States were in this city a few days ago making arrangements with Methodist brethren here, for holding in Toronto next July the third biennial international convention of the Epworth League of the Methodist Church, at which no fewer than 20,000 delegates are expected to be present, among whom may perhaps be the President of the United States. The occasion will be looked forward to with interest by all Christian denominations, as well as by Methodists.

Penny postage, or, as we would say, a two cent letter postage, is one of the good things which we have for some time been looking for, and more especially since the adoption of that rate by the United States. The Montreal and other Boards of Trade have asked this from the Government. It is to be regretted that upon investigation of the subject by the officers of the post office department, the reduction to a two cent rate, it is found, would involve a deficit in that department of from three

quarters to a million and a half of dollars, which would of course have to be made up by increased taxation. A large deficit, it appears, has been the result of the change in the United States. So long as this state of matters continues we must be content to remain as we are, as it is evident there is no advantage to be derived from taking money out of one pocket only to put it into another.

The lamented death of the late Archbishop Benson has necessitated a number of changes in the episcopate in England, all of which Lord Salisbury has made with commendable promptitude. Dr. Temple has been appointed to succeed Archbishop Benson, and Dr. Mandell Creighton, Bishop of Peterborough, to be the successor of Bishop Temple, of London. He was chosen to represent his Church at the coronation of the Czar, and fell greatly in love with all things Russian. "On the whole," the *Christian World* tells us, "he has won the respect of Nonconformists and Churchmen alike." His wife presided at the Congress of Women Workers, at Manchester, and is described as a woman of unusual literary ability, a fine speaker, and a charming hostess. The Rev. Edward Carr Glyn, who has been appointed Bishop of Peterborough in place of Dr. Creighton, is son-in-law of the Duke of Argyll. He is a "moderate" Churchman, a busy organizer, a fair preacher, and a zealous temperance man. Dr. Creighton, it may be added, is also a thorough-going temperance reformer, and is President of the National Temperance League.

The Pope's recent Encyclical deciding absolutely and forever, for Rome is always the same, against the validity of Anglican orders has given our Anglican friends no little trouble, and called forth a perfect deluge of correspondence. How little it troubles Presbyterians is very well illustrated by the language of Professor R. H. Story in his opening lecture to his Church History Class in Glasgow University. "He did not suppose," he said, "there was a single Churchman in Scotland, cleric or lay, who cared a straw whether the Bishop of Rome considered ordination by a Scottish Presbytery valid or invalid. His opinion was of no importance to them. No candid reader of Scottish Church history would deny that the period when that Church was under the influence and control of Rome was the darkest and most corrupt it ever knew, and that it was to Presbyterian Protestantism and not to Episcopacy of any type that Scotland owed what was best in its national character and its modern life."

What England should do with Egypt, is a subject on which some of the European powers are fond of enlightening her. The mind of Britain is probably pretty clearly settled upon what she will do. Lord Charles Beresford thinks it was a mistake for Britain ever to say that her occupation was to be only temporary, and that the time has now come "for a strong, clear, but courteous declaration that the circumstances of the case have altered our policy, and that we intend to stay." As in other countries, so in Egypt; reforms and improvements have been effected during English occupation, before undreamt of. Taxation has been reduced, but instead of a deficit there is a surplus of £1,000,000. Lord Charles well asks, "To whom should it be handed back?" No one would dream of giving it over again to the Turks or

Egyptians. If a plebiscite of the Egyptians were taken, they would wish the British to remain; so would the French property holders. "Lord Cromer," he says, "has done more for the country than Rameses the Great, and his work would last longer. Unless we frankly announced our intention of remaining permanently, we might drift on until things came to such a pass that, in consequence of demands made upon us at an inconvenient moment, our choice would be between war or a humiliating departure from the country."

Some most interesting facts respecting theological schools in the United States appeared in a late number of the *Independent*, taken from the Report of the Commissioner of Education. The Presbyterians, including the different bodies, North, South, United, Cumberland, etc., have the largest number of seminaries and 1,375 students, or 17.9 per cent. of the whole. As to number of students the other bodies stand in the following order: Roman Catholics, Baptists, Lutherans, Methodists, Congregationalists, Protestant Episcopal Church, Disciples of Christ and Christians. The endowments of Presbyterian seminaries amount to about six and a half million dollars, giving an average of about \$40,000 endowment to each of its 167 professorships, while in Union Seminary and Princeton it amounts to nearly \$100,000 for each. The Southern Baptists and the Southern Methodist Episcopal Church have each but one theological seminary. Only six seminaries have an attendance of over 200, two of which are McCormick Theological Seminary, Chicago, and Princeton, New Jersey. Of students in proportion to number of church members the Congregationalists come first with 12, and Presbyterians next with 11 for every 10,000 members. A very much larger percentage of theological students are graduates of colleges than of any other profession amounting to 46 per cent., while of law which comes next, so far as can be determined, only 20 per cent. are graduates.

Reading some of Lord Dufferin's sayings since his retirement from public life, one could not resist the feeling that he and Lady Dufferin were not only pleased but greatly delighted to be at home finally, and to dwell among their own people. At a banquet given in his honour a few days ago by the Lord Mayor of Belfast, he plainly said so. "Having arrived 'red hot from a foreign capital,' and freed from official supervision, he said he felt like a young colt turned out to grass, and ready to kick up his heels at all authority." Although, however, he felt this way he did not follow the course taken by Bismarck, and make any unsettling revelations. The dislike to England among continental nations Lord Dufferin ascribed to her insular isolation, removing her from those anxieties respecting war which haunt them, and keep them ever on the "ragged edge." Yet she compelled respect, and whenever her detractors affected to desecrate upon her loss of prestige, they knew they were talking arrant nonsense. Another statement he made was, after nineteen Christian centuries, a rather sad and discouraging one. It was, "That might and not right was still the dominant factor in human affairs, in spite of Christianity, civilization, humanitarian philosophy, or the lessons of history. No nation's independence or possessions were safe for a moment unless she could guard them with her own right hand. Under such circumstances, he declared, disarmament would be madness."

MANITOBA SCHOOL SETTLEMENT.

Huntingdon Gleaner: Mr. Laurier has fulfilled all his pledges, and the burning question which threatened to disrupt the Confederation has been solved on principles of justice.

Principal Grant: A settlement has been agreed upon by the high contracting parties. A fair chance should be given to it, and what pleases the people of Manitoba will please us.

La Patrie, Montreal. The evil days for the children of the French race are ended in Manitoba. They will have their French and Catholic schools, their French and Catholic teachers, and all without increased expense.

Dr. Caven: The agreement, as outlined, should be eminently satisfactory to the people of Ontario. So far as he was able to judge there should be nothing but satisfaction over the conclusion of the negotiations between the Dominion and Manitoba Governments.

La Verité: The duty of the moment appears to us very clear. The settlement in question cannot be accepted since it does not give the Catholic school to which the Catholics of Manitoba have a right, and which alone can assure the religious and moral welfare of their children.

Witness, Montreal: Is not this a system which on its merits commends itself to intelligent and good-willed people of all races, religions and political parties? It provides for the religious instruction of children by their own pastors or teachers, and for secular instruction of children in their own tongue.

Globe, Toronto: By representative Catholics in Manitoba the settlement is regarded as the best possible, short of the restoration of the Separate School system. Mr. Prendergast, who retired from the Manitoba Government because of the school dispute and who is a good representative of the Catholic laity, has announced that if the settlement is honestly carried out it will be acceptable to the people.

Principal King: The measure is a fairly successful attempt at an equitable adjustment, one which, in my opinion, should meet the approval of fair-minded persons of all creeds and parties. It preserves unimpaired the principle of public schools open to all classes and conducted under direct and full control of the educational authorities of the Province. On the other hand, it furnishes an adequate opportunity, where parents desire it, for that religious instruction to which all Christian men at least attach great importance.

Archbishop Langevin: We wish, in the first place, the control of our schools; secondly, Catholic school districts everywhere; thirdly, our Catholic histories and reading books at the least; fourth, our Catholic inspectors; fifth, competent Catholic teachers, instructed by us; sixth, our taxes and exemption from taxes for other schools. Now our faith is outraged, our religious rights sacrificed, and while, in fact, French, we are not accorded anything but that which is given to any first comer. I protest against this abuse of sacred things.