

About People and Social Incidents.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

Washington, Dec. 29 (Special).—Dismal rain and sleet kept the President in his office nearly all day, and gave an opportunity for several visitors to see him. Among them were Senators Bowersox, Joy and Fletcher, Leslie Combs, the new minister to Guatemala, Civil Service Commissioner Foulke, and Captain Walsh, of the New-York police force.

There is a certain amount of humor in some of the Christmas presents received by the White House young folks. Among their most prized gifts are three realistic bears, a ferocious looking grizzly bear from New-York, a tiny black bear from the South and a brown bear from the Northwest. The President was greeted on Christmas morning with the announcement that if he would come into the nursery and bring his rifle he could "get a bear."

The President and Mrs. Roosevelt devoted some time to-day to placing the historic portraits of previous occupants of the White House. At the end of the morning the portrait of the late President Arthur, and next in order will be placed Presidents Polk, Jackson, Harrison and Fillmore, the last near the entrance to the East Room. In the basement corridor portraits of Mrs. Tyler, Mrs. Van Buren, Mrs. Polk, Mrs. Hayes and Mrs. Harrison have been hung. In the "Love and Life" and "The White House" picture gallery, which formerly hung on the main floor, have been placed a number of the more attractive pictures which have been presented to the President.

A rumor to the effect that the President had been injured in a singletick practice with General Wood proves to have been unfounded. Mr. Roosevelt is fond of this form of exercise, but wears a mask, and when seen this afternoon showed no trace of his recent bouts with the sticks. Miss Alice Roosevelt, who is now in New-York, will return on Wednesday. She will be accompanied by her cousin, Mrs. Christine Roosevelt, who will be a guest of her relatives, Senator and Miss Keen. Both young women attended the dance given by Mrs. Postelthwaite at Raucher's for her debutante daughter, Miss Carolyn Postelthwaite.

THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS.

Washington, Dec. 29 (Special).—Senator Ojeda, the Spanish Minister, who is an accomplished artist, gave one of his water color sketches to the managers of the musical tea which was held at the New Willard this afternoon. This entertainment, which was for the benefit of the House of Mercy, was the fashionable charity of Christmas week, and the picture, which was raffled, was painted from nature, being a scene in Morocco, depicting the trial of one of its only men.

The Argentine Minister and Señora Meron have issued invitations for a New Year's Eve gathering. The German Ambassador has dinner invitations for January 3. Sir Percy Sanderson, the British Consul General at New-York, and his sister, who have been guests at the British Embassy, left the city to-day.

The Italian Ambassador and Signora de Planchen gave a dinner to-night. Their guests were Senator and Mrs. Lodge, Senator and Mrs. Slater, Viscount and Mrs. de L'Isle, the Minister from Portugal; Count Montgelas, third secretary of the German Embassy, and H. C. Norman, second secretary of the British Embassy.

NOTES OF SOCIETY IN WASHINGTON.

Washington, Dec. 29 (Special).—The first of the series of Monday evening dances, arranged for the debutante set, took place to-night at Raucher's. The guests were welcomed in the small reception room by Mrs. Postelthwaite, Mrs. William Sheffield Cowles, sister of President Roosevelt, Miss Keen, sister of the Senator from New-Jersey, Mrs. Thomas Nelson Page, who is one of the patronesses of the dances, and Miss Gibson. In Chicago, visiting her daughter, Mrs. Gibson. The new ballroom was thrown open to dancing for the first time. Its dazzling whiteness was relieved by ruby lights and decorations of holly. Suspended from the arch between the old ballroom and the new was a large bell of crimson blossoms, which served as a mid-air chandelier. The dining room, which was brightly lit with flags, red flowers and red shaded lights. The dancers were the young people of the fashionable set. The second dance of the series is arranged for January 19.

The House of Mercy entertainment at the New Willard was a social and financial success in spite of the inclement weather. Mrs. E. H. Lee, wife of the chargé d'affaires of the French Embassy; Mrs. Leonard Wood, wife of the Senator from Maine; Mrs. Eugene Hale, wife of the Senator from Ohio; Mrs. Charles Wood, and Mrs. Gordon-Cumming presided in the tea room. The programme included readings from their own works by Thomas Nelson Page and John Fox, Mrs. Fremont, wife of Commodore John C. Fremont, U. S. N., who was a patroness of the dances, and Mrs. J. J. Bennett, who has been one of the singers and was prevented from appearing on account of the death of Mrs. Jessie Bennett-Fremont, which puts the family in mourning.

Mrs. Joseph Washington, wife of the former Representative from Tennessee, gave a tea this afternoon at her home in Connecticut-ave., to introduce her daughter, Miss Anna Bolting Washington, to the society of the capital. Mrs. Washington made her debut last night at her Southern home. The hostess was assisted in receiving by Alfred Gillette served tea, Miss Weaver poured tea, and Mrs. Peyton Page presided at the punch bowl. Among the young people who assisted in the entertainment of the guests were Miss Gertrude Grossman, Miss Zaidis Cobb, Miss Elizabeth Grossman, Miss Harriet Southland, Miss Julia Goldsborough, Miss Emily Southland, Miss Bertha Hill, Miss Alice Hoban and Miss Elsie Dodge.

Mrs. Frederick A. Miller, wife of Lieutenant Commander Miller, U. S. N., gave a small tea this afternoon for her daughter, Miss Alice Miller, who has not yet been presented, and the Misses Gladys and Virginia Mackay-Smith, daughters of the Bishop Coadjutor of Pennsylvania.

Other teas of the afternoon were given by Mrs. Richard Mulligan and Mrs. Reilly, widow of Captain H. J. Reilly, 5th Artillery, at Raucher's, to present Miss Margaret Reilly, her eldest daughter.

Mrs. Fuller, wife of the Chief Justice, was indisposed to-day, and did not receive. Mrs. Shiras was at home at her apartments, at the Arlington. Miss McKenna, eldest daughter of Justice McKenna, received in the absence of her mother, who is in California.

Senator and Mrs. John B. Henderson's guests at dinner last night were the former Ambassador to Italy and Mrs. Draper, Sydney Waterlow, attaché of the British Embassy, and Miss Waterlow, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Wadsworth, Mr. and Mrs. Henry May, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. Walsh, Miss Wilson, daughter of the Secretary of Agriculture; the Messrs. Boardman, Dr. David J. Hill, Edwin V. Morgan and J. B. Henderson, Jr.

NEW-YORK SOCIETY.

Monday is always a popular night with the fashionable set at the Metropolitan, and the "Barbizon" party, a favorite of the former Ambassador, has a large attendance last night, the parterre circle in particular presenting a brilliant aspect.

Among those present were Mrs. Ogden Golet and Miss May Golet, Mr. and Mrs. R. T. Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. E. Francis Hyde, Colonel and Mrs. J. J. Astor, Mrs. Astor, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. C. Taylor, Mr. and Mrs. Fredrick French, Miss Gerry, Mr. and Mrs. M. Dwight Collier, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hittcheck, Mr. and Mrs. George F. Baker, Mr. and Mrs. George J. Gould, Miss Burden and Mr. and Mrs. Charles B. Alexander.

To what extent society will spend the New Year in the fashionable set from town and the disappearance of well known people from their accustomed haunts. Mr. and Mrs. Anson Phelps Stokes will leave town to-day for their place at Noroton, Conn. Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Harriman and their daughters have gone to their country place at Arden, N. Y., where they are entertaining a large house party. Mrs. Frederick Ambrose Clark has a large party of young people at Iroquois Farm, her country place near Cooperstown, N. Y. J. Coleman Drayton and his daughter, Caroline, are spending the holidays at Tuxedo, where they are established at the clubhouse. Mr. and Mrs. John D. Rockefeller, Jr., are with Mrs. Rockefeller's parents, Senator and Mrs. Aldrich, at Providence, R. I. William K. Vanderbilt has a large party at Idle Hour, his place at Ockley, Long Island, Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton McK. Tremble have a large number of friends staying with them at Madison, N. J. Mr. and Mrs. George J. Gould have also a large house party at Lakewood over the holidays.

The Calumet Club, which will keep open house on

has made the best score in baseball or cricket, the progressive workman who is curious about past strikes, and the officeholder who wishes to know the salary attached to the consulate on which he has fixed his covetous eye. The convenience of a single reference to this storehouse of facts will often more than repay the trifling cost of the book, which is still kept down to 25 cents.

What did Devery get from Santa Claus in his big stocking? A new pump?

Sleds and sleighs and skates are now in great demand below Mason and Dixon's line. The arctic zone is moving southward, and there may, perhaps, be igloos in Alabama ere this in temperate winter is much older.

Are not the criminal classes too highly educated in chemistry in these days? Many of these rascals act like past masters in the use of explosives. In the blowing open of safes and vaults, and of the mail and express cars on railroads, train robbers have become wonderfully expert. Detectives have been lagging behind in modern progress, while burglars and safe-breakers and train robbers and Claude Duvalis of every imaginable type have been going ahead.

The year approaches its close in a state much more nearly resembling world-wide peace than that in which it began its career. The coming year may continue the good work.

Intense cold in Constantinople, heavy snowfalls in every European province of the Turkish empire, and a furious tempest, a veritable blizzard, in fact, sweeping over the Golden Horn and the city of the Sultan throughout forty-eight hours! What strange whirls of topography down the water is playing in various quarters of the globe.

In commenting on the increase by "water" of some industrial stocks, "The American Agriculturist" in its current number calls attention to the real appreciation of farm products and the substantial improvement in American agriculture. The values last year were the highest on record, but this year statistics show an increase of about 25 per cent in the value of the principal staple crops—wheat, corn, oats, potatoes and hay. An idea of the tremendous improvement may be gained by the figures which show that for the last five years these staple crops have yielded to the farmer \$2,000,000,000 more than for the preceding five years.

Score another triumph for American diplomacy. The Senate of Rumania, aroused by Secretary Hay's representations, has agreed to the naturalization of Jews.

The decision of the Supreme Court of the United States that the payment of an insurance policy on the life of a murderer is against the general welfare and contrary to public policy is final. It must surely be sound constitutional law. Moreover, it is equitable reason and common sense as well. Nevertheless, there have been many murderers in this State and in the various boroughs of this city in recent years whose lives have been risks of the safest kind.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

According to a Cairo contemporary, persons who wish to let their friends know that they are "doing" Europe on a princely scale, while they are living in retirement for a time, need only apply to an agency in Paris which will undertake to send you letters to practically any place in Europe you may select, and there to have them posted for you on any date you may choose. The demand for such an institution arose out of the absolute horror of remaining in Paris or its environs in the bathing season. One feature of the joke is that you can not only get your letters posted from some distant spot, but you can get answers received for you and reposted to your temporary hiding place. There are great possibilities for American travelers in this. Why not stay in America and "do" Europe?

Curious inn names: "The World Turned Upside Down," "Ye Blazing Donkey," "The Sick Man," "In Malta," "The Trout," kept by A. Herrick. "The Best and Best Thinking," near the Lyonesse Hotel. "The Southern Assassin," near the Lyonesse Hotel. "The Southern Assassin," near the Lyonesse Hotel. "The Southern Assassin," near the Lyonesse Hotel.

The committee having in charge the programme for the approaching midwinter conference at Auburn Theological Seminary has arranged for a discussion of the theme, "The Home Church and Missionary Problems." It will take place on January 29 and 30 in the Willard Chapel of the seminary. Among the speakers are to be Harlan P. Beach, W. Henry Grant, the Rev. Dr. Henry T. McEwen, the Rev. Dr. William Elliot Griffith, the Rev. Dr. Howard Agnew Johnston, David McConaughy and the Rev. Dr. Arthur J. Brown.

SETTLED OUT OF COURT.

A rogue met a pretty young girl. A wifely, and stole a few kras. And the lady, though she was astounded, said she would prosecute. If it had not been for the fact that she was so lonely when she was in Philadelphia.

The holy city of Jerusalem will be reproduced at the St. Louis world's fair in 1904. The enterprise is in the hands of well known St. Louis business men. It is called "The Jerusalem Exhibit Company." It is intended to reproduce exactly the famous buildings and scenes of the historic city. The Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the Mosque of Omar, the walling place of the Jews, the city walls and Damascus gate, the garden of Gethsemane and many others will be reproduced. Between three and five hundred native craftsmen and merchants will be seen in the streets. The various religious processions and services also will be given. The total cost will be \$1,400,000, making this the most expensive and one of the most important features of the exposition.

Still Useful.—"Yes, poor old sport, when he had money he had a good time, but he went broke. 'I should say not. He secured a splendid position in a swell boarding house.'"

"Just has to sit around in the boarding house parlor posing as the star of the show, and waiting for the bad case of gout contracted there."—(Baltimore Herald.)

An American tells this story of Mexican justice: "One morning the body of a cowboy was found in a hole in the ground. It was supposed he had crossed the Rio Grande to attend a dance and flirted with some señorita, and so was shot by a Mexican. At least, that was the theory, because a bag of money, amounting to \$200, all in gold, was found on the body, proving that the murder had not been done for robbery. Besides the coin, a very costly six-barreled, silver mounted and ivory handled, was strapped around the deceased. The finding of the gun was the occasion of a trial before the local alcalde, or justice of the peace. It was against the law to carry weapons, and the dead man was fined \$20, just the sum they found on him, for violating the Mexican statute."

Between Two Fires.—Casey—Now, phwat wad you doin' about that? Clancy—Loike phwat? Casey—The waldin' eddiger tills me to strukin' an' miltin' waddy brings me to ka-ape on wro-urkin'.—(Woman's Home Companion.)

Invisible Ink and "sympathetic" ink are beaten entirely by a new development in preparations of this nature reported by the trade journal "La Papeterie." This is nothing less than a disappearing paper. It is submitted to the following process: It is first steeped in acid (sulphuric acid is preferred), diluted according to the lease of life it is intended the material should possess. It is afterward dried and glazed and the acid superficially neutralized by means of ammoniac vapor. But the acid still remains in the pores, and that paper is infallibly colored after an existence more or less prolonged, as the case may be. It is certainly a most useful invention, and should commend itself strongly to those who cannot trust their correspondents to "burn these letters."

He Could Wait.—"Here's the devil to pay!" exclaimed the old man, coming in with a handful of bolts. "I waddy bring me to ka-ape on wro-urkin'. Don't worry about him," said his wife. "He kin't settle with him hereafter!"—(Atlanta Constitution.)

years before the outbreak of hostilities, Admiral Cervera must be recognized as an influential factor in the establishment of those happy relations, and there is sure to be much satisfaction here, where he is popularly esteemed, at the announcement that he has been officially distinguished in his own country.

PREDICTION AND EVENT.

If there was one thing more than another which used to excite the scorn of the anti-expansionists it was the suggestion that a Civil Service system might be developed in our island possessions which would be better than what we had at home, and serve as an example to be imitated by our own people. How the idea was ridiculed as self-evident hypocrisy! How satire withered everybody who dared to suggest that national appreciation of the delicacy of the insular problems would lead to the maintenance of a higher standard for colonial officers than was commonly thought necessary for those charged with the direction of domestic affairs with which everybody was familiar and felt competent to deal! How absurd were the McKinleys and Roosevelts and Lodges made to appear for thinking that spoilsmen's pressure would be less or more easily resisted when the full text of the vice-presidential addresses presented yesterday is not yet available, there is reason to believe that these were fully up to the average of past years. Leaving out of consideration, then, the papers yet to be contributed by members not holding office, ample rewards for a visit to the national capital by scientific students this week are already in evidence.

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At present there is a formidable revolt against the Sultan himself and a determined effort to put a pretender upon the throne. The latest news is ominous. It is said that the Sultan and his remaining retainers are besieged in Fez, the people of which are not altogether well affected toward him. In such circumstances the holding of the city may be difficult, especially since there is no adequate relief force in sight. If Fez falls, and the Sultan is captured, the revolution will be complete, and that will not be a good thing for any one concerned. For it is understood that the revolution is reactionary. It has been organized against the Sultan because he has assumed too favorable an attitude toward those modern improvements which to conservative Moorish eyes seem like devices of the evil one. Beyond doubt the accession of a reactionary Sultan would bring on friction with foreign powers, and that would be disastrous for Morocco.

The situation is invested with the more interest because of the international importance of Morocco, due to its geographical position, and because of the conflicts of covetousness which might occur among European powers in case of a complete collapse of the native dynasty. Morocco commands the western entrance to the Mediterranean, faces Spain and abuts upon the best part of the French empire in Africa. Great Britain, owning Gibraltar, just across the strait, and being much interested in the Mediterranean, would like to lay hold upon at least the northern part of Morocco, or would greatly dislike to see some possibly unfriendly power get it. Spain, owning Ceuta, would like to extend her dominion from El Rif clear down to Cape Blanco, France, owning Algeria, the Sahara and the Sahara, and thinking herself the rightful mistress of the Mediterranean, regards herself as the only legitimate heir to the Sheredean throne. Even Russia has intrigued for a footing there as well as in Abyssinia, while Italy and Germany are by no means offering to pose as negligible factors.

It does not yet appear that any one of these rivals is secretly encouraging the present rebellion. On the contrary, the assumption is that the movement is purely a native one. But half a dozen powers are watching the contest closely, and some of them are getting their warships within acting distance of the Moroccan coast. Such action is justifiable on the ground that the subjects of those powers who may be in Morocco are to be protected. But there is doubtless, in addition, a desire to be so placed as to make sure of being "in at the death," whenever the death of the moribund despotism may occur. Morocco is about the biggest and most valuable piece of Africa now remaining for division among the powers or for allotment to one of them, and its fate, now or hereafter, will be looked for with interest, and will be determined only through some strenuous struggle, either of diplomacy or of war.

ADMIRAL CERVERA.

The intelligence that Admiral Cervera has been appointed chief of staff of the Spanish navy will cause a sincere feeling of gratification throughout the United States. Ordinarily a similar promotion in the military service of a foreign country in time of peace excites only a languid interest elsewhere, except, perhaps, in professional circles; but the case of Admiral Cervera is peculiar. We feel sure that he is still regarded in this country with a sympathetic interest, to which he is well entitled, not merely in remembrance of the tragedy in which he played an honorable though a melancholy part, but also because he largely contributed to a restoration of amicable relations between Spain and the United States, or rather, perhaps, of a reciprocal good feeling which facilitated governmental negotiations between the two countries, and will, we hope, make their official intercourse permanently agreeable.

In his desperate exit under orders from the harbor of Santiago, aboard the inferior vessel to which he had transferred his flag with full knowledge that he was sacrificing some chances of personal escape, Admiral Cervera was so gallant a figure, and his demeanor in the hour of utter defeat was so fine, that every American was immediately conscious of increased respect for the race to which he belonged. If that had been all it might have been enough to produce a favorable effect upon the subsequent course of events. But that was only the beginning of the service which he rendered. As a prisoner of war he was so free from bitterness of spirit, so appreciative of every courtesy which he received, and so modest and sane when he found himself the object of a sudden admiration which did not invariably express itself in judicious ways, that he may be said to have been the means of recreating an atmosphere of international kindness in which ancient sentiments of friendship were soon revived.

If, therefore, as we believe the fact to be, few resentments survive among a high spirited people after a war of conquest, and a better understanding exists between Spain and the United States than had prevailed for many

last fall, when the British Association experimented a little with the idea. Still, the class of members who are discouraged from attending by the abandonment of social attractions and cheap excursions rarely promote scientific progress in any way. A small body of enthusiastic workers is more valuable than a big aggregation of sightseers.

The legitimate attractions of this week are certainly strong enough to insure proceedings of great interest. Asaph Hall, the retiring president of the American Association, has been a popular hero ever since he discovered the moons of Mars. His successor, Sir Reichenow, is not only at the head of Johns Hopkins University, but also of the American Chemical Society. In the latter capacity he will deliver an address which cannot fail to possess value for others besides men of his own profession. Simon Newcomb, who enjoys a world-wide reputation among astronomers, is expected to contribute materially to the success of this meeting. The promised lectures of Russell and Heitprin on volcanoes should also prove popular as well as able. Graham Bell's expected talk on flying machines will derive interest both from the prominence of the man and public curiosity concerning the subject. Though the full text of the vice-presidential addresses presented yesterday is not yet available, there is reason to believe that these were fully up to the average of past years. Leaving out of consideration, then, the papers yet to be contributed by members not holding office, ample rewards for a visit to the national capital by scientific students this week are already in evidence.

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The intelligence that Admiral Cervera has been appointed chief of staff of the Spanish navy will cause a sincere feeling of gratification throughout the United States. Ordinarily a similar promotion in the military service of a foreign country in time of peace excites only a languid interest elsewhere, except, perhaps, in professional circles; but the case of Admiral Cervera is peculiar. We feel sure that he is still regarded in this country with a sympathetic interest, to which he is well entitled, not merely in remembrance of the tragedy in which he played an honorable though a melancholy part, but also because he largely contributed to a restoration of amicable relations between Spain and the United States, or rather, perhaps, of a reciprocal good feeling which facilitated governmental negotiations between the two countries, and will, we hope, make their official intercourse permanently agreeable.

In his desperate exit under orders from the harbor of Santiago, aboard the inferior vessel to which he had transferred his flag with full knowledge that he was sacrificing some chances of personal escape, Admiral Cervera was so gallant a figure, and his demeanor in the hour of utter defeat was so fine, that every American was immediately conscious of increased respect for the race to which he belonged. If that had been all it might have been enough to produce a favorable effect upon the subsequent course of events. But that was only the beginning of the service which he rendered. As a prisoner of war he was so free from bitterness of spirit, so appreciative of every courtesy which he received, and so modest and sane when he found himself the object of a sudden admiration which did not invariably express itself in judicious ways, that he may be said to have been the means of recreating an atmosphere of international kindness in which ancient sentiments of friendship were soon revived.

If, therefore, as we believe the fact to be, few resentments survive among a high spirited people after a war of conquest, and a better understanding exists between Spain and the United States than had prevailed for many

last fall, when the British Association experimented a little with the idea. Still, the class of members who are discouraged from attending by the abandonment of social attractions and cheap excursions rarely promote scientific progress in any way. A small body of enthusiastic workers is more valuable than a big aggregation of sightseers.

The legitimate attractions of this week are certainly strong enough to insure proceedings of great interest. Asaph Hall, the retiring president of the American Association, has been a popular hero ever since he discovered the moons of Mars. His successor, Sir Reichenow, is not only at the head of Johns Hopkins University, but also of the American Chemical Society. In the latter capacity he will deliver an address which cannot fail to possess value for others besides men of his own profession. Simon Newcomb, who enjoys a world-wide reputation among astronomers, is expected to contribute materially to the success of this meeting. The promised lectures of Russell and Heitprin on volcanoes should also prove popular as well as able. Graham Bell's expected talk on flying machines will derive interest both from the prominence of the man and public curiosity concerning the subject. Though the full text of the vice-presidential addresses presented yesterday is not yet available, there is reason to believe that these were fully up to the average of past years. Leaving out of consideration, then, the papers yet to be contributed by members not holding office, ample rewards for a visit to the national capital by scientific students this week are already in evidence.

THE TROUBLE IN MOROCCO.

Pliny's characterization of Africa as a perennial source of novelty is not yet obsolete. That vast and even yet little known continent can generally be depended upon to supply some sensation for the current record. When Fashoda and Khartoum grow stale the Transvaal breaks loose. When peace is restored in the south a Mad Mullah becomes rampant in the great Eastern Horn. When Somaliland subsides into comparative quiet there is a sound of war on the slopes of Atlas. Morocco alone furnishes a large variety of sensations. There have been troubles with the Rifian pirates of the Mediterranean coast and with desert tribes at Figig, on the Algerian frontier, and with other wanderers away around south at Taflet. Indeed, it is difficult to name a part of the whole empire that has not in late years been the scene of disturbances.

At present there is a formidable revolt against the Sultan himself and a determined effort to put a pretender upon the throne. The latest news is ominous. It is said that the Sultan and his remaining retainers are besieged in Fez, the people of which are not altogether well affected toward him. In such circumstances the holding of the city may be difficult, especially since there is no adequate relief force in sight. If Fez falls, and the Sultan is captured, the revolution will be complete, and that will not be a good thing for any one concerned. For it is understood that the revolution is reactionary. It has been organized against the Sultan because he has assumed too favorable an attitude toward those modern improvements which to conservative Moorish eyes seem like devices of the evil one. Beyond doubt the accession of a reactionary Sultan would bring on friction with foreign powers, and that would be disastrous for Morocco.

The situation is invested with the more interest because of the international importance of Morocco, due to its geographical position, and because of the conflicts of covetousness which might occur among European powers in case of a complete collapse of the native dynasty. Morocco commands the western entrance to the Mediterranean, faces Spain and abuts upon the best part of the French empire in Africa. Great Britain, owning Gibraltar, just across the strait, and being much interested in the Mediterranean, would like to lay hold upon at least the northern part of Morocco, or would greatly dislike to see some possibly unfriendly power get it. Spain, owning Ceuta, would like to extend her dominion from El Rif clear down to Cape Blanco, France, owning Algeria, the Sahara and the Sahara, and thinking herself the rightful mistress of the Mediterranean, regards herself as the only legitimate heir to the Sheredean throne. Even Russia has intrigued for a footing there as well as in Abyssinia, while Italy and Germany are by no means offering to pose as negligible factors.

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