

CUBAN INDEPENDENCE STRONGLY URGED.

The Insurgents Have Two Advocates in the United States Congress,

Senators Cullom of Illinois and Call of Florida.

The Former Delivers a Carefully Prepared and Strong Speech in Behalf of the Struggling Patriots to Free the Island From the Rule of the Spanish Government—Proceedings in the Lower House.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The independence of Cuba and the recognition of the insurgents as a regularly organized Government had two advocates in the Senate to-day in the persons of Senators Cullom (R.) of Illinois and Call (D.) of Florida.

Cullom delivered a carefully prepared speech in support of his views, while Call contented himself with a brief discussive statement.

The bill to restrict immigration—a motion by Gibson (D.) of Maryland to postpone its consideration until the first Monday in January having been defeated by a vote of 13 to 37.

On motion of Aldrich (R.) of Rhode Island it was agreed that when the Senate adjourn to-day it be until Monday.

A bill to authorize the Judges of the United States District Courts to appoint stenographers was introduced by Allen (Pop.) of Nebraska, and was referred to the Judiciary Committee.

A resolution was offered by Herrmann (R.) of Ohio, and was adopted, for the appointment of three Senators to make the necessary arrangements for the inauguration of the President-elect on the 4th of March next.

At the close of the morning business Cullom (R.) of Illinois addressed the Senate on the Cuban question. He prefaced his speech with the introduction of a joint resolution declaring that "The extinction of Spanish title and the termination of Spanish control in the islands at the gateway of the Gulf of Mexico are necessary to the welfare of those islands and of the people of the United States."

Cullom after a brief reference to the President's message in regard to the island of Cuba, said:

"We are already placed in such position that some certain course of action must be adopted. Whatever course it may be it must be such as shall give proper recognition to the rights, under the existing conditions, belonging respectively to Spain and Cuba. It must also recognize the rights and pretensions of the world at large—of the nations and the people who stand aloof and watch with deepest interest this struggle for independence and for liberty against absolutism. And not the least of the responsibilities imposed upon us as a nation is the conservatism of our own rights and interests. In fact, this latter is the determining factor which must control our course."

"While I am not disposed to criticize President Cleveland, I may properly say that I had hoped he would find occasion to give more positive or emphatic expression of the true American continental policy which ought to be invoked in all cases where the liberty and independence of any of the peoples of the American continent are involved. And, further, I think we ought never to hesitate or delay when the lines of this policy run parallel and coincident with those of common humanity."

"There may be no warrant in international law for any interference between a Government and its subjects, provided that Government belongs to the family of nations, or is recognized as one of the Powers of the earth. Still, does not the great heart of humanity beat in sympathy with the poor souls apparently forgotten by the Master and left to bear the burdens of cruel and relentless oppression? Is there no way, no light, no hope? Must the brutality of might alone define the offense and mete out the penalty, with no human power to whom intercession may be made?"

Having sketched the career of the former Spanish-American colonies, Mr. Cullom went on: "While all the provinces which have rebelled and separated from Spain have become prosperous and fairly well conditioned, independent countries, the feeble old mother country has gradually fallen into lower and lower estate, depending and almost relying for existence upon the stolen gold levied upon Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands. Spain continues to be what she has always been—a robber nation. I speak now of the nation, and not of her people."

"We violated every precedent by the declaration of our own independence on July 4, 1776. We had no precedent, nor did we even ask for advice as to the change in 1789 from a confederation to a union of States. When we announced the Monroe doctrine in 1823 it was in defiance of precedent, and was the determination of a rule which has become a law, and will never be gainsaid. When we announced not many months ago that we should intervene in the matter of the Venezuelan boundary and see for ourselves if our rights were to be concluded by foreign dictation, we followed no precedent but that of good American common sense. And common sense has won."

"We now have reached the time to take another step in advance. We have already proclaimed that the United States will have something to say regarding matters affecting the American continent, and we should now announce that the speedy termination of Spanish control of the islands at the gateway of the Mexican Gulf is necessary alike to the welfare of those islands and to the people of the United States."

"The present situation cannot con-

tinue. A population of 950,000 white Cubans and 500,000 colored Cubans, aggregating 1,450,000 persons, will never yield, and ought not to submit to the bloody military rule of 160,000 Spaniards. The Spanish element, which has always controlled and dominated Cuba since its discovery, numbers only about one-tenth of its population. Columbus declared this the most beautiful land ever beheld by human eyes, in October, 1492. Now, in 1896, it is given over to devastation and destruction. Within its borders rages a war, which on both sides is declared to be a war of extermination on one hand or liberty and Spanish exclusion on the other. This condition must cease. The Spanish, after two years of war, have failed to establish peace, and the insurgents have failed to reach their hoped-for independence.

"This war of extermination must stop. This Congress of the United States has already recognized by solemn resolution the belligerent rights of Cuba, but so long as it has not received the executive approval it has no force; and if it had it is conceded that some other course must be taken. The question to be determined is not fully clear, except that the war must cease.

"The average Spanish gentleman in Spain is the object of adoration, but Spain without Cuba is to him the world without the sun. The revenue from Cuba has been the chief joy of Spain for many years, and if Cuba should now be separated from the Spanish throne the sun would cease to shine upon the Alhambra.

"Cuba to-day is lost to Spain. The public proclamation of Spanish defeat may not have been officially and definitely announced, but the truth and the submission of Cuba will never again be yielded as of old. The tribute of \$25,000,000 to \$40,000,000 annually so long exacted will never again replenish the treasury of Spain. The struggles of 1895 and 1896 may sadly cripple Cuba, but they will ruin Spain. Cuba, with its wonderful soil and climate and its unparalleled capabilities, will retain in material wealth and growth under benign influence far more than she has lost; the blood of her people spilled upon her soil will yield a growth of independent citizenship consecrated to liberty. This age is not an age of retrogression.

"Whatever may be said regarding our duty as a nation toward a friendly power which is striving to suppress an insurrection in Cuba, still no one, either in America or Europe, misunderstands the situation. Every humane heart, American or foreign, sympathizes deeply and sincerely with the rapid and pillage by which the insurgents in Cuba seek to weaken their enemies, but with the spirit which leads them to look constantly and with hope toward that star of liberty which they believe will lead them to Cuban liberty.

"The American people are coming to the consideration of the Cuban situation, as they already have in certain other cases, as a great political question, a continental question. If you please, and being a political continental question it will be decided ultimately by the continent whose interests are most clearly involved. Geographically considered, Cuba cannot belong to Spain. Geographically Cuba is in American waters, and politically it is entitled to Statehood in the continent of American republics.

"This great continental question, therefore, when stripped of all complications, becomes in plain and simple language, shall Cuba be free?"

"This country will never consent to the transformation of Cuba into a slave pen for the holding in servitude of the captured patriots and insurgents who are fighting for the dearest rights of men. We will not permit that island, a land which has the brightest possibilities for a people of intelligence and enterprise, to be made the abiding place of death and destruction. The war now being waged is avowedly a war of extermination or utter crushing out of liberty in Cuba's 50,000 square miles of territory. Think of it! An island which in ordinary years exports more than a million tons of sugar and many millions of dollars in value of other products. Has the United States no interest in our own trade and commerce with an island from which we receive fully 90 per cent. of the vast sugar product, and much the larger part of all her other productions? The interest of the United States, counting all things passing between the two countries, reaches perhaps \$100,000,000 annually, and already this trade has been practically wiped out.

"I believe it to be the duty of the United States to use the great power attaching to the nation to declare and to maintain, as a prerogative of right belonging generally to republicanism and specifically to this republic, that no charnel house of ruin shall be continued in the West Indian waters, whose waves break at our very front gate, any longer than the time it shall require to break it up. And if the duty of suppressing this damning blot, and erasing it forever from sight, shall fall alone upon the United States, so be it. Have we fallen so low as to have forgotten the sacrifices which men of genius and character and honor made in behalf of this country in its days of trouble? We shall not stand alone in the warfare which may follow in behalf of common humanity. Nation after nation will make joint cause with us in such a struggle, and when we have succeeded and shall have made into law the principle and made into history the fact, every other country worth naming will regret its mistake in not participating in the humane work.

"The effort cannot fail. We shall not wage any warfare for the acquisition of territory for ourselves. We shall not claim Cuba as a reward for saving her from the slaughter, but we will not see that fair island turned again to the mercies of wild beasts and vultures of war, whose only stimulus is gain. Cuba free—Cuba free—is the reward, and that a glorious reward will that be! Every citizen of the United States will feel that his birthright as an American freeman will mean something.

"A settlement must be made. The account has been open and running long enough. To its settlement we may properly invite the co-operation of all the republics of the American continent. If other means fail, we may consider the propriety of a fair purchase of Cuba. That method has had its share of consideration under previous administrations. It is not that we want the territory, but we mean that the trouble shall meet a just settlement and conclusion.

"The wisdom and discretion of an American President and Cabinet can certainly find a way to determine the trouble without imperiling the interest

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YEAR'S WORK OF THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

Attorney-General Harmon Submits His Annual Report to Congress.

Satisfactory Results of the New Salary System.

A Very Large Reduction Shown in Every Item Which Would Naturally be Affected by the Fee System—Fees of United States Marshals Alone Reduced About Four Thousand Dollars Over the Previous Year—Other Matters Touched Upon.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Attorney-General Harmon, in his annual report to Congress, expresses his satisfaction at the results so far as obtained of the new salary system which displaced the old fee system on July 13th of the present year. The returns, he says, afford striking evidence of the wisdom of the course so long advocated, which removes the public service from some of the common temptations to extravagance and abuse. A very large reduction is shown in every one of the items which would naturally be affected by the fee system. The fees for the United States Marshals will show a reduction for the year of about \$400,000 from those of the previous year. Other reductions will be made approximately as follows:

"Fees of jurors, \$25,306; fees of witnesses, \$807,073; pay of bailiffs, \$94,420; salaries and expenses of District Attorneys, \$192,042. The report shows that although there was an increase during the year of fifty in the number of cases docketed by the United States Supreme Court, there was an increase of eighty-four in the number disposed of.

"The dockets at the close of the last term show that they were drafted by a different set of men and presented at different times. There is a general state of pushing arising, but there are also many special statutes punishing embezzlement in particular cases, and I am not aware that it has yet been settled whether the general statute applies to such cases or not. There are statutes punishing frauds in the United States in many specific cases, and there is a general statute punishing conspiracy to defraud the United States, which covers all cases, but no general statute punishing frauds against the United States when committed by one man alone.

"I think a new Crimes Act should be passed as speedily as possible, which should contain provisions simple, easily understood and general in their scope, covering such crimes as those above stated; that a uniform system of punishment should thus be provided, and that as to cases arising in the future the present laws relating to these crimes should be repealed. This work could be done easily and quickly performed by a commission.

"The increasing repugnance on the part of juries to inflict death penalties, in connection with the fact that the law makes no degrees in murder, constantly leads to the entire acquittal of persons charged with capital crimes in cases where the facts proven warrant conviction for murder, but obliged the court to decrease 107 cases since the close of the preceding term. At the end of the October term (1894) there remained undisposed of on the appellate docket 640 cases, and upon the original docket 7 cases, making a total of 647. The number of cases docketed at the October term (1895) was 386, of which 382 were on the appellate and 4 on the original docket, making the total number of cases pending at that term 1,033, of which 1,022 were on the appellate and 11 on the original docket. Of this number 494 were disposed of during the October term (1895), of which 489 were on the appellate and 5 on the original docket.

"The number of cases actually considered by the court was 47. The Attorney-General points out two defects in the criminal laws to which the attention of Congress is invited. The first, he says, is the unnecessary and unfortunate confusion of our criminal legislation. Provisions are constantly enacted to meet special defects. The second is that it is often difficult to ascertain which of two or more laws is applicable to the case in hand. Cases arise which ought to be covered by the law, but are not, and the same offense is visited at various degrees of punishment not determined by any difference in criminality, but merely by the fact that the various statutes relating to special instances of the offense charge the offender with the commission of a mere manslaughter. This danger to society can be at least mitigated by the establishment by statute of different degrees of murder with corresponding appropriate grades of punishment.

"The second defect, the unfortunate results of the present law governing writs of error to the Supreme Court in criminal cases, Defendants in criminal cases are generally poor. It is hard for them to obtain counsel to defend them at home, but it is generally beyond their power to obtain counsel to argue their cases before the Supreme Court.

"The cases of the United States against Hovecker, the Attorney-General says, disclose another grave defect in our criminal procedure. The decisions are that the statute permitting the Supreme Court to review on the questions of criminal law upon certificate of division between the Circuit and District Judges has been implicitly repealed. The court had previously held there can be no error on behalf of the United States in a criminal case. The consequence is that when a doubtful point arises in a criminal case there is no way in which it can be taken to the Supreme Court except by resolving the doubt in the first instance against the prisoner, permitting a conviction, and casting upon him the burden and expense of prosecuting a writ of error. "I recommend either that the right to certify division in opinion in such

cases be restored or that a writ of error be allowed to the United States upon questions arising on demurrer or motion on arrest of judgment."

The Attorney-General says that last September complaint was made to him that a certain telegraph company which had in other countries reached by a monopoly which would exclude all American companies, were about to land a cable on the shores of Long Island.

"Knowing that Congress, at its last session, had under consideration a bill to regulate the landing of foreign cables, and believing that the general sentiment favors the exclusion of companies organized in countries who retain their privileges to American companies, I deem it my duty to direct a suit to be brought in the Southern District of New York to enjoin the consummation of the plan above mentioned. My chief design was to afford Congress an opportunity to act upon the matter before this cable is laid.

"On the subject of Pacific railways the Attorney-General says that the report of George Hoadley, special counsel for the United States, shows that there is substantial change in the state of the litigation about the Union Pacific Railway and its branches.

He continues: "I have grave doubts as to the ability of the Government to preserve the present situation much longer. I am advised that an attempt will be made to enforce the Government's appearance in the foreclosure case, with a view to giving a complete title to the purchaser at the foreclosure sale. While I believe the position heretofore taken and still maintained for the Government is the true one, namely, that its appearance cannot be compelled, it must be confessed that the contention of opposing counsel is at least debatable, viz.: That while the Government cannot be sued with a view to giving a complete title, it may properly be made a party to a suit in equity brought by the holder of bonds issued by its express consent upon property upon which it has itself reserved a lien.

"Many complaints have from time to time been made by private citizens and others of combinations in restraint of trade and commerce and of alleged monopolies. I have caused to be investigated as well as the motions and force at my command permitted such of them as seemed likely to come within the scope of official authority over interstate commerce and trade, to which alone it extends. The only case, however, in which sufficient evidence was discovered to justify action was the joint traffic association of trunk line railways, against which a bill was filed by the United States on January 9, 1896, in the Circuit Court for the Southern District of New York.

"The court, Judge Wheeler presiding, dismissed the bill, holding that the articles of agreement of the association were not in violation of the law. The case is now pending in the Circuit Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit and will soon be argued.

"The case of the United States against the Transcontinental Freight Association, consisting of eighteen railways west of the Missouri River, which was brought in the District of Kansas to enjoin a contract and combine among these companies to maintain rates of freight, was decided against the Government in both the Circuit Court and the Circuit Court of Appeals, one Judge of the latter court dissenting. The case is now pending on appeal in the Supreme Court of the United States and will be argued about the time Congress assembles."

BEHRING SEA CLAIMS.

CASE OF THE CAROLINA BEFORE THE COMMISSION.

Evidence on the British Side Nearly Completed—The Citizenship of A. F. Bechtel.

VICTORIA (B. C.), Dec. 10.—The British case in behalf of the schooner Carolina claims having been practically completed before the Behring Sea Claims Commission this morning, Don M. Dickinson obtained a postponement of the hearing of evidence until to-morrow, so that he and his colleagues might have time to look over the British evidence. He, however, put in some preliminary evidence so as to save as much time as possible.

Upon Mr. Dickinson starting to read extracts from the United States case presented at Paris Mr. Peters took objection that while it was quite competent for the United States to use any of the British case at Paris against the British side now, it was not permissible that the statements made by the United States at Paris be used, unless simply qualifying the extracts from the United States case used by the British before the present commission.

Dickinson replied that the extracts were simply qualifying extracts read by the British side. Peters had read extracts from the United States case to show that seals had been numerous in Behring Sea in 1886, and the extracts from the United States case he now wanted to read were to show that even if they were that was no proof that schooners could have caught them.

Peters held that the extracts were not qualifying, but distinctly different. The Commissioners, however, decided that Dickinson could read his extracts, and that gentleman proceeded to do so. They were from the affidavits of witnesses for the United States, stating that two-thirds or even more of the seals were lost to hunters.

Dickinson next wanted to put in the naturalization papers of A. F. Bechtel for the purpose of showing that Bechtel had been a United States citizen before he became a British subject. Bechtel, it will be remembered, had a mortgage on the Carolina when seized, and only became a British subject some years later.

Peters objected to the naturalization papers going in as quite irrelevant. He objected to the citizenship of Bechtel coming up at all. However, that was a question which will no doubt come up on final argument.

Dickinson withdrew the papers, and after the United States had put in a letter from the Department of Fisheries of Canada, dated July 28, 1887, to show that Mr. Muskie had been informed from Ottawa of the decision of the United States Government in April of that year to give back the schooner Carolina, the commission adjourned.

AN AWFUL DISASTER OCCURS AT SEA.

An Italian Steamer Founders Off the Spanish Coast.

Not a Single Person on Board the Vessel Saved.

The Ill-Fated Ship Carried a Passenger List of Two Hundred and Ten People, Consisting of 113 Russians, 35 Galicians, 61 Spaniards and One German, Besides a Crew of Seventy-Eight Persons.

CORINNA (Spain), Dec. 10.—The Italian steamer Saller, formerly the property of the North German Lloyd Company, foundered off the Spanish coast in the recent heavy gale. All on board perished.

The Saller was bound from Bremen to Buenos Ayres via Corunna and Villagarcia. The passengers were mostly in the steerage.

NEARLY THREE HUNDRED LOST.

LONDON, Dec. 10.—Lloyd's agent at Vigo telegraphs that the Saller has been totally lost on the Corunna Corruvada shoals. Not a single person on board the steamer was saved. It is believed in London that the disaster occurred on Tuesday, when a terrible gale along the European Atlantic coast did extensive damage to shipping.

Lloyd's agents here discredit the report that a large number of emigrants were on board the Saller, but they do not deny it.

A dispatch from Bremen asserts that there were 210 passengers on the steamer, including one German, 113 Russians, 35 Galicians and 61 Spaniards, and adds that it is feared that all of them were lost. The crew numbered seventy-eight persons.

The loss of the Saller is another of the series of disasters that have attended the fortunes of the North German Lloyd Steamship Company. It calls to mind the frightful loss of life that occurred early in the morning of January 30, 1895, when the steamship Elbe, belonging to that company, was run into in the North Sea and sank by the British steamship Cratonie, when nearly 300 people lost their lives.

JUDGE M'KENNA OF CALIFORNIA NOW PROMINENTLY MENTIONED AS A CABINET POSSIBILITY.

CANTON, Dec. 10.—A new name has swung into prominence here to-day as a Cabinet possibility from California, and for the moment is more eagerly discussed than were the names of Judges Waymire and De Haven in their turn. The man of the people's choice, according to the unofficial makers of the Cabinet, is Judge Joseph McKenna, who was appointed to the United States Circuit Court bench by President Harrison. Judge McKenna was an industrious and able member of Congress and served during a portion of Major McKinley's term in the National Legislature. He is well known by the President-elect.

Mrs. McKinley left to-night for a visit in Chicago with her cousins, Mr. and Mrs. Lafayette MacWilliams of that city, who have been guests at the McKinley residence for a few days past. The party was composed of Mrs. McKinley and maid, Mr. and Mrs. MacWilliams and Mr. and Mrs. Morse of San Francisco, who have been guests of the McKinleys. Mrs. McKinley will probably be away for a week, and while she goes to rest and get a change of scene, the first time for several months, it is also understood that the matter of an inaugural wardrobe will receive some attention.

TURF EVENTS.

Yesterday's Races at San Francisco and New Orleans.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 10.—Ingle-side. Weather fair, track good. Strathleed was the only losing favorite at the track to-day, Dunne's horse sulking all the way. Seven furlongs, selling, Gutta Percha won, Doyle second, Franco third. Time—1:30. Seven furlongs, selling, Wyoming won, Frank K. second, Miss Rose third. Time—1:29. Five and a half furlongs, purse, two-year-olds, Zamar II. won, the Roman second, Fig Leaf third. Time—1:09 1/4. Seven furlongs, purse, Alvarado won, Walter J. second, Instigator third. Time—1:30. One mile, selling, Salvable won, Peter the Second second, Can't Dance third. Time—1:42 1/4. Mile and a sixteenth, selling, Hermita won, Morte Fouse second, Foremost third. Time—1:50.

AT NEW ORLEANS. NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 10.—Results: Six furlongs, Anna Mayes won, Issie O. second, Mollie P. third. Time—1:07 1/2. Five furlongs, Koenigen won, Gold Top second, Ivory third. Time—1:04. Mile and a sixteenth, Squire G. won, Fasig second, New House third. Time—1:52 1/2. Six furlongs, Dorah Wood won, Bryan second, Olivia L. third. Time—1:10 1/4. Six furlongs, Woodlake won, If second, Whiff third. Time—1:18 1/4.

A PREACHER IN JAIL.

Held on Suspicion of Having Murdered His Wife.

WEST CHESTER (Pa.), Dec. 10.—School children to-day found the body of a woman in the pond in this town. They gave the alarm, and the body was taken from the water and identified as the wife of Rev. Samuel Bailey, an evangelist, who has been living here since last spring. Inquiries made by the police have

placed the preacher in a delicate position and he was arrested and held to wait the result of the Coroner's inquest. The woman, it is believed, was murdered. For some time there has been trouble between the couple. Last week Mrs. Bailey ran to a neighbor's house and told how her husband had attacked her with a butcher knife. She had escaped him after a desperate struggle. Later he asked her forgiveness, and she returned to her home.

The accused preacher acknowledged that he and his wife had been living unhappily, and said that she frequently threatened to commit suicide. He declared that she arose about 4 o'clock Saturday morning and left the house. He did not see her again, but on Tuesday night received a letter from her which had been mailed at Media, and which said she was going to stab herself.

INTERNATIONAL BIMETALLISM.

Enough Votes in the Senate to Pass a Bill Favoring It.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—In accordance with the instructions of the Republican caucus, Senator Sherman this morning named the following Senators as the committee of five to devise legislation for action by this session looking to an international monetary conference: Senator Wolcott of Colorado (Chairman), Hoar of Massachusetts, Chandler of New Hampshire, Carter of Montana and Gear of Iowa. This is considered as a conservative committee, with a majority friendly to international bimetalism.

DOUBLE TRAGEDY.

A Nebraska Physician Shot by His Son, Who Commits Suicide.

MISSOURI VALLEY (Nebr.), Dec. 10.—At 8 o'clock this evening Ben Freeman shot and mortally wounded his father, Dr. Freeman of this city. Then turning the weapon on himself, young Freeman sent a bullet crashing through his own brain, dying instantly. Dr. Freeman is an old resident of this city, and well known throughout the country. Young Freeman only arrived home from California last week. The cause of the murder and suicide is not positively known, but domestic troubles are hinted at.

Inventor of Nitro-Glycerine Dead.

NICE, Dec. 10.—Alfred Nobe, the inventor of nitro-glycerine, died last evening at San Remo, Italy.

ADVICES FROM THE ORIENT.

THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE TO BE TAUGHT IN CHINA.

Li Hung Chang Deprived of a Year's Salary for His Offense in Entering the Palace Grounds.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 10.—The following special correspondence of the United Associated Press, under date of Tokio, November 24th, was received today per steamship China: "The Chinese Government has issued instructions to the Viceroy and Governors throughout the empire to establish schools for teaching the English language and Western sciences in all the principal cities. The reason assigned is that China desires to keep herself on terms of equality and in touch with the great Powers of Europe.

A somewhat serious outbreak on the part of the Chinese semi-officials occurred on the 5th of November in the Peho River, near Tientsin. A lighter loaded with goods for an English steamship was being tugged down the river, when she fouled one of the Government rice junks which were anchored in the stream. The tug and lighter were immediately boarded by a mob of junkmen, and though the crew of the former managed to beat off their assailants, the latter was held prisoner by several hundred of the invaders until representations from the British Consul induced the Viceroy to take steps for her release.

News from Shensi is to the effect that although the Mohammedan rebellion is virtually over, the disbanded troops are committing wholesale outrages. The beheading of several of their number and the issue of imperial proclamations had no effect on them, but a heavy rainfall, with its usual Chinese accompaniment of roads two feet deep in mud, has checked them for the nonce.

It is alleged that Li Hung Chang's so-called "offense" in entering the palace grounds in Peking was not due to any carelessness on his part. Indeed, everybody had difficulty in comprehending how an old official of such long experience could have perpetrated a blunder of the kind. The story now told is that, at the close of his first audience with the Emperor-Dowager on his return from the Occident, the imperial lady suggested that Li should examine the improvements and changes made in the grounds during his absence. He proceeded to do so, encountered a eunuch, failed to give the man a sufficient douceur, and was reported to the Emperor, who, being at daggers drawn with the Empress-Dowager, gladly seized the occasion to slight her. The Board of Punishments sentenced Li to be deprived of all his offices, but the Emperor commuted the penalty into the loss of a year's salary.

The ratifications of Japan's revised treaty with Germany having been exchanged, German subjects become entitled to the protection afforded by Japanese laws to patents, trade marks and designs. The same privilege will doubtless be soon extended to other nations, negotiations to that end being now in progress.

On November 16th G. D. Wendrich, Russian Consul at Kobe, took his life by firing a revolver into his mouth. No satisfactory explanation of the tragedy is forthcoming. He had made all his preparations with such resignation and calmness that his friends observed no change whatever in his appearance or manner the night before the event. It is suggested that despondency resulting from illness was the cause for the suicide.

The wedding ring is worn on the left hand because, symbolically, the right hand denotes authority and the left hand obedience.