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Notes of the Week.

In view of the lessons of the Chicago riots last July, the United States Government has determined to concentrate the Federal troops near the large cities. Orders to that effect have already been issued, and the military forces, which have hitherto been widely dispersed, are moving to posts where they will be more readily available in future emergencies.

The German Emperor has approved a new Liturgy submitted to him by the Lutheran General Synod, but he said no compulsion need be exercised, and the fear that it would be unfounded. He expressed a wish that the churches should always be kept open, even when there is no Divine service, for by this he believed a spirit of religion would be promoted in many classes of the population.

Advice given to British agriculturists lately by the Duke of St. Albans might be taken in this country as well. He said, "Beware of over-reliance on the State" and warned farmers not to look to parish councils, or district councils, or Acts of Parliament, but to depend on their own individual activity, industry and skill. They must adapt themselves in agriculture, as in other things, to the latest improvements.

In Brooklyn, New York, much bitter feeling has been stirred up in certain circles by the purchase of a residence in a fashionable street by a wealthy man of colour. It has even been styled "an outrage." On the other hand, in Cambridge, Massachusetts, a coloured woman is principal of a school attended by the children of professors in the University, and she, with her brother, occupies a house in one of the best neighbourhoods.

Money is so often sent to Jerusalem for charitable purposes that it is pleasing to hear of an instance to the contrary. The sum of 230 Napoleons had been collected up to the middle of August, among the Jews in Jerusalem, for the relief of the sufferers by the earthquake in Constantinople. The collection to some extent bears out the statement as to the absence of hopeless misery and dire distress in the Jewish community of Jerusalem.

This year almost every English village will have the excitement of an election for parish councillors, as 10,000 in all are to be elected throughout the country, and, although at present there is little enough of stir in many places, yet every week increases the interest felt in the new departure. Englishmen love a fight, and there is a sound of battle in the air. The old suspicion between the Episcopal and Nonconformist churches is showing itself, and the Conservatives and Radicals are calling out their forces.

Union Theological Seminary, in New York, has reopened with no diminution of students, and with a notably large attendance of young Presbyterians. Dr. Briggs delivered the opening address, in which he made no reference to the conflict that had raged about him in the Presbyterian assemblies. *The Evangelist* makes this friendly remark: "A stranger might have supposed himself listening to one whom the church delighted to honour, instead of one who had been debarred by the highest tribunal as unfit for the work of preaching the gospel."

At the conference of women workers, lately held in Glasgow, the organising secretary, Miss A. Janes, spoke of the immense good which an educated, kindly woman of leisure might do in a village, and recommended ladies who could do so, to go and live in the country—a suggestion which, for many reasons, might very wisely be adopted. Happily,

there are villages in which already good women have made their influence felt; and there is a great hope expressed that of the ten thousand Parish Councillors, who are about to have the care of the villages entrusted to them, not less than a third will be women.

With a view to prove what could be done in an emergency, such as the Chicago labor riots the Governor of Massachusetts lately ordered every uniformed military company in the State to report for duty in Boston within twenty-four hours. Six thousand men were mobilised in a day, from points more than 200 miles apart. They went through the riot drill in the streets of Boston, with drill in ambulance work and in signalling, and with couriers on bicycles conveying orders through the city. They returned to their homes the same night. The experiment cost the State \$15,000, and it was regarded as well worth its cost.

What was once the dream of some of our highest thinkers as to municipal government has been splendidly realized in well equipped public schools in every neighborhood. What has been done for education might well be extended to other departments of life. Public lodging-houses, laundries, baths, parks, playgrounds, a sympathetic and systematic way of dealing with honest distress, cheap and abundant water, light and transit—these are some of the features that should characterize the ideal municipality. The municipal management of these things belong to a noble socialism, with which no man can quarrel, and in most instances it could be done without any further Parliamentary sanction.

The National Executive of the Y.M.C.A., of England, recently communicated with secretaries of associations, urging them to include in their programmes provisions for lectures and meetings designed to give information in regard to special forms of temptation, and to the evils of intemperance, betting and gambling, and impurity, and to help young men to resist any and every form of temptation in the direction of such evils; also that a small pamphlet be prepared for circulation among the associations, which shall give information as to methods and plans of work that have been successfully employed for combatting these evils, and which may be recommended to the associations for adoption.

Dean Hole, of Rochester Cathedral, England, gave a lecture last week in Massey Hall. A Toronto *World* reporter interviewed him, and, as the reverend Dean entertains views on the Sabbath which correspond with those of the *World*, that journal takes the opportunity to turn its batteries again in its characteristically unfair and sophistical style upon Principal Caven. We trust that the friends of a quiet and peaceful day of rest for the sons of toil in this city, will not fail to notice that the enemies of such a Sabbath as we now enjoy, are untiring in their efforts to deprive us of it, and that unless constant, vigorous and organized efforts are put forth to preserve it, we shall be sure, sooner or later, to lose it.

President Seth Low, of Columbia College, New York, has opened a very practical field of investigation and research to the students of Columbia College. A number of them are making a practical investigation into the social system of the tenement districts of New York City. The work will be under the guidance and supervision of the Department of Sociology. In this department courses of instruction will be offered on pauperism, poor laws, methods, charity, crime penology and social ethics. It is one thing to get the theory of things, and quite another to study the conditions as they really exist. New York offers as great opportunities, probably, as any other city in the country for the prosecution of such studies.

An important meeting was held in the Presbyterian College, Montreal, a few days ago, and in some respects significant of new and truer views of duty. It was a meeting to devise some system of organized relief for the Presbyterian poor of the city. A large number of ministers was present, and took part in the discussion of the subject. It is confessedly a difficult one and and there naturally was some difference of opinion as to how best to go about attaining the desired object. It was generally admitted that this winter is likely to be a hard one for the poor, not in Montreal alone, we fear. The weather in this city has been as yet very favourable, and every day tells on behalf of the poor. Finally, the whole matter was referred to the Presbytery's city mission committee to devise a scheme, or plan, and take action.

The position of the Jews with regard to higher education in Russia may be gathered from the figures which have just reached a correspondent in Odessa from the university towns of Kieff and Kharkoff. At the beginning of the present term 525 petitions were handed in to the university authorities of Kieff from students who had finished the usual gymnasium course, and were therefore entitled to proceed to the university. Of these 375 were from Christians and 150 from Jews. In the gymnasiums in this district Christians are to Jews in the proportion probably of seven to one. The Christians were almost all accepted by the university authorities, but from the 150 Jews only 39. In Kharkoff there were altogether 215 students accepted, including 11 Jews. The total number of Jews who sent in petitions was 86. The proportion of Christians to Jews in the gymnasium of this district is probably three times as great as in Kieff.

In his inaugural address as Principal of the Theological Hall, Edinburgh, of the Evangelical Union, the Rev. Dr. Hodgson discussed the position of evangelical theology, which he said was assailed on the one hand by Empiricists, and on the other hand by Idealists, two distinct and opposing schools of thought. They might not be able to sympathize with either Empiricists or Idealists, but in what they each affirmed they might find something of which they might cordially approve, and it might not be unlawful or unprofitable even in theology to learn from foes. On behalf of evangelical theology they claimed that it was upon facts ideally interpreted that it was founded. As evangelical theologians they agreed with the Empiricists in insisting upon the value and essential importance of facts as a foundation of faith and doctrine. The meeting was also addressed by Principal Hutton, Professor Simpson and Dr. Adamson.

The London Missionary Society, whose centenary comes next year, is taking time by the forelock. It lately held a centenary meeting in the Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool, by way of affording a foretaste of the general celebration next year. It was crowded with an audience of four thousand. A Baptist chapel across the way was crowded also with an overflow meeting. At each place the enthusiasm was overpowering. "The whole wide world for Jesus," was the motto hung over the platform. The committee proposes the raising of a Centenary Thanksgiving Fund of £100,000 in payments extending over four years. The Rev. Richard Lovett, M.A., recalled the society's work in the South Sea Islands, in Africa, in China, in Madagascar, and elsewhere, and the triumphs it has won. Everywhere civilization had followed in the footsteps of the society. He contended that the money spent on missions, leaving the spiritual results altogether out of the question, has been returned with handsome interest in commercial profits, and in literary and intellectual treasures.