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Notes of the Week.

If war between China and Japan break out the operations will necessarily be of great interest, whatever the result. We believe it will be the first conflict between two purely Asiatic States armed with European weapons that has ever occurred, and it may have extraordinary effects in arousing one or other of them to take its place among the great nations of the world.

The first case Lord Chief Justice Russell tried recalled a dictum of Lord Morris's *apropos* of Sir Charles's elevation to a Lordship of Appeal. "You English," he is reported to have said, "are a tolerant people—your highest Court of Appeal consists of a Scotchman, two Irishmen, and a Jew." There has been no Roman Catholic Chief Justice since the Reformation till the present one, and in his first special jury two gentlemen were sworn as Hebrews.

In view of the expected visit to this country this fall of General Booth of the Salvation Army, preparations are already being made for his reception. Orders have been received in Woodstock to engage the largest hall and make all necessary preparations for a monster meeting to be held there sometime in September or October. The occasion will be a memorable as well as an impressive one, it will be honored with the presence of General Booth, the renowned founder and father of the Salvation Army and the philanthropic man who is the author of such humanitarian works as "In Darkest England."

Herbert Spencer takes a very dark view, one which, however we may fear it, we hope will not be realized, of the prospects before the United States in view of recent labor disturbances there. Writing some time ago to James A. Skilton, General Secretary of the World's Congress of Evolutionists, he says: "In the United States, as here and elsewhere, the movement towards dissolution of existing social forms and reorganization on a socialistic basis I believe to be irresistible. We have had times before us, and you have still more dreadful times before you—civil war, immense bloodshed, and eventually military despotism of the severest type."

Sir Oliver Mowat has just passed his seventy-fourth year, and we heartily join with all others who have done so, in congratulating the veteran premier on being still—notwithstanding his advanced age, and the great battles he has fought, not to speak of skirmishes innumerable—so hale and vigorous, and wishing him the continued enjoyment of these and other and higher blessings for many years to come. We did fear for him during his last election campaign, but fighting happily, appears to agree with him and although we cannot just say we wish it, yet as his political opponents are likely to give him plenty of it, we are happy not to dread it.

The directors of Toronto's Industrial Fair, to be opened on September 3rd, are sparing no efforts to make this surpass all former Exhibitions. For the season their preparations are unusually well advanced. Prominent among the special attractions is the world renowned "Siege of Algiers," showing terrific combats by land and sea, with war vessels in motion, and closing with a gorgeous pyrotechnic display, exceeding in brilliant effects anything heretofore witnessed. A very large number of visitors are coming from the States as well as from all parts of the Dominion, the public fully appreciating the advantage offered by railway excursions at greatly reduced rates.

Seventeen missionaries representing the Church of England, the London, the Wesleyan and other societies, and each of at least twenty-five years' standing in China, have presented a memorial to the Royal Commission on Opium. They claim to be expressing the opinion of nearly every Protestant

missionary in China, and of the whole native Christian community numbering several tens of thousands, when they assert that opium is exerting a distinctly deteriorating effect upon the Chinese people; that the drug imported from India is neither required nor generally used for medicinal purposes, and that the conscience of the whole Chinese people is distinctly opposed to the opium habit.

The taste for military pomp and display is not what it once was. The Republic of Hawaii is not of course, and never can be, a very great power, but when its constitution was read on the 4th of July from the front steps of the palace by President Dole, there was no military display whatever. The reading of the constitution first in English, then in Hawaiian, was greeted with cheers and the ceremony was over. Not the slightest demonstration was attempted by the supporters of the ex Queen. Hawaii holds the reins of power. It is only, it is said, a change of name: the same people are in power and the avowed purpose of the Government is the same—to obtain annexation with the United States.

Rev. Father Langevin, the probable successor of the late Archbishop Tache, is not yet thirty-nine years old. Father Langevin studied at the Montreal College, where he passed with high honors. After completing his studies he remained at the Montreal college for two years, afterwards studying theology at the Grand Seminary. When he had served the church in various capacities he was then sent to Manitoba as superior of the missions in the North-west, in which capacity he has visited all parts of the country, and made friends wherever he went, both among Catholics and Protestants. Father Langevin is a Doctor of Theology, of a most charitable disposition and a fine speaker. His appointment is not quite certain, but it is more than probable that his name will be selected from the three that will be sent to the Pope.

The Anglican Church, both in England and Canada, is much given to talking of and parading before the world a great desire for Church Union. The meaning of such talk in England, and it is not very much different in Canada, may be seen by what a correspondent to the *Christian World* of London says in a late number:

I have been staying for the last few weeks at a picturesque Cheshire village where, for want of any Nonconformist chapel or meeting-house nearer than three miles, I attended each Sunday the parish church. I give the following extract from the sermon delivered in this church last Sunday:—

"One Bishop, one altar in one place. No one has the right to set up another altar; it is a sin to do so, and to take the Communion at such is to tear Christ's body."

What is the use of talking of the "Reunion of the churches" while this kind of doctrine is promulgated from the pulpit, and, it is to be feared, forms the only religious nourishment of many of our villages?

The Canadians of the Christian Endeavor Convention at Cleveland did not hide their country or their loyalty as British subjects, under a bushel. Their good taste as to the manner of showing it, may perhaps have been questionable, but it certainly showed the utmost confidence in the good humour and good manners of Uncle Sam, when they carried a British flag along a street of Cleveland. A great American policeman, however, spied the "offensive rag" and ordered it down. Imagine constables in a city in England or Scotland paying any attention to a little band of respectable persons carrying any foreign flag. Their ideas are a little bigger than that, over there, and over here too. Some day the convention will come to Toronto, and we can assure our dear American cousins that when they come they may carry not only the Stars and Stripes, but a flag for every State of the Union if they like along our streets and no one will molest them.

The struggle over Disestablishment of the National Churches in Britain grows more and more keen. The Church Defence Institution is a society

to oppose disestablishment. This is apparently not thought adequate to the existing crisis, and a new society is being formed, under the auspices of the two archbishops, whose ramifications are to reach every diocese and every parish throughout the kingdom. The special objects of the society are to unite church people everywhere in church defence, to diffuse "facts and truths" about the church, to circulate leaflets, to work through the press, to promote public meetings and to form "a voluntary staff of able speakers." The society is to have a diocesan organization with a central committee. Ladies are to be pressed into active service, a ladies' general committee being contemplated, which is to be in communication with diocesan ladies' committees throughout the country. It is said this new society is to work in strict harmony with the older Church Defence Institution.

Col. G. T. Denison is well known in this city to be of a bellicose turn of mind, and nobody pays the slightest attention to his hysterical warlike sayings. It is different when he goes to Britain, and, posing as a Canadian military man, tells people there that Americans hate England, and nothing prevents them seeking a war with the Mother Country but their fear of the British Navy and of 5,000,000 of Canadians. Bosh. Every intelligent Canadian who has travelled in the States and mixed with the people, knows that this is not only too ridiculous to be believed, but that it is a slander upon the great body of the American people. They have among them some fools, as we have in Col. Denison and a few more like him, who talk in this way, and who perhaps feel so; but that the state of feeling is what the fire-eating colonel declares it to be, no one who knows the American people will believe. It is not only shameful, but wicked and mischievous for Canadians to go to Britain, and by such utter folly to attempt to breed and keep up ill feeling between two kindred peoples, who, for almost every imaginable reason, connected with not only their own, but the whole world's well-being, should cultivate to the very utmost and live for all time in peace and amity and good will. Exit Col. G. T. Denison.

The Roman Catholic Bishop of Columbus, Ohio, has issued a mandate refusing to recognize Catholic societies which elect liquor-sellers to official position, and his action having been sanctioned by Mgr Satolli in a very wise and temperate letter to the bishop, the liquor-dealers of New York and Brooklyn feeling their business to be in danger have taken action. "We voice," say they, "the sentiments of a large majority of the liquor-dealers of this city and Brooklyn in saying we dare Archbishop Corrigan to enforce in letter and spirit the decree against the liquor traffic just issued by Mgr. Satolli, the Papal delegate. Let the archbishop do it, and watch the consequences." Just like them, and like their business. We have seen specimens of this spirit in Canada. And, to quote the old proverb, "they have put their foot in it." They have thus thrown down the gauntlet to the whole Roman Catholic Church and her Hierarchy. Their language boldly declares that, in New York and Brooklyn at least, Rome is in bondage to rum, and that Archbishop Corrigan dare not follow Bishop Watterson in refusing to recognize Catholic societies which elect liquor-sellers to official position. Had they said nothing Archbishop Corrigan might have done nothing, for the action of Monsignor Satolli was not imperative except in so far as common propriety insisted on the course which in the case of Bishop Watterson had been approved. It is now, however, a question whether the church dare or dare not, whether it must admit the dominance of the liquor interest or not. The archbishop can hardly afford to decline the challenge. We shall see which is master. No one church can do more to stamp out the liquor traffic than the Roman Catholic Church, and we may all wish that she will rise up in her might and do it.