

A DEMAND FOR MORE LIVES

A New List of Chinese Selected for Punishment.

All the Ministers Except De Giers Sign the Paper—Negotiations Halt—Until the Penalties Are Inflicted—Great Anxiety Over Manchuria.

SHANGHAI, April 8.—The foreign Ministers at Peking held a meeting on Saturday and handed the Chinese envoys a list of twenty-five officers whose names are to be demanded. The punishment is to be demanded. The list includes the names of several magistrates and minor officers in the Province of Chi-li, for whom the death penalty is demanded.

In regard to other officers, including two provincial Governors, perpetual banishment is demanded. Others, including two more Governors, are to be dismissed forever from the service of China, while more of the condemned officers are to be turned over to the board of punishment for sentence. The despatch which contains this information goes on to say that only after these punishments have been inflicted on these twenty-five officers will the Ministers discuss the question of the payment of indemnities and the withdrawal of the allied troops from China. The agreement was signed by the representatives of ten Powers. The American representative, signed the document, but M. de Giers, the Russian Minister, did not.

Viceroy Chung Chih Tung is preparing the draft of a reform memorial, which he will submit to the other Viceroy and Governors. PEKING, April 8.—Extensive preparations were made by the members of Field Marshal Count von Waldersee's staff and the other Germans here to celebrate the sixty-ninth birthday of the count, which occurred today. The count, who is especially decorated in his honor, a banquet was given at the German Legation, which was attended by representatives of all the other legations.

Count von Waldersee is still conspicuous as the chief steadying factor in the present international complications. News was received today that the Germans had advanced farther west. They met some opposition from Chinese troops.

Chinese of all classes are anxious concerning the outcome of the Manchurian question. Though they are ignorant, as a rule, of the actual points of the proposed agreement, they are convinced that any treaty with Russia will threaten the integrity of China. Many are disheartened, and openly acknowledge that partition is coming, some even believing that such definite action would be better than the present indifferences, without the prospect of reforms that would tend to maintain the integrity of the Empire.

Li Hung Chang is annoyed by the criticisms of Viceroy Lieou Kun Yi and Chang Chih Tung, who declare that the weakness of the plenipotentiaries is the result of their dogged fatalism.

Ching Hsin, President of the civil board, has just started for Singan-fu to give information to the Court concerning the actual situation in Peking. He personally is in favor of the return of the Court, but being timid, he will probably express no opinions contrary to the desires of the Dowager Empress. Intelligence reaches here of a Boxer rising in one of the districts of the Province of Shantung. A magistrate who was endeavoring to protect Christians was killed. Governor Yuan Shih Kai has dispatched troops to restore order.

DO NOT FAVOR THE PLAN.

A Camp Outside Peking Wanted for the German Troops.

LONDON, April 8.—A news agency despatch from Peking reports the Ministers are not wholly favoring the military arrangements respecting the legation guards, they fearing friction between the various nationalities. They think that instead of cooping the troops up in a small area in the city it would be better to have an encampment a dozen miles off. This idea is prompted by the fact that several of the Ministers have been insulted by foreign soldiers.

BOERS CAPTURED BY PLUMER.

His Force Reported Within Twenty Miles of Pietersburg. LONDON, April 8.—A despatch to the "Telegraph" from Nyetstrom, dated Sunday, says that Colonel Plumer is within twenty miles of Pietersburg. He has met with slight opposition. Twenty-nine prisoners were taken on Saturday have been sent south. Twenty more have surrendered.

ENGLISH TO HANG TRAITORS.

Stern Penalties in South Africa After May 12. CAPE TOWN, April 8.—The "Midland News" published this morning says it learns that the Government has decided to deal with colonial rebels after April 12 under the old common law, which provides the death penalty for treason, instead of under the special act passed at the last session of the Legislature, which is remarkably lenient to convicted rebels, providing only short imprisonment, fines, and disfranchisement.

DEALING IN STEEL SHARES.

The London Plan to "Freeze Out" the London Steel Share. LONDON, April 8.—It is stated from the same source that initiated a story of a movement to freeze out the stock of the United States Steel Corporation from the London Stock Exchange that its movement has proved abortive. A number of heavy traders in the American securities market have formed a syndicate to promote dealings in the stock, and it is expected the stock will become active as soon as Mr. Morgan arrives here. It is added that large blocks of shares in the company can be had in London at a price already, especially in the cumulative preferred shares.

"Blood Telling." U.S.—No purifies the blood, gives you appetite, and vigor. At all drug stores.

DID NOT PAY A REWARD.

A Statement Regarding the "Duchess of Devonshire" by Mr. Agnew.

LONDON, April 8.—Thomas Agnew & Sons have issued an authorized communication to the press announcing the recovery of the famous portrait of the Duchess of Devonshire, which was painted by Gainsborough. The communication briefly recalls the circumstances of the theft in 1858, after the portrait had been purchased by the Agnews for £10,000, which was then the highest price ever paid for a single picture at Christie's.

It adds that the Scotland Yard officials had been notified of the theft, but the picture was hidden in a town in the United States and that they were working for its recovery in conjunction with the Pinkerton Agency. Mr. Agnew immediately proceeded to America for the purpose of identifying the picture.

A reporter saw William Lockett Agnew at 11 Portman Square today and pointed out to him that the communication of the picture had been published three days by the news of the discovery. He said Mr. Agnew admitted the fact, but said there were some inaccuracies in the published statement, namely, the reference to the picture as the reward. He said: "There is no such man as Sheely. If there is, I never heard of him. The first we knew of the affair was when Scotland Yard communicated with us. We immediately despatched Morland Agnew to the United States. Inspector Frost, of Scotland Yard, and Mr. Pinkerton were the only ones concerned. No other person entered into the negotiations.

"We have absolutely no reward, but we shall probably pay a small sum. It was Scotland Yard that first informed the Pinkertons, who arranged for the restoration of the picture." Mr. Agnew arrived in Chicago on March 28. He was sitting in a car when Mr. Pinkerton entered and asked: "Will you be here for half an hour?"

"I will be here for half an hour," Mr. Agnew said, and he remained where he was, and in a short time Mr. Pinkerton returned with the picture. Mr. Agnew recognized it in two minutes and left Chicago with it the same night. We are absolutely certain it is the real picture. We have it safe now and are taking good care to keep it so.

"Mr. Morland Agnew on his trip from Liverpool engaged a special compartment of the train, which was isolated from the corridor carriages in order to avoid interference. He had the train specially stopped at Willesden, where I was waiting with one of my brothers. The picture was conveyed to my banker, where it now is. We have fully insured it against further risk. It is in exceedingly good condition, with the exception, perhaps, of a slight scratch on the face. The canvas has certainly been rubbed, but it is on exhibition in three or four weeks' time. Mr. Lockett Agnew was in high spirits. He closed the interview by saying: 'I'm glad to get it back after all these years.' A salute of the band, and the picture, being that had assembled to celebrate the recovery of the lost treasure of art. Lockett Agnew told another interviewer that neither he nor Morland Agnew knew exactly how Mr. Pinkerton obtained the picture. He emphatically denied that there had been any sort of negotiations between his firm and the thief or thief's representative, adding: 'As a matter of fact, the man whom the authorities regarded as connected with the theft died three years ago.'

CECIL RHODES BETTER.

The Diamond King Enabled to Take His Usual Exercise. CAPE TOWN, April 8.—Cecil Rhodes, who has been suffering from a serious attack of heart trouble, is now much better, and is taking his usual riding exercise. He says he is feeling better now than for twelve months past.

PRESIDENT LOUBET IN NICE.

Crowds Cheer Him as He Drives to Pay Official Visits. NICE, April 8.—President Loubet and the Ministers arrived here this morning. A salute of the band was fired in honor of the President. Vast crowds cheered him as he drove in an open carriage to the prefecture, where he took luncheon. The party visited the Agricultural Show and the various amusements of the city. In the evening were present at a dinner in the Casino, which was attended by 200 guests.

HAD A TEMPESTUOUS TRIP.

The Steamer Saxonia in a Hurricane for Two Days. QUEENSTOWN, April 8.—The British steamer Saxonia, Captain Pritchard, from Boston, March 30, for Liverpool, has arrived here. She reports having had a terrible passage. She encountered a hurricane from April 2 to April 4. The wind blew with such force that part of the time she was not able to make more than seven knots an hour.

SEEKING PEACE IN HAWAII.

Delegate Wilcox Trying to Restore Harmony in the Island. HONOLULU, April 8.—Via San Francisco, April 7.—Delegate Wilcox is here from Washington trying to patch up peace between rival factions of home rulers.

A SUICIDE BY GUILLOTINE.

A Californian Man Rigged an Effective Death-Machine. SAN JOSE, Cal., April 8.—Death resulted from a cut in the neck, made by a guillotine, which was used by a man named Jones. The man had been sentenced to death for a crime committed in the State of California.

A STEAMER'S ROUGH VOYAGE.

The Straits of Neant a Month Out From Hongry. NORFOLK, April 8.—The British tramp steamer Straits of Neant, 189 tons net register, Captain Benjamin, arrived at Hampton Roads last night in distress. She had one of the roughest voyages on record. She sailed from Barry a month ago yesterday, rolled her smoke stack out of her and lost many deck fittings.

RAIDS MADE IN ODESSA.

LONDON, April 8.—A despatch to the "Daily News" from Odessa states that the police, assisted by troops, have made a series of nocturnal raids there, resulting in the arrest of 1,500 persons.

THE RIVERS STILL RISING

Death and Destruction Follow the New England Floods.

Several Damages Already Caused by the High Water—Mills Forced to Close and Lumber is Washed Out to Sea—Boats in Hartford's Streets.

BOSTON, April 8.—The southeasterly storm, accompanied by heavy rain, which has swept New England for the last week, has cost six lives, swollen all of the rivers many feet above the normal, partially stopped railroad traffic, and in many cases mills have had to shut down because of the excess of power.

Four of these lives were lost in shipwrecks, while at Franklin, N. H., a man was swept into the swollen river, and drowned. At Haverhill the body of a woman was seen floating in the river, and it is reported other bodies were also carried along in the flood.

A serious railroad wreck occurred at Hudson, Mass., because of washouts on the tracks. The conditions have not improved today, although there has been little rain. The water in the rivers continues to rise, and it is feared the flood will surpass that of 1896.

Many branch lines have stopped because of washouts, but most all the main lines in Maine, New Hampshire, and Massachusetts are running with nearly the usual regularity.

At Lawrence 50,000 hands are idle, as the mills were shut down because of the high pressure. At Lewiston, Me.; Nashua and Manchester, N. H.; Haverhill, and along the Connecticut River the mills have suspended.

The Androscoggin River is rising at the rate of nearly a foot an hour. Of the million feet of logs at the Androscoggin Water Power Company's plant, half have gone out, and the remainder will go on until the river ceases to rise very soon. Many washouts are reported.

Up to date the average rainfall in New England has been 2.68 inches since April 1. The absence of ice has helped matters materially.

THE RICE WILL CASE HALTED.

The Contest Postponed Because of the Criminal Proceedings. NEW YORK, April 8.—Surrogate Fitzgerald today, after listening to arguments from lawyers representing all the parties concerned, adjourned the entire matter of the William M. Rice will contest until next Monday. This he did in view of the examination which is proceeding before the magistrate in the Criminal Court, and a further postponement is likely, therefore, unless that examination has been completed.

The question which was brought up was as to the propriety or advisability of conducting legal proceedings with regard to the probate of a will, considering that the contest which may result in a criminal indictment being found against Albert T. Patrick, who drew one of the wills in which he is the principal beneficiary, the surrogate's court was requested to suspend the proceedings until after the trial of Patrick.

William B. Hornblower, representing John D. Bartine and the executors of the first will, vehemently opposed any proposition in referring to Patrick's case. He said that the common justice to Patrick, every opportunity should be given to him to establish his innocence before he should be compelled to enter upon the trial of a civil case involving practically the entire estate.

Patrick's lawyers took the position that not only was the case concerned in the present, but that the charge now pending, but that there were charges of forgery also hanging over him, and that the witnesses to the will that is known as the 199 will are likewise charged with forgery, and that it would be in the interest of justice to suspend the proceedings until after the trial of Patrick.

Some remarks from Mr. Hornblower were as follows: "This court is not a tender to the Criminal Court." Mr. Hornblower said that the Criminal Court is a tender to this one. Your honor has no right to suspend the proceedings until after the trial of Patrick.

Assistant District Attorney Osborne was guilty of a breach of conduct in taking the case to the Criminal Court, and that the surrogate should suspend the proceedings until after the trial of Patrick.

That was done with my knowledge and consent, and also with the knowledge of Mr. Osborne. The object of Jones' trial of the Tendorion was accomplished, and that is all I care to say about the matter. Mr. Osborne was asked to suspend the proceedings until after the trial of Patrick.

"Yes, we succeeded in getting some witnesses. The witness of Jones' trial of the Tendorion was accomplished, and that is all I care to say about the matter. Mr. Osborne was asked to suspend the proceedings until after the trial of Patrick."

"That all depends on the exigencies of the occasion."

The men on this division are waiting anxiously for the outcome of the struggle, and the situation is also being watched with more than ordinary interest by the employees of the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, the trainmen of the Lehigh Valley. There is trouble brewing it is believed, on both of these roads, and the men will be governed largely by what happens on the Central.

The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western men have had grievances for some time that they have failed to adjust, while there has been the same complaint on the Lehigh Valley. The unrest on these roads may, if a strike is declared on the Central, lead to more strikes.

Korolik & Washington Steamboat Co. Delightful trips daily at 6:30 P. M. from foot 7th st. to Old Point Comfort, Newport News, Norfolk, and the South. For schedule, see page 7.

CUBA'S TRADE LOST TO US.

France and Germany Get the Commerce That Spain Held.

HAVANA, April 8.—An interview today regarding the trade between the United States and Cuba, a prominent merchant said that since the American intervention Spanish imports into Cuba had largely diminished, owing to the abolition of protection, but what had been lost by Spain had not been gained by the United States, but by France and Germany, the fact being that owing to the uncertainty regarding the conditions here the supplies required for use in the country, such as iron work, machinery, and barbed wire, in all of which the United States would compete, have not been imported to a large extent, whereas goods such as hats, cotton fabrics, notions, and haberdashery are not affected to such an extent by the uncertainty.

These goods are largely imported from France and Germany, and, owing to the fact that they produce them cheaper or study the Cuban market more than the United States. He added that if the present uncertainty continued much longer it would produce a dire effect.

What is now happening in Cuba is almost unique in the history of the world, namely, that the people are in the power of those who have nothing to do with the country, and who are interested in the United States concerning Cuban sugar and tobacco are essential to the prosperity of the island, and protection by Cuba in behalf of American manufactured goods would benefit greatly American trade.

Senator Gener has been elected Mayor of Havana by the city council. It was decided at a meeting of the National party, to which twenty-one of the councilmen belong, that Senator Gener should be the candidate of that party. Senator Zayas is President of the minority representation.

A feature of the coming municipal elections will be that no one can vote for the whole number of councilmen, but only for a certain number, varying according to the number of electors. Boards of canvassers will be formed in each municipality, composed of members of each party. There will also be an entirely new registration before the election, composed of one member of each party.

Major Glennan says that he does not fear that yellow fever will spread from Havana, but the quarantine laws apply to all the island. Some of the other ports may spread the disease. He recently took a yellow fever patient off the transport Rawlins, from Cienfuegos. He considers it better not to extend the period of exemption on arrivals from Cuban ports.

The rumors were flying thick today regarding dissensions in the ranks of the men. It was said that the five chiefs, when they came here, found the grievances so much exaggerated by the heads of the local divisions that they were placed in a false position. It was stated that Chief Arthur called one head of a division to task very severely at a meeting which he attended, before he left the city, for grossly exaggerating matters.

It was also said that one reason for the chiefs leaving the city in a hurry was the position in which they had been placed by the exaggerations. It was learned on good authority that there was something in these rumors, but nothing definite could be got.

Superintendent Oldersen, of the Central Railroad of New Jersey, and W. W. Wertz, superintendent of the First Division, had conferences all day today with General Manager Warren. It was said that the conferences were with reference to preparing for a possible strike, though neither of them would give an opinion as to whether a strike was likely.

WILKESBARRE, Pa., April 8.—It is believed along this division of the Central Railroad of New Jersey that a strike will be ordered tomorrow night or Wednesday unless the officials of the road change their attitude and agree to meet the grand jury of the First Division, and adjust the grievances. Most of the men are opposed to the strike, if it can be avoided by a conference, but in the refusal of the officials to meet their leaders they see cause sufficient for a strike to lead ninetenths to vote for it.

A two-thirds vote is all that is required, but the feeling of confidence in the judgment of Arthur, Clarke, Dolphin, Morrissey, and Sargent is so great that, as these men have been ignored by Vice President Warren, their departure from New York is tantamount to the declaration of a strike.

The official process of taking the vote of the men must first occur, and it is understood that it is now under way. The railroads, however, according to the rules of their order, will not admit the truth of this. It is expected that the vote will be completed tomorrow and sent to General Chairman Waite, of the board of adjustment, whose headquarters are in Jersey City. It is his duty to count the votes, and if more than two-thirds favor a strike to order it at once.

The order is expected tomorrow night or on Wednesday, and the men are confident that when it does come they will be able to tie up the road without trouble. It was expected by some that the order would be received tonight, but there has hardly been time for the taking of the vote.

Some members of the committees who attended the meeting with the Big Five in New York feel sure, they say, that there will be no strike, but their belief is based on nothing stronger than the expectation that Vice President Warren will back down and agree to confer with the heads of the brotherhoods. They say that he will do this as soon as he is convinced the brotherhoods are in earnest in their determination to strike.

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A STRIKE THOUGHT LIKELY

Central New Jersey Men Voting Whether to Go Out.

The Ignoring of Their Representatives Gives Held to Be a Sufficient Cause—A Poor Cause Made Out by the Aggrieved Railroad Employees.

NEW YORK, April 8.—The indications were today that the representatives of the employees of the Central Railroad of New Jersey had not made out a very good case regarding the alleged grievances of the men, and that if a strike is declared it will be a big job to make it appear justifiable.

E. E. Clarke, of the conductors, the only one of the five chiefs of the national brotherhoods who was in New York today, said that the employees on the various divisions of the road were voting as to whether they would strike or not. He would not venture on a prediction as to whether a strike would actually occur. He said he hoped that a strike would not be considered necessary.

"Before a strike can be ordered," he said, "under the rules of the five organizations, each man must vote on a ballot, which he must seal in an envelope. No one but the man who votes can see the ballot before or after it is sealed, until the envelopes are officially opened by the board of canvassers in the presence of the chiefs of the five national organizations. Under the proposed plan, which is now in operation, there will be a general strike or none. Each chief must approve of the action of the division organization he represents before a strike can be ordered."

Clarke said he was sorry that the chiefs had no conference with General Manager Warren, of the Central. They wanted to use every means to settle matters amicably, he said.

"If the company will propose to have a conference, would you still be of the same mind?" "Yes; even now we would be ready for a conference."

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MORGAN'S TERMS REFUSED.

The C. B. & Q. Officials Reject the Offers Made.

NEW YORK, April 8.—The controlling interests in the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad have refused the offer of purchase submitted by J. Pierpont Morgan and James J. Hill in behalf of the Northern Pacific and the Great Northern roads. This fact was made the basis today of rumors that the so-called Burlington deal had fallen through and that there was a sharp but short rally on the Burlington shares in the New York Stock Exchange, resulting in a rapid decline in price of 3 1/2 per cent. The price of Northern Pacific common went down in fraction over 3 points, but subsequently recovered and closed 1/4 lower than last Thursday's closing.

From the highest authority it was ascertained that the large stockholders in Burlington had considered the Morgan-Hill offer with favor, but had expressed dissatisfaction with the general form of it. According to persons who have been engaged in the negotiations there is no serious disagreement regarding the price offered.

The Northern Pacific and Great Northern people agreed to take over all of the stock of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy and pay for it 220 in 3 1/2 per cent bonds. The men now in control of Chicago, Burlington and Quincy coupled with their refusal to accept the offer, and the fact that they would be willing to accept, and the matter is now again under consideration by the Northern Pacific-Great Northern interests.

The Executive Committee of the last named railroad was held today, and Col. Daniel S. Lamont, Vice President of the Northern Pacific Railroad, was called in to confer with the Great Northern directors. J. Pierpont Morgan, who is now on the ocean, will be advised regarding the existing situation by cable. If he reaches Southampton tomorrow an answer will be expected from him before the close of the present week. His wishes will form the basis of a new proposition to the Burlington people.

Financials who have closely watched the negotiations in this matter have far expressed the belief today that the Northern Pacific-Great Northern roads would eventually get control of the Burlington.

POWERS PROBABLY ELECTED.

Chosen as Successor to Boutelle by a Small Majority.

BANGOR, Me., April 8.—The special election in the Fourth Maine district today for a Representative in Congress to succeed Charles A. Boutelle, resigned, has apparently resulted in the election of ex-Governor Llewellyn Powers, of Montpelier, by a majority less than half that given to Boutelle last fall.

The weather conditions in this part of Maine in the last week have been such that travel has been largely suspended in the rural districts, and the result in a large falling off in the vote. In addition to this, many Republicans remained away from the polls, while in Bangor and some of the large towns of the district many Republicans apparently voted the Democratic ticket, owing to dissatisfaction with the action of the convention in naming Powers.

The factions opposed to Powers, while disappointed over White's defeat, declare that the result is sufficient to retire Powers from the field in future elections, and this, they declare, is the principal object they have in view. The election last fall Boutelle had about 19,000 majority.

Up to a late hour tonight the Democrats were hopeful that their candidate, Thomas White, of Bangor, had won, he having carried the city of Bangor by 60 majority, reversing a majority of 385 for Boutelle last fall. White's margin of gains in the towns of Washington County.

Later returns, though incomplete, indicate that Powers has been elected by from 3,000 to 5,000 majority.

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COAL MINERS IN SESSION.

The Quarterly Convention of District Number One Begun.

SCRANTON, Pa., April 8.—The quarterly convention of the United Mine Workers of District No. 1, met today at Oil City. There are 600 delegates in attendance and the session is interesting because of the important questions on which the decision is supposed to pass.

Among other things, it is said, that Samuel Gompers will come on to settle the differences between the organizations of freemen and the United Mine Workers. Action will be taken on a new constitution and by-laws, and also, upon a scheme to prevent the petty unauthorized strikes at local mines.

The single session today held behind closed doors and practically nothing was given out. Previous to this session, there was a parade that brought 2,000 men into line.

THE RIVAL YACHTS TO RACE.

A Meeting Between the Independence and the Constitution.

NEW YORK, April 8.—The Constitution and Independence will meet in a series of races during the summer off Newport, and yachtsmen generally are delighted that a yacht has been found to bring the two yachts together.

It was feared by many that, as the Independence was not eligible to enter the race of the New York Yacht Club, Mr. Lawson transferred the boat to a member, there would not be a chance to establish the merits of these two fast boats built to defeat the America's Cup against the Shamrock II. For some time members of the Newport Yacht Racing Association have been trying to find a way to solve the question and the officers corresponded with Messrs. Lawson and Dunlop to see if it was possible to arrange a meeting of the yachts.

Mr. Lawson and Mr. Dunlop agreed to race. The programme has not yet been completed, but it is possible that a race will be offered for a series of three races, to be sailed off Brenton's Reef lightship. The courses will be to windward or leeward and return and a triangular one, each about 100 miles long. The Columbia will also compete in these races.

FAILED TO SETTLE A STRIKE.

Delaware and Hudson Shop Men Still Remain Out.

SCRANTON, Pa., April 8.—The effort made today to settle the strike at the Locomotive Works of the Delaware and Hudson Company, at Carbondale, resulted in failure. Superintendent Renne offered a partial adjustment of grievances, but men consented to be taken back as individuals, and not as members of a union. The men answered that they considered that a humiliating proposition and the matter rests.

Ocean Steamship Movements.

NEW YORK, April 8.—Arrived: August Victoria, Naples, Rome, Liverpool. Arrived out: Strathairn, from New York at Liverpool; Noordland, from New York at Liverpool; La Guineenne, from New York at Havre; Koenigstein, from New York at Southampton.

"Where It Touches It Heals."

Zema-Cura positively cures eczema and diseases of the skin. At all drug stores.

PORTO RICO'S CRY FOR AID

Laborers of the Island Send a Petition to the President.

No Public Works, They Say, Are Being Conducted to Alleviate Their Distress—The Old Spanish Laws Blamed—Appeal for Employment.

NEW YORK, April 8.—Santiago Iglesias, a delegate of the Federation of Labor in Porto Rico, is here, with a petition to President McKinley, which, he says, is signed by 6,000 workmen of Porto Rico, and will be presented to the President by Samuel Gompers.

Mr. Iglesias said that the signers of the petition represented all classes of labor in every section of the island. He said the trouble in a large measure was due to the enforcement of the old Spanish laws by the present administration of the island, and it was hoped, he said, that the President would suggest changes in the shape of ordinances to tend to relieve the conditions. The petition is as follows:

"To the Honorable President of the United States of America, Washington: "Honorable Sir: The undersigned workers of Porto Rico, without distinction of color, political, or religious creed, have the honor to bring to your attention the following facts:

"Misery, with all its horrible consequences, is spreading in our homes with wonderful rapidity. It has already reached such an extreme that many workers are starving to death, while others that have not the courage to see their mothers, wives, sisters, and children perish of hunger, commit suicide by drowning themselves in the rivers or hanging