

GOSSIP FROM GOTHAM

Close of the Campaign of the Republicans of New York State.

SURE OF A PLURALITY.

There Has Been a Sudden Fall in the Figures of the Tammany Men.

JEWELS AT THE RICH WEDDING.

Lavish Gifts to Be Made to the Best Man, Ushers and Bridesmaids.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Nov. 2.—The Republican State campaign closed yesterday. Chairman B. B. Odell of the executive committee predicts a plurality of 40,000 for the Republican ticket in the State. "We shall come down to the Bronx with 80,000 majority. Whatever may be the result in this city the success of the State ticket is assured.

"The next Assembly will stand 90 Republicans and 60 Democrats, and the Senate 52 Republicans and 18 Democrats."

Yesterday witnessed a sudden fall in Tammany's figures. John C. Sheehan has been claiming 40,000 plurality, but after a star chamber meeting of the Tammany executive committee, at which reports from each Assembly district were received, this figure dropped to 31,400.

Before the Duke of Marlborough left for Washington he gave two important commissions for jewelry to Tiffany. One was for the presents which he will give his best man and the ushers. These will be sapphire scarfpins, the sapphires surrounded by diamonds and surmounted with a ducal coronet. The other commission was for the Duke's gifts to the bridesmaids. They will be jeweled butterflies. The head of each butterfly will be a large ruby. One wing will be set with diamonds and the other with emeralds, while the body will be of gold.

Walter Damosch, who will conduct the New York symphony orchestra at the wedding, has arranged an elaborate programme. As was announced several days ago the rehearsal for the wedding will take place on Monday afternoon between 2 and 4. After the rehearsal the bridal party will go to Mrs. Vanderbilt's house for a 5 o'clock tea and to view the wedding presents.

A rumor was afloat a few days ago that none of the relatives of Miss Vanderbilt's father had been bidden to the wedding. Ament that rumor a person who knows much of the affairs of the Vanderbilt family said last night: "I am not at liberty to say whether or not the Vanderbilts have received invitations for the wedding. This much, however, I believe to be true: Mrs. Alva Vanderbilt is a woman of very decided likes and dislikes, and those whom she dislikes she has as little to do with as possible. In connection with this I may say that the Duke of Marlborough has made no settlement upon Miss Vanderbilt."

Marcer R. Mayer of this city has been appointed general manager of the Imperial Opera Company (limited) of London, of which Colonel J. H. Mapleson will be operating director. The company has begun the erection of a superb new opera-house covering an acre, on the site of the old Her Majesty's Theater, which was torn down three years ago.

Italian opera only will be presented and the strongest possible company will be organized. The company will come to New York next fall and tour the United States. Probably the greatest operatic season New York has ever known will be inaugurated in less than three weeks at the Metropolitan Opera-house. It will extend over thirteen weeks, and comprising thirty-nine nights and thirteen matinees.

The subscription sale of boxes and seats for the coming season closed at 4 p. m. yesterday. The total amount realized was approximately \$190,000, or considerably over \$50,000 more than last year.

A large increase in the rates for transporting money by express order went into effect yesterday. This increase averages 25 per cent between points east of Chicago and even more to points west of that place. This increase of rates is regarded as another blow in the warfare waged for some time past between the express companies and the banks.

The express companies were cutting into their business heavily also by the sale of express money orders and it is calculated that seven million of these orders were sold during the year. The banks have determined to fight back. They will not hereafter cash such express orders at par.

The 300 banks in the Texas State Association took the initiative in May by adopting a reciprocal draft which sold at a small fee and was good for cash in any bank in the State.

The bankers have not stopped at this, but will carry the war into Congress. John W. Mackay, who arrived in New York on Wednesday evening, has formed no plans, but may go to Europe shortly after consulting with his family to decide upon the final resting-place of his son, who died recently. In the meantime the body will lie at the Church of St. Augustine in Paris, where it was deposited after the funeral services held in that city. The statement that the body was already on its way to New York is erroneous.

PABST SEEKS A DIVORCE.

Already the Rich Brewer's Son Has Become Tired of the Ex-Actress.

Troubles Increased by a Horsewhipping Recently Inflicted by "Miss Mather."

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Nov. 2.—Colonel Gustav Pabst, son of Captain Frederick Pabst, the brewer, is about to bring suit for divorce from his wife, Margaret Mather Pabst, who was formerly well known as an actress. Colonel Pabst is in Montana. Nobody appears to know when he will return. His attorney is A. A. L. Smith. When asked about the suit Smith admitted that proceedings would be brought. The case grows out of the trouble that

occurred between Colonel and Mrs. Pabst on the public street in Milwaukee a number of weeks ago, when the ex-actress horsewhipped her wealthy spouse. The trouble was the subject of a good deal of gossip at the time in Milwaukee and other cities.

One report circulated to-day was to the effect that Colonel and Mrs. Pabst reached an agreement recently by which a separation was made possible without publicity, but the report has no foundation whatever in fact.

Miss Mather's attorney is General Horatio C. King, a prominent member of the New York bar.

Miss Mather spent the summer of 1892 in a cottage at Lakeside, and Colonel Pabst, who was a visitor at Louis Auer's place across the lake, was a frequent visitor to Lakeside. When Miss Mather commenced her season on the Pacific Coast Colonel Pabst was reported to be traveling with the company. Some time in November it became known in Milwaukee that they had been married, the ceremony having taken place in a Kenosha clergyman's residence. Soon after they came to Milwaukee, where they have since resided. Mrs. Pabst would not make any statement about the case. She is suffering from nervous prostration.

KILLED BY A TRAIN.

Tragic Death of T. P. Hilliard, a Pioneer of Chicago.

CHICAGO, ILL., Nov. 2.—T. P. Hilliard, one of Chicago's pioneer citizens, who has been prominently identified with lumber, Board of Trade and railroad interests and ship-building, was instantly killed this morning by a handcar train colliding with his carriage while crossing the tracks at Washington Heights. His coachman, Benjamin Glassmeyer, was seriously injured by being hurled from the wrecked vehicle. The dead man was the father of Attorney E. R. Hilliard, who was murdered in his office by Henry C. Hastings, a milkman.

CLOSING THE CAMPAIGNS.

Both Democrats and Republicans Confident in New York.

Four Tickets in Kentucky—Mormon Church Influence in Utah.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Nov. 2.—Both Democrats and Republicans claim to be confident of carrying New York State on Tuesday. The campaign has been one of the quietest in recent years. Few big meetings have been held and there have been no parades. The Republicans seem to have relied upon the country being their without effort and the Democrats have directed their attention to city voters. The main issue of the campaign has been the excise plank injected by Warner Miller into the Republican platform.

Leading Democrats say that the issue will be a reversal of last year's verdict and that the Democratic State ticket, headed by General Horatio C. King for Secretary of State, will be elected by from 20,000 to 30,000 plurality.

Republican campaign managers predict the re-election of their entire State ticket by from 40,000 to 50,000 plurality. The Republicans claim to be able to elect thirty-two of the fifty members of the State Senate, and say of the 150 Assemblymen returned ninety will be Republican.

In the city they hope to elect the fusion ticket, but they are not overconfident. The betting is 2 to 1 on the Tammany ticket winning. The blanket ballot will be tried for the first time in the Empire State. In several cities and in a number of towns the Myers voting-machine will be used.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Nov. 2.—A few political rallies in Louisville and other cities to-night practically closed the most stirring and aggressive campaign in Kentucky in forty years. There have been more public meetings, more speeches and a closer canvass than in any former campaign in the State.

The officers of the four complete tickets for State officers headed respectively by P. W. Hardin (D.), W. O. Bradley (R.), E. S. Pettit (Pop.) and T. B. Demaree (Pro.). Every man on the four tickets, as well as the candidates for the Legislature, has been in the field making speeches. The Democratic and Republican leaders have been particularly active, canvassing every county in the State.

Mr. Hardin made horseback trips into the mountains, where a candidate for State office was never seen before. The campaign closes with both the Democratic and Republican managers professing to be confident of victory, but either will be satisfied with a small plurality.

The most sanguine Democrats do not expect a plurality of more than 15,000 for Hardin, while conservative estimates range from 5000 to 10,000. It is conceded that Hardin will lose heavily in all the cities and towns on account of his silver views, but it is claimed that he will receive the full vote in the country precincts.

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Nov. 2.—The political situation in this Territory is such that both parties are completely at sea. The unknown quantity is the Mormon church influence which has been brought to bear on the campaign. This influence has been exercised beyond the purview of a doubt in favor of the Republican ticket. Judging by the experience in the very recent past the State church is still the most potent factor in Utah politics. The Democrats, however, are very confident and assert that there are enough progressive and enlightened Mormons who will vote the Democratic ticket in order to resent the continued meddling of the church in political matters to elect the Democratic ticket.

The Republicans claim the Territory by a vote of 3000 majority, while the Democrats are confident of carrying it by a big majority but quote no figures. From a strictly unpartisan standpoint the chances, however, are that the Republicans will control the Legislature and consequently gain the United States Senator. They will also possibly elect most of the State officers, with the possible exception of the Governor, Secretary of State and one Supreme Judge.

DES MOINES, Iowa, Nov. 2.—On Tuesday Iowa will hold a general election for State and county officers and to elect a new Legislature. State officers to be elected are: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Railroad Commissioner, Supreme Judge and Superintendent of Public Instruction. Both parties have sound-money platforms. The Democratic convention adopted a sound-money declaration the next day in the State convention. A defection of silver people was threatened, but has not materialized.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Nov. 2.—The State campaign practically closed to-night, but neither the Republican nor the Democratic State committees would give to the United Press an estimate of the result, though both Chairman Kurtz and Chairman Andrews claimed to be confident that their respective parties would carry the State on both the State and the legislative tickets. It is believed that uncertainty as to the strength of the Populist party causes the unwillingness of the chairman to make the usual estimates of the vote that have heretofore been given out on Saturday night preceding election.

Among the Republicans it is claimed that the Republican State ticket will be elected by from 15,000 to 20,000.

LYNCHERS IN BAVARIA.

Outrages Committed by the "Haberers" in a German Kingdom.

DARING WORK OF MOBS.

Two Public Officials Arraigned and Quickly Put Out of the Way.

TRULY IT'S A REIGN OF TERROR.

Attitude of Germany in Reference to the Aggressiveness of Russia in the Far East.

BERLIN, GERMANY, Nov. 2.—The Deutsch Kordische asserts that it has learned from a source of undoubted authority that, contrary to the statements which have been published in England recently, Germany has maintained the same attitude throughout the negotiations with the Porte relative to the status of the Christians in Armenia and other parts of the east of Turkey. From the first moment that the Armenian situation assumed a critical character, the paper asserts, Germany has continued to admonish the Porte with all possible emphasis that peace and order should not be disturbed in business districts.

This is publicly accepted as an official announcement, which it really is, and as an official communication completely disposes of the attempts of England, through Embassadors, Ministers and other representatives abroad, to make it appear that Germany has been playing a double game in the interference of the powers with Turkish misrule in Armenia.

The almost unanimous opinion here that any success which England may achieve in the Armenian difficulty will not extend beyond forcing the Sultan to issue the decree which he has just promulgated regarding the future administration of affairs in Armenia, providing that certain reforms shall go into operation in Armenia under the supervision of foreign representatives. The attacks which have been made upon England in the inspired press of St. Petersburg are cordially echoed here.

The notion is not seriously current here that the aim of England is to paralyze the policy of Russia in Eastern Asia by reopening the Turkish question. The German Government does not doubt for a moment that Russia has obtained extensive concessions in the Chinese territory of Manchuria, but like all central European powers Germany not only does not regret, but is really pleased that Russia has found a field for the exploitation of her military powers outside of Europe. The more extreme of the German newspapers commenting upon the situation express hope that Germany's greatest commercial rival

may be lamed in the struggle, no matter what may happen to the participants in the dispute other than the Fatherland. A large number of articles written in this strain have appeared in the German newspapers within the last few days, and they have not received the slightest censure for their utterances from any official quarter. Nevertheless, the prominent operators on the Bourse are very angry at the suddenness with which these attacks have been sprung in connection with the disturbances in Constantinople, as they have had a very depressing effect upon the prices of stocks and securities on the Stock Exchange, for which the operators at that market were totally unprepared.

The Schichan ship-building firm of Elbing, which has just received an order to build one of the two ships ordered constructed by the North German Lloyd Steamship Company in German yards, has made public the specifications of the contract under which the ship will be built. The terms require that the vessel shall develop a rate of speed of 22 knots an hour under natural draught and without undue force, and further stipulate that she must make 21 knots with ease on the broad Atlantic while carrying a full cargo and complement of passengers. The mean draught of the ship will be about twenty-five feet.

The Schichan firm proposes to embody in the design of the new ship several of the elements of the torpedo-boat, and is also in hope of economizing weight and space to such an extent as to make the vessel smaller than the Campania and the Lucania, and at the same time gain a high degree of speed with less power than is required to drive the big Cunard liners.

The Bavarian Judge Lynch, or as he is called in Bavaria "Habererkoenig," has again been heard of in several places in that kingdom within the last few days, and particularly in the early part of this week. A mob of 200 of the gull—"Haberers," as they call themselves—all of them with blackened faces and otherwise disguised, met in an open field opposite the

railway station in Saurlach last Sunday and held a meeting, at which they elected officers and a new "Habererkoenig," or court.

Some sarcastic individual present asked the station-master if he thought he had not better telegraph for assistance to drive the crowd away. The station-master thought the suggestion a good one and endeavored to put it in force, but found that the telegraph wires had been tampered with, so that communication with the other stations was completely cut off. The meeting finally broke up and the crowd scattered.

The next night 300 "Haberers" assembled and held a grand court at Stinboning, a short distance away. As far as can be learned of their proceedings, the assistant forester at Holding and the postmaster at Saurlach were designated as culprits and a posse was sent to bring them before the court. The condemned men were dragged from their beds and brought before their self-constituted judges, who read a long indictment to them, reciting their sins.

In the meantime the presence of the "Haberers" had become known far and wide and the inhabitants of the outlying villages arose from their beds and mastered in the direction of the scene, but they were awed by the mob. The gendarmes in the district were totally unaware of the meeting and not a single "Haberer" has thus far been identified. The authorities, with the intention of punishing the inhabitants of the village invaded by the mob for their cowardice, have stationed a company of soldiers among them, whom they will have to support for the next six weeks.

King Charles of Portugal paid a visit this afternoon to the monument of Frederick III at Friedenkirche, Potsdam, upon which he deposited a huge wreath of roses. The King was entertained at a grand gala banquet by the Emperor this evening, after which he, with the Emperor and a party of distinguished guests, witnessed the performance of the plays "Militarism" and "Misverstanden" in the new palace, the parts being taken by actors of royal blood.

It is announced from Tientsin under this date that a second Chinese concession has just been signed, whereby Germany obtained a tract of land, upon which she has the exclusive right to trade, build factories, etc. The advice received state that the United States, England and France have already received several similar concessions, Germany, it is announced, is exerting herself to the utmost to extend her trade in China.

HATCH'S NEW MISSION.

Succeeds Castle as Envoy From Hawaii to This Country.

Made a Good Record as Minister of Foreign Affairs for the Doge Regime.

HONOLULU, HAWAII, Oct. 25.—All restrictions and sanitary precautions on account of cholera have come to an end. It is twenty-four days since the last solitary case. W. N. Armstrong, who is much in the confidence of the Hawaiian Government, goes per Australia to-day to visit his home.



FRANCIS M. HATCH, HAWAIIAN MINISTER TO WASHINGTON.

The taking of testimony is in progress in the Cranston case.

The fact now transpires that the Hawaiian Envoy at Washington, W. R. Castle, accepted the office last May for only six months' service. He will be relieved next month by Francis M. Hatch, the present Minister of Foreign Affairs, who has shown eminent ability in that office, in which he has had to handle many controverted questions. He is regarded as the best fitted for diplomatic work of any man here. Mr. Hatch has long stood in the front rank of the Honolulu bar. His appointment meets with general approval.

Mr. Castle was intending to visit the Eastern States on private business. It was considered wise to fill the place of Mr. Thurston with no great delay, lest failure to do so might be misinterpreted and made a pretext for withdrawing Minister Willis from Honolulu. Mr. Castle's law business made his prolonged absence inexpedient.

To fill the vacancy left by Mr. Hatch Judge Cooper has been named. Mr. Thurston declines the post, though he would naturally succeed Mr. Hatch. He is closely occupied by law business. The report that Thurston favors Kauai is an absurd one. Talk of Kauai is wholly confined to old royalists.

Attorney-General W. O. Smith sailed on the 24th for Auckland, as expected, on his errand of investigation of the working of the land laws.

There is no truth in the report that the Government intends to disband the military on account of the \$40,000 expense. While their chief defense is in the 500 volunteers, the sixty enlisted men camped at the executive building are regarded as an indispensable guard, without whom that building would be liable to sudden seizure by insurgents before the volunteers could rally. Although the Government regards their royalist opponents as extremely weak, they are taking no risks.

The United States cruiser Olympia sailed hence for Asiatic ports on the morning of the 23d.

QUEEN OF THE MINS.

Downfall of the Scheming, Meddlesome Ruler of Korea.

NO END OF INTRIGUES.

Few Casualties Attended the Upheaval and Death of the King's Spouse.

CONFESSION OF THE MONARCH.

An Edict in Which He Admitted That the Woman Had Led Him by the Nose for Years.

TOKIO, JAPAN, Oct. 18.—The coup d'etat of October 8 in Seoul, originally represented to have been a mere military emeut, proves to have been a serious, indirect disturbance. It was, in short, an indirect outcome of the long struggle between the Min faction, headed by the Queen, and the faction under the leadership of the King's father, the Tai Won-kun, and a direct result of the Queen's attempts to restore her own party to power, and to reintroduce all the abuses and corruption of pre-reform days. The fortunes of both of these factions were recently at the lowest ebb.

The Tai Won-kun, while at the head of the Government, where he had been placed by Japanese influence, was convicted of having conspired with the Chinese generals in Pyong-Yang and the Tonghak rebels to expel the Japanese from Seoul. He retired from the administration and immediately began to elaborate a new plot for placing his grandson in the throne instead of his son. The discovery of this scheme led to the arrest and imprisonment of the old Prince's son, but after infinite pains the Tai Won-kun succeeded in procuring the youth's release. He then obstinately secluded himself in his country residence some miles from Seoul, where he was closely watched by emissaries of the Queen, to whom experience had taught the untiring character of her enemy's resentment. Meanwhile the program of reform was pursued steadily though not without vicissitudes in Seoul.

Gradually an entente was established between its advocates and opponents, the Queen submitting, with what grace she could command, to changes that affected the old order more and more completely, and put an end to abuses by which her kith and kin had largely profited. Between the Min family and the Tai Won-kun's faction there was nothing to choose from an ethical point of view. Both alike seem influenced solely by a love of authority for the sake of selfish benefits accruing from its perversion. To the King's father and ex-regent, however, belonged a certain robustness of method and magnitude of purpose. His loyalty to violence in every form had an element of grandeur; his power of waiting was limitless, and he derived a semblance of vicarious virtue from his open enmity to the representatives of all official vices, the Min. These latter, wedded to nepotism, extortion, corruption and injustice in every shape, were necessarily opposed to all reform, and therefore faithful upholders of Chinese influence, which, in return, was always exercised to secure them in office.

Thus, when China's armies were driven across the Yalu, and when her military impotence became apparent, the fortunes of the Min faction decayed, and each new step of progress inaugurated by Japan opened a new barrier to their revival. All the principal offices of state came into the occupation of the "Independents," that is to say, the liberals; the court was excluded from any share in the administration; the finances were organized so as to check wholesale misappropriation of state funds, and two battalions of troops, drilled and equipped in foreign style, were placed beyond the reach of the Queen's orders.

Such was the state of affairs at the end of September, on the eve of Count Inouye's withdrawal from Seoul and replacement by a new Japanese representative, Lieutenant-General Viscount Mura. It seems beyond question that had Japan been able to push her programme of reform with a free hand, Korea might have advanced tranquilly, though slowly, toward civilization. But for the past six months Japan has been grappling with an impossibility. She has been attempting to direct Korean affairs without authoritatively interfering in them. The slightest exercise of control involved imminent risk of international complications, in view of Russia's attitude and her support by Germany and France.

The Queen perceived this impasse. Her political insight was doubtless strengthened by spectacles borrowed from the Russian legation, between which and the palace the wife of the Russian Charge d'Affaires constituted a unique channel of communication. So long as Count Inouye remained in Seoul the situation was safe. He possesses the rare faculty of exercising authority without openly wielding it and directing affairs without stretching out visible hands to guide them. But with his withdrawal the Queen's opportunity came. She seized it promptly. The authority of the Ministers was openly flouted.

Official appointments and removals were made without reference to the Cabinet, in direct violation of the new administrative organization. Measures were planned for restoring the executive authority to the court. The personnel of the household was raised from the legal limit of 600 to over 2000. The new finance system was dislocated to provide funds for the support of this crowd of Min partisans. The sale of official ranks was recommenced. Class distinctions were restored. The King once more began to exercise his puppet authority at the bidding of his clever wife.

Two of the Ministers found themselves compelled to resign, and even the Premier, despite a promise given to Count Inouye that he should never quit office except under irresistible pressure, showed plain signs of weakening. The situation threatened to become desperate for the Independents, and in their extremity they had recourse to desperate measures. It is not yet possible to speak in detail of the plot that ensued, but its main feature was a coalition between the Independents and the Tai Won-kun, and the immediate instrument employed was a battalion of the newly organized troops. These it had always been the Queen's wish to disband, and when the time seemed favorable collisions were contrived between them and the Palace Guards, a pretext being thus furnished to charge the troops with insubordination and disloyalty. Their dis-

bandment and the arrest and punishment of their officers would have speedily followed, but intelligence of the peril having been conveyed to them, they were easily persuaded to avert it by recourse to violence.

At 2 a. m. on the 8th of October the Second Battalion marched out of barracks, sending an escort to meet the Tai Won-kun, who set out from his country residence at the same hour. After a brief delay, due to confusion of routes, the old Prince found himself at the head of the troops approaching the palace gate. The palace guards offered a desultory resistance, but dispersed after one or two casualties, including the death of their captain. The Tai Won-kun then obtained audience of the King, and the coup d'etat was an accomplished fact. Then ensued an incident that is still wrapped in some obscurity.

Three women, one of them apparently the Queen, were dragged from their chambers, their throats cut and their corpses carried out and burned. The perpetrators of this atrocity are strongly suspected to have been Japanese. They wore foreign costume and wielded Japanese swords. Many of the Soshi class, the curse of modern Japan, have flocked to Korea in search of adventure, and are prepared to use their swords in any cause that seems to be for their country's benefit.

The Tai Won-kun may have employed a head of them—for they are mercenaries as well as cut-throats; the official conspirators may have employed them; or they may have acted solely on their own impulse, believing the Queen to be a fatal obstacle in the path of Korea's progress. At all events, the evidence now available goes to show that the assassination of the Queen was perpetrated by Japanese Soshi, acting in collusion with the Korean soldiers. The King, immediately on the outbreak of the attempt, sent word to the Japanese legation, and Viscount Mura, the new Japanese representative, hastened to the palace, escorted by a small force.

Order was speedily restored. There remained nothing to fight about. The Queen had disappeared; the persons of the King and Crown Prince were in the hands of the conspirators; the Ming faction were utterly broken; the Tai Won-kun and the Independents remained absolute masters of the situation.

Few casualties had attended this rapid coup d'etat, the Minister of the Household, a creature of the Queen's, and two privates of the palace guard being apparently the only victims. By 9 o'clock in the forenoon the machinery of Government was moving again as smoothly as ever. Three days later the King issued an edict that takes rank as one of the most extraordinary state documents on record. It ran thus:

Our reign has already lasted two-and-thirty years, and yet it grieves us to think that the country has not been sufficiently benefited under our sway. Our Queen, of the Min family, collecting around her a large number of her relations and partisans, has obscured our intelligence, robbed the people, confused our orders, barred official rank and practiced all sorts of extortion in the provincial localities. Bands of lawless robbers roamed in all parts of the country and the dynasty was placed in a perilous situation. That we have not punished her, though knowing her wickedness, may perhaps be ascribed to our lack of wisdom, but it is principally owing to the fact that she surrounded us with her partisans.

In order to impose restraints upon the evil we made a vow to the spirits of our ancestors in December last to the effect that the Queen and all her blood relations should henceforth be prohibited from meddling with state affairs. It was our hope that the Queen would repent of her errors. But instead of repenting she continued to favor her followers and to keep at a distance those of our own family. She also prevented the Ministers of state from directly approaching the throne. She further conspired to cause a disturbance by falsely making it known that it was our wish to disband our troops, and when the disturbance arose she left our side, and following the method pursued by her in 1892 she hid herself beyond the reach of our search. Such conduct is not only inconsistent with her rank as Queen, but is the acme of crime and heinousness. We therefore, in pursuance of our family precedents, are compelled to depose our Queen and to degrade her to the level of the common people.

This wretched monarch's naive confession that, although well aware of his spouse's wickedness, he had for years been unable to shake off her thralldom, is worthily capped by his charging the Queen with "leaving his side" when she had been dragged from it by assassins, and denouncing her for concealing her whereabouts when her charred corpse was lying outside the city walls. But the King of Korea is a mere puppet. At no time during his reign of thirty-two years had he been more completely under the sway of his clever wife than in the days immediately preceding the issue of this decree deposing her. The Queen had taken everything into her hands; had appointed and dismissed high officials without any reference to the Cabinet, in open defiance of the new laws; had raised the personnel of the household from the fixed limit of 600 to over 2000; had directed that the finance regulations be set aside to pay this crowd of partisans; had arranged to transfer the administrative control to the court and had nevertheless contrived that the King should figure not merely as an assenting party to all her retrogressive changes but even as their determined advocate. The King, in fact, does not speak in the above edict. His share in the matter was simply to append his signature.

For a few days the fate of the Queen remained obscure so far as concerned the general public. Indeed, we have not as yet any definite news that her body has been identified, but there is little doubt that the account given above is correct. Were old-time Korean methods pursued the attainer and death of the Queen would be followed by a sanguinary persecution of her relatives. But the King has issued an edict promising that no considerations of party shall influence the distribution of rewards or punishments, and there is thus a possibility that the virtual annihilation of the Min faction's influence may prelude a period of peace in the little kingdom's domestic affairs.

Facts

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