

ARE CLOSE TO PEKIN

ALLIES BELIEVED TO BE WITHIN STRIKING DISTANCE.

General Chaffee Sends a Message, Dated Last Thursday, Stating That They Were at Hos Pi Wu—At the Rate of Advance They Would Now Be Nine Miles From the Capital.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—The American commander in China, in a dispatch of just three words received at the war department, sent a thrill of exultation and expectancy throughout official quarters by announcing his arrival at Hos Pi Wu, only 33 miles from Peking, last Thursday. The last heard from him before this was at Yang Tsun, which had been captured after a hard fight, and word of his movements since then had been eagerly awaited. Thursday he was 18 miles beyond Yang Tsun. Lang Fang, the place where the ill-fated Seymour expedition met its fate and turned back, had been left behind. The battle of Yang Tsun was fought on the 6th and the advance to Hos Pi Wu was accomplished on the 9th, a march of 18 miles in three days. This was four days ago and at the same rate of progress Chaffee is even now fairly

Within striking distance of the walls of Peking. It was a consummation which the war department had awaited calmly, and, stirring as the news was that the American force was now nearing the gates of the imperial city, Secretary Root and Adjutant General Corbin evinced no surprise, as it accorded with calculations. The dispatch from General Chaffee is as follows:

Arrived Hospiwu (Hos Pi Wu) yesterday. At the rate of progress, six miles a day, made from Yang Tsun, Hos Pi Wu, about 33 miles, would have been reached in four days and this would still leave the international force nine miles from Peking. Viewed from any standpoint, the advance to Hos Pi Wu was of the utmost importance, not only strategically but also in showing that the expected opposition from Chinese hordes had not been sufficient to prevent the steady foreign movement and in the influence it would exert upon the Chinese government.

YANG TSUN FALLS.

Chaffee Reports the Occupation of Another City by the Allies.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11.—The following dispatch has been received at the war department from General Chaffee, sent via Che Foo:

Yang Tsun, Aug. 6.—Yang Tsun occupied today. Casualties about 60 men, Ninth United States infantry; Fourteenth United States infantry and Battery F, Fifth United States artillery. Nearly all from Fourteenth infantry. Names later. Many men prostrated heat and fatigue.

The following dispatch relating to the fall of Yang Tsun was received by the signal officer of the army here:

Che Foo, Aug. 9.—Yang Tsun captured Aug. 6. Wire up. Need own transportation. All well.

Yang Tsun is the town which General Chaffee indicated in his dispatch as being the objective of the international forces on their then pending movement. It is at the junction of the Pei Ho and the railroad leading to Peking. Its capture will insure to the international troops, it is hoped, two routes of transportation to Peking. It is 17.8 miles from Then Tsun.

WILL TRY TO HOLD OUT.

Minister Conger Sends a Brief Message to General Chaffee.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—During the day the war department officials awaited anxiously additional news from General Chaffee. One dispatch was received from him transcribing a message he had received from Minister Conger. The message was as follows:

Peking, Aug. 4.—We will hold on until your arrival. Hope it will be soon. Send such information as you can.

While the message of Minister Conger contains nothing new, it was encouraging to the officials to have renewed assurances of his ability and determination to "hold on" until relief reached him. That General Chaffee will communicate with the besieged minister tidings of hope and good cheer if the opportunity be afforded him, officials here are certain. Minister Conger's expression of hope that the long-looked for relief may soon reach him simply adds to the determination of the government to press forward to Peking as rapidly as may be possible.

FEW DEFENDERS LEFT.

Chinese Again Desperately Attacking the Legations at Peking.

LONDON, Aug. 15.—A special dispatch from Shanghai, dated Aug. 13, says that numerous reports from Peking, dated Aug. 2, have arrived there describing the situation at the Chinese capital. It appears that the Chinese are again desperately attacking the legations, which have very few defenders left. It is also alleged that Prince Tuan and 100 high officials have left Peking and that the news of the capture of Yang Tsun caused a heavy exodus of the Chinese.

It is held that the execution of the Chinese Emperor, the Cantonese who was the aggressor of China to the Chinese, has created a panic, and it is believed that Lu, the former vice-president, was killed in battle at Peking.

INSURGENT ACTIVITY.

American Losses in the Visayas Islands Unusually Heavy Last Month.

MANILA, Sunday, Aug. 12.—Reports from the Visayas islands show that there has been increased activity among the insurgents there during the last six weeks. The American losses in the island of Panay last month were greater than in any month since January last.

General Mojica in Leyte, and General Lucban in Samar, are harassing the garrisons, shooting into the towns during the night and ambushing small parties, firing and then retreating upon the larger bodies. The rebels possess an ample supply of ammunition and are organized to a considerable degree.

The Americans have garrisoned three towns on Samar island, two of which shelter a tenth of the original inhabitants, who suffer from the continual "sniping" of the rebels from the surrounding hills. The third is without any native inhabitants, the rebel outposts, a mile away, preventing their return to their homes. General Lucban punishes the islanders who have any relations with the Americans. Cebu is likewise disturbed.

When amnesty was proclaimed it practically was without effect, and the expectation that the proclamation would accomplish much before the expired time is daily diminishing.

FILIPINOS SURRENDER.

War Department Receives a Cablegram From General MacArthur.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 14.—The war department has received the following dispatches containing news from General MacArthur at Manila:

Colonel Grasse, Aug. 12, in vicinity of Tayuga, surrendered command to Colonel Freeman, Twenty-fourth United States infantry, consisting of 1 major, 6 captains, 6 lieutenants, 169 men, 101 rifles and 50 bolos.

STILL AFTER DEWET.

Kitchener Keeping in Touch With the Boer General's Force.

LONDON, Aug. 15.—Lord Roberts reports to the war office, under date of Pretoria, Aug. 13, as follows:

Kitchener reports from Schoolplaab, eight miles east of Venterdorp, that Dewet blew up three of his wagons. Six British prisoners who escaped from Dewet's camp state that Mr. Steyn is confined in the camp under surveillance, and that Dewet was forced to abandon his ammunition and 30 horses.

They also confirm the report that Methuen captured one of Dewet's guns and shelled the main convoy effectively. Mr. Hamilton telegraphs that he hopes to be at Blauwbank today with his main body. Mahon's mounted troops are pushing on to the westward.

Another report from Lord Roberts of the same date says:

Methuen and Kitchener still following Dewet and Steyn yesterday reached Modderfontein, 10 miles east of Venterdorp. Methuen is in touch with Dewet's rear guard.

Buller's occupation of Ermelo is having a good effect. A field cornet and 183 burghers of the Standerton commando surrendered yesterday to Clerj.

SOO CANAL BLOCKED.

Schooner Maida Parts Her Wheel Chains and Sinks Across the Channel.

SAULT STE MARIE, Mich., Aug. 15.—The schooner Maida, bound down in tow of the steamer Matao and loaded with a cargo of iron ore, parted her wheel chains when abreast of the sailor's encampment in St. Marys river and went aground across the channel, completely blocking navigation for loaded boats for Lake Superior. The Maida brought up in almost exactly the same position where the steamer Douglas Houghton was sunk across the channel last year. That wreck delayed the commerce of Lake Superior for over a week and cost the business interests over \$1,000,000.

The Maida struck the rocks on the side of the cut with such force that her bow is stove in and her forepeak full of water. No boats can get by through this route until the vessel is lightened off. The towing companies sent fleets of tugs to the wreck as soon as the trouble was learned.

REJECTED ALL BIDS.

New Advertisements for Armor Plate Will Be Issued.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 15.—The navy department has rejected all bids for armor plate opened Friday.

The action of the department does not mean that the government will adopt the alternative of building an armor plate plant, but new advertisements will be issued and new bids received. The bidders will be given an opportunity to adjust their terms to meet the requirements of the department, especially in regard to the delivery of the armor. The length of time required for this in the first bids was one of the reasons of their being rejected.

FAIRLY SIZZLED.

Southwest Experienced Hottest Weather in Years—Corn Rapidly Dying.

KANSAS CITY, Aug. 15.—The Southwest was fairly sizzled during the day, the hottest weather for years prevailing. The most intense heat was experienced in Southern Kansas, where the temperature in nearly every town exceeded 100 degs. The maximum was reached at Salina, where 112 degs. was registered on the streets and 108 in the shade. McPherson, Kan., reported 107. In Kansas the corn leaves curled and ears are dying rapidly.

NEW SOLDIERS' HOME COMMANDANT.

MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 15.—Captain James Compton of Pergus Falls has been elected commandant of the Minnesota soldiers' home at Minneapolis by the board of trustees at its annual meeting.

H. H. Towler of Minneapolis was re-elected president of the board of trustees. George N. Lamphar of Moorhead was elected secretary.

END CAME SUDDENLY

PRESIDENT HUNTINGTON OF THE SOUTHERN PACIFIC DEAD.

Had Been in Unusually Good Health for Some Time Past but Lived Only a Few Minutes After Being Attacked With a Choleraic Spell—His Wealth Estimated at \$50,000,000.

RACQUETTE LAKE, N. Y., Aug. 15.—C. P. Huntington, president of the Southern Pacific Railroad company, died at his camp, Pine Knot, in the Adirondacks, about midnight.

Apparently well on retiring at 11 o'clock he was taken suddenly with a choleraic spell, which was quite common with him, and which was not thought to be serious, but he became



COLLIS P. HUNTINGTON.

worse. As soon as the seriousness of the attack was realized, a messenger was dispatched to the neighboring camp of Governor Lonsberry for a doctor, and he was on hand in half an hour. Mr. Huntington died without regaining consciousness, not more than three-quarters of an hour having passed between the attack and his death.

Early in the day of Monday Mr. Huntington appeared to be enjoying the best of health, walking about his preserve and taking a trip on his private steamer, the Oneota, and he remarked to his friends that he was feeling unusually well. Mr. Huntington, wife and servants arrived at Durant on Friday, Aug. 10 in their private car. The steamer Oneota was awaiting their arrival at the wharf to convey them to their mountain home, Pine Knot camp.

LITTLE EFFECT ON STOCKS

Southern Pacific Dropped a Point but Soon Rallied.

NEW YORK, Aug. 15.—Mr. Huntington's death had little effect on the general stock market. Even his own stocks, chief among which was Southern Pacific, were hardly disturbed. Some large lots of Southern Pacific came out in the initial transactions, but they were promptly taken by banking interests known to represent the late millionaire, and as a result the price of Southern Pacific soon rallied from its one point decline. It seemed to be the general opinion of those conversant with Mr. Huntington's affairs that he had left his properties in such shape as to permit of easy handling by others.

A meeting of the Southern Pacific interests and certain prominent banking interests were held early in the day. The Southern Pacific road and other corporations all carry large deposits in this city and are frequently in the money market. It seemed to be the opinion of the bankers at the conference that no apprehension need be felt because of Mr. Huntington's death. Wall street estimates the fortune of Mr. Huntington at from \$40,000,000 to \$50,000,000.

GUS RUHLIN DEFEATED.

Knocked Out by Fitzsimmons in the Sixth Round.

NEW YORK, Aug. 12.—Bob Fitzsimmons of Australia met Gus Ruhlín, the Akron giant, before the Twentieth Century club at Madison Square Garden and won by knocking the Ohioan down and out in the sixth round. Fitzsimmons did the trick cleanly and cleverly. It was a fierce and bloody battle while it lasted and at times looked as though Ruhlín would get the better of his man, but Fitzsimmons at the proper time would out-loose with his fearful body blow, which finally snuffed out the Ohio boxer's light.

Fitzsimmons conceded about 89 pounds to Ruhlín, and this in itself was a serious handicap. But, as the result showed, Fitzsimmons was equal to the task he had set for himself and won out with that terrible solar plexus blow, which, whenever it landed, shook Ruhlín from head to foot.

Fitzsimmons left the ring five minutes after he had delivered the winning punch, but it took Ruhlín 15 minutes to come round sufficiently to be able to walk to his dressing room.

INGALLS SINKING RAPIDLY.

The Kansas Ex-Senator in a Critical Condition.

ATCHISON, Kan., Aug. 15.—Ex-Senator John J. Ingalls, who is in Las Vegas, N. M., for his health, is sinking rapidly, and his son, Sheffield Ingalls, has started for the bedside of his father. A telegram from Mrs. Ingalls announced the serious condition of Mr. Ingalls, who has been in the Southwest for over a year for a throat difficulty.

Submits Without Resistance.

PARIS, Aug. 15.—A special dispatch to The Temps says the tribes of the Touat Oasis of North Africa have submitted to French authority without resistance and that General Serviere has occupied Abraz, the principal city of that region.

DESPERATE BATTLE.

Union Pacific Train Robbers Killed Near Goodland, Kan.

GOODLAND, Kan., Aug. 12.—The two men who held up a Union Pacific train near Hugo, Colo., last Sunday morning, killing W. J. Fay, a passenger, and plundering the passengers, were killed by a sheriff's posse at the Bartholomew ranch, three miles east of this place. The robbers were located in the house on the ranch during the morning and the posse lined up and cut off escape.

After a fusillade between the robbers and the posse, in which J. Briggs and George Cullins, deputies, were shot, one of the robbers jumped from a window and sought to escape, but was shot to death. The posse then lay siege to the house, in which the remaining robber stood guard with a Winchester, and finally succeeded in setting fire to the building, which was destroyed with its occupant.

There is no doubt of the men being the train robbers. On the body of the one shot in the morning was found a watch, two black calico face masks, a lady's watchchain and charm and an opened envelope addressed to some illegible name at Hugo, Colo. The second body has been brought to town. The man in the house had a large roll of bills, but these, with the robbers' two valises, were burned. Both were about 30 years of age and of the desperado style, having threatened to shoot several farmers who refused to keep them.

BARON RUSSELL DEAD.

Was Lord Chief Justice of England for a Number of Years.

LONDON, Aug. 13.—Baron Russell of Killowen, lord chief justice of England, died during the morning.

Lord Russell suffered from gastric catarrh. The fact of his illness was not generally known until it was announced that at a consultation held Thursday between doctors it was decided that an operation was imperatively necessary. It was afterwards said that the patient had stood the operation well, and that his strength was maintained.

At 6 p. m., however, Lord Russell took a turn for the worse, soon became unconscious and passed away peacefully at 8 a. m.

The war office telegraphed the news of the chief justice's death to his youngest son, Hon. Bertrand Joseph, who is at present serving as a lieutenant of the Royal Artillery in South Africa. The Hon. Charles Russell, another son of the deceased, is now in Canada.

Driscoll Addresses the Printers.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Aug. 15.—Frederick Driscoll, commissioner of the American Newspaper Publishers' association, addressed the International Typographical union convention as a representative of the special standing committee of the American Newspaper Publishers' association, making several suggestions in the interests of harmony between the publishers and the International Typographical union.

LATE MARKET REPORT.

Duluth Grain.

DELUATH, Aug. 15. WHEAT—Cash No. 1 hard, 79½c, No. 1 Northern 77½c, No. 3, 72½c. To Arrive—No. 1 hard old 79½c, No. 1 Northern old 77½c, No. 1 hard new, 78½c, No. 1 Northern new 76½c, September 76½c, December 77½c. FLAX—Cash \$1.40, September \$1.36, October \$1.33.

Minneapolis Wheat.

MINNEAPOLIS, Aug. 15. WHEAT—In Store—No. 1 Northern 74½c, September 74½c@74½c, December 76½c. On Track—No. 1 hard 77½c, No. 1 Northern 74½c, No. 2 Northern 73½c.

St. Paul Union Stock Yards.

ST. PAUL, Aug. 15. HOGS—Market opened higher and closed steady at the advance. Range of prices \$4.50@5.10. CATTLE—Market steady. Sales ranged at \$3.75@4.25 for choice butcher cows and heifers, \$4.75@5.25 for choice butcher steers, \$3.25@3.50 for fat bulls, \$3.50@3.75 for veal calves, \$3.40@4.10 for good choice stockers and feeders, \$3.25@3.50 for steer calves. SHEEP—Market for fat sheep and lambs steady. Sales ranged at \$3.50@3.90 for choice fat sheep, \$4.25@4.65 for good to choice lambs.

Chicago Union Stock Yards.

CHICAGO, Aug. 15. CATTLE—Market shade lower to steady. Sales ranged at \$5.80@5.95 for good to prime steers, \$4.60@5.25 for poor to medium, \$3.25@4.65 for stockers and feeders, \$3.80@5.00 for cows and heifers, \$4.25@5.00 for Texas fed steers. HOGS—Market steady to easier. Sales ranged at \$5.00@5.30 for mixed and butchers, \$4.90@5.25 for good to choice heavy, \$4.75@4.95 for rough heavy, \$3.00@3.35 for light, \$3.00@3.35 for bulk of sales. SHEEP—Market steady to stronger. Sales ranged at \$3.75@4.00 for good to choice wethers, \$4.25@5.05 for native lambs.

Chicago Grains and Provisions.

CHICAGO, Aug. 15. WHEAT—September 74½c@76c, October 73½c@75c. CORN—August 86½c, September 87½c, October 87c. OATS—August 21½c, September 21½c@21c, October 22c. PORK—August \$11.55, September \$11.90, October \$11.65. FLAX—Cash Northwestern \$1.37, Southwestern \$1.37, August \$1.37, September \$1.35, October \$1.32½. POULTRY—Turkeys 7c, chickens 9c, spring chickens 11c. BUTTER—Creameries 16@20c, dairies 14½@15c.

TAKES OATH OF OFFICE.

King Victor Emmanuel Assumes the Reins of Power.

ROME, Aug. 18.—King Victor Emmanuel III took the formal constitutional oath before parliament. The senate chamber was draped with mourning, the benches and tribunes being covered with black furnishings, bordered with silver. The chamber was filled with senators and deputies, high officials of state and the diplomatic corps.

The booming of cannon announced the departure of the royal party from the Quirinal.

All along the route large crowds were assembled and gave the new king an ovation. He was received on the steps of the senate by the committees of the chamber of deputies and senate in a pavilion specially erected and handsomely decorated. When the cortege entered the senate chamber, the king being accompanied by the Duke of Aosta, the Count of Turin and the Duke of Genoa, the deputies and senators arose and then began a long and exciting scene of enthusiasm. His majesty later took the oath and delivered an address. The weather was beautiful.

TORPEDO BOAT SUNK.

Fatal Collision Between Ships During Maneuvers of the French Navy.

PARIS, Aug. 14.—During maneuvers of the French fleet off Cape St Vincent a collision occurred between the first class battleship Brennus, flying the flag of Vice Admiral Fournier, commander of the fleet, and the torpedo boat destroyer Framee. The Framee sank immediately. The accident was due to the fact that the Framee turned to the right when ordered to the left.

Details thus far received are very meager, but only a small portion of the crew, consisting of 4 officers and 58 men, were saved. It is believed that no fewer than 50 were lost, and great anxiety is felt here. The Framee, which was of 310 tons displacement, was a recent addition to the French navy.

STRYCHNINE IN MELONS.

Texas Farmer's Mysterious Plan to Stop Boys Stealing.

CLEBURNE, Tex., Aug. 13.—At Bluffdale, an isolated place was this city, several white boys entered a farmer's watermelon patch and ate and destroyed many melons. A few days later the boys wrote the farmer a note, telling him they were going to visit his patch again and would get even more melons than on the previous visit. The farmer split the stems of some melons and inserted strychnine. Six boys visited the patch and ate of the doctored melons. Two died in the patch, two on the way home and two after reaching their homes.

WILL ABOLISH ROYALTY.

Canadian Government to Establish More Liberal Mining Regulations.

VICTORIA, Aug. 13.—It is officially announced that the government has determined to abolish in its entirety the obnoxious 10 per cent royalty and to establish at Dawson a government assay office, where gold will be taken from the miners at its exact worth, certificates being issued, which the banks will cash at full face value. A small export duty will be imposed upon the gold itself.

Two members of the Dominion parliament are to be elected from Dawson in October.

ADDRESS SCANDINAVIANS.

Republicans Will Send Speakers to Northwestern States.

NEW YORK, Aug. 13.—Mr. Fischer-Hanson has been selected to go to Chicago to take charge of the Scandinavian bureau at Republican headquarters. He will be associated with Secretary Heath and states that he will assign speakers who will address Scandinavians in Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Illinois and the Dakotas. Mr. Fischer-Hanson will make his first speech of the campaign in Chicago next Thursday night.

MASSACRE IN TURKEY.

Two Hundred People Killed in an Armenian Village.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Aug. 11.—Advice received from Bitlis, Asiatic Turkey, say that 200 men, women and children have been massacred in the Armenian village of Spaghank, in the district of Sassun, by troops and Kurds, under Ali Hasha, the commandant of Bitlis. He is also said to have ordered the village to be burned.

Kaiser Wilhelm Breaks the Record.

LONDON, Aug. 14.—The North German Lloyd steamer Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse, Captain Englehart, which sailed from New York Aug. 7 for Bremen, has made the record passage of any steamer sailing from Sandy Hook to Cherbourg, covering 3,134 knots in 5 days, 19 hours, 44 minutes. Her average speed was 22.79 knots per hour.

Boom in the Iron Trade Expected.

PITTSBURGH, Aug. 13.—A great boom to the export trade in iron and steel products is expected to result from a meeting which is to be held in New York on Thursday of this week. The object of the meeting is to secure, if possible, a special export rate on these products by placing them on the same plane that grain occupies.

Total Casualties Seven Hundred.

PANAMA, Aug. 15.—The official report of the government commander in the recent battle at Panama says the rebel casualties were 600 and those of the government 100. The commander intimates that the consuls favored the rebels and that their intervention was "dangerous and pernicious."

Wealthy Stockmen Murdered.

ST. JOSEPH, Mo., Aug. 13.—Joseph Phelps and Frank Craig, wealthy stockmen, were fatally shot three miles from Nodaway, Mo., by two men who attempted to rob them. The stockmen had just returned from selling cattle at St. Joseph. They had deposited the proceeds in the bank.

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

A New Jersey inventor has designed a machine that will strip tobacco leaves of the thick stems and turn them out ready for manufacture.

The largest match factory is in Austria, and each year it uses 23,000 pounds of phosphorus, turns out 2,500,000,000 matches, and for the boxes uses 160,000 feet of wood.

A manufacturer of certain machinery in England inserts an advertisement in some of the technical periodicals in which he uses French, Spanish, German and Japanese side by side.

It is reported that in Japan the rather extensive arrangements are under progress with the object of trying acetylene gas for train illumination. The carbide is to be manufactured by a native concern.

Queensland is being gradually converted into a large orchard. The Australian orange in particular has a great future, as it ripens at a time when Spain, Italy and California cannot provide the fruit.

In Russia a sentence not exceeding one month's imprisonment or a fine of not over 100 roubles is imposed upon those who manufacture, prepare or sell, for commercial purposes, flax which contains foreign matter.

At the large quarries at Furnace, on Lochlynness, Argyleshire, Scotland, a blast was recently made, in which four tons of powder were used, and it was estimated that some 30,000 tons of rock were dislodged by that blast. The height of the rock over the mines was 75 feet for a distance of 40 feet.—Railway and Engineering Review.

The largest stone ever quarried, so the manufacturers say, has been extracted from a granite ledge near Vinalhaven, Me., to serve as one of the eight columns destined to support the great dome of the Episcopal cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York. In the rough the stone measures 64 feet in length and is 8½ feet thick and 7 feet wide, its weight being 310 tons. To turn it into cylindrical form a lathe that will cost more than \$15,000 must be specially built.

GOLD COINS "SWEATED."

English Swindlers Are Taking as Much as Fourteen Grains from Some Sovereigns.

Since the beginning of the year it has been noted at the Bank of England that an unusually large number of light gold pieces are in circulation. Finally, the mint authorities instituted an investigation, resulting in the discovery that such coins are being systematically "sweated" by immersion in acids. Those engaged in the operations are not common swindlers. They have capital and brains and are not actuated by an overreaching greed. The Bank of England records show that the average amount of gold "sweated" has been six grains from each sovereign, which would mean a profit of about one shilling per coin. Apparently, the members of the gang vary their methods according to the character of the persons to whom the "sweated" coins are to be tendered. Some sovereigns are barely a grain short in weight, while others are as much as 14 grains. The coins appear fresh minted, and it is impossible to detect the fraud except by weighing; but few persons except bankers keep scales delicate enough to weigh a single coin, and a majority keep no scales.

Up to the present the post office has been the chief sufferer, and the matter has become so serious that the postmaster general has issued a special warning to officers in his department. He warns the staff that all gold coins received at post offices should be sent to the Bank of England for examination, and that those found short should be cut in two and the deficiency made up by the officers who received them. But the postmaster general has failed to assume the resultant responsibility of providing the officers with coin-weighting scales and the officers want to know how they are to detect the coins which, apart from a few grains deficiency in weight, are genuine. A lively agitation is now afoot, and if redress cannot be obtained earlier, the aggrieved officers will have the matter brought before parliament in February.

The headquarters of the "sweating" gang are believed to be in some provincial town, but all efforts of the mint and Bank of England detectives to locate the gang have so far failed.—N. Y. Sun.

A Queer Mexican Procession.

Several young men belonging to good families in Pachuca decided to greet the end of the world announced by Prof. Falb in a royal manner. They, therefore, hired three flat cars which they adorned with a profusion of Chinese lanterns. The first car was occupied by a splendid piano which was played by the well-known Prof. Arturo Jimenez; the second car was occupied by an orchestra of well-known amateurs. These cars were followed by a long procession of cyclists with their wheels adorned and all carrying torches. The effect of this procession, as it traversed the streets, was very pretty. Flowers, confetti and serpentine rained on the merry-makers from the balconies as they passed.—Mexican Herald.

Automatic Tunnel Lights.

In the Batignolles tunnel, near Paris, incandescent electric lamps, arranged in rows along the tunnel walls, are to be automatically illuminated and extinguished by passing trains, the rims of the car wheels operating the electric switches. The lamps, being each of ten-candle power, and placed at the height of the car windows, will serve to illuminate the interior of the passing coaches, thus superseding the use of lights in the train.—Youth's Companion.