

A CRISIS LOOKED FOR

The Next Two Weeks May be Decisive of the War.

COLD WEATHER EXPECTED SOON

Japanese Troops Said to be Wholly Unprepared for the Rigid Climate of Peking—Weather Chinese Leaving the Capital.

WASHINGTON, October 10.—The crisis of the Chinese-Japanese war is looked for within the next few days or two weeks by those most interested and best informed in the contest. The legations of the two countries are expecting daily to hear that a decisive battle has been fought. This is based on the fact that the Japanese have been gradually closing in around Peking, and that the invading army is compelled by force of circumstances to strike their blow at once or not at all. The intense cold, which comes about the middle of October, makes this imperative. The Japanese troops are wholly unprepared for the rigorous climate about Peking, which is due in about two weeks, the climate of Japan being very mild even in winter. The Chinese troops upon this as one of their resources, and the Japanese appreciate that it is necessary to concentrate their campaign for this year upon the next few weeks or perhaps days. For that reason they are prepared to make heroic efforts to decide the contest at once. They are without the heavy clothing, camp equipage, etc., for a campaign in the bitter cold.

TAOTAI SHENG IS DISGRACED. LONDON, October 10.—A Chinese dispatch says a rebellion has broken out in Jehol.

Tien Tsin dispatches report that Sheng, the Taotai of that city, is in disgrace for charging the government over four times as much as he should for rifles and cartridges bought in Germany. He also bought a quantity of useless cartridges. Li Hung Chang discovered the fraud, and in an interview with Sheng is said to have slapped Sheng's face. Sheng has been granted a leave of absence.

A Che Foo dispatch says seven Japanese warships were sighted off Wei Hai Wei, steaming westward. A Tien Tsin dispatch says the steamer Wen Chow, just arrived, reports sighting a Japanese squadron ten miles south of the Che Foo. She was halted and questioned concerning the whereabouts of the Chinese southern squadron.

A BATTLE IMMINENT. YOKOHAMA, October 10.—The advance guard of the Japanese army has crossed the Yalu river and formed a new camp. A battle is believed imminent.

PREPARING FOR THE ATTACK. NEW YORK, October 10.—A Shanghai dispatch via London says United States Minister Denby has warned American residents that Peking city is certain to be attacked by the Japanese and advised that the women and children be sent to places of safety. Already many of the wealthier natives are departing, and others are making preparations to follow.

THEY HAVE LEFT. LONDON, October 10.—A dispatch from the Che Foo to the Pall Mall Gazette this afternoon says that the British and Russian Ministers started for Peking yesterday. The object of the meeting is not known. All the women and children belonging to foreigners have left Peking for places of safety.

GUARDED BY MONGOLIANS. LONDON, October 10.—The Vienna correspondent of the Daily News telegraphs: The palace in Peking is guarded by Mongolian because the Chinese are no longer trusted. There are daily fights between the Chinese and the Mongolians. The latter are greatly hated.

THE RUSSIAN CONTINGENT. BERLIN, October 10.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Kolnische Zeitung says that Russia has sent a strong force to her Asiatic frontier to prevent further incursions of the Chinese marauders. The force consists of five battalions of riflemen, two squadrons of Cossacks and three batteries of artillery under the command of General Scherl.

WHY THE FRENCH WERE SENT. PARIS, October 10.—It is semi-officially stated that the dispatch of French warships to China is by virtue of the international agreement between France and Great Britain, Germany and France already announced.

TWO MORE MEN-OF-WAR. COPENHAGEN, October 10.—The Russian cruiser Djigit and Vladimir Monomach have been ordered to proceed to the far East.

Opposition to the Canadian Fast Line. TORONTO, Ont., October 10.—A special cablegram from London says: Opposition to the proposed fast Canadian steamship line is observable in more than one quarter, and numerous ignominious rumors are being circulated with a view to unpopulating the scheme. One of these is embodied in the statement made public to-day, in which officials in London of the Occidental and Oriental Steamship Company deny most emphatically that there is any truth whatever in the report that their company and the Pacific Mail had entered into a combination with a view to bringing strong opposition to bear against the projected Canadian line.

All Given Life Terms. SAN FRANCISCO, October 10.—Dennis Moore, Cornelius Gerin and James Donnelly, not one of whom is over 23 years of age, were sentenced to State prison for life this morning by Judge Wallace. The robbery for which the trio will spend the rest of their days in the penitentiary was committed last Fourth of July. A friend named Tolman, who came from Tooluma county, and treated them to the cigar store, however, a poker game furnished. The civic federation became aware of the side issue to the cigar store business, and a raid was threatened. The management accordingly concluded to stop selling cigars, so a "fore-run" sign was placed in a conspicuous place and the doors closed.

Anarchy in Italy. ROME, October 10.—The police are said to have discovered an anarchistic plot extending over the whole of Italy organized by Albany, a notorious anarchist.

THEIR OWN OFFICERS.

These May be Established by the Western Lines.

CHICAGO, October 10.—At to-day's meeting of the advisory committee of the emigrant clearing-house of the Western Passenger Association a formal protest was sent to the Trunk Line Association declaring that the distribution of emigrant business was made a matter of agreement between the two associations, and the action of the trunk lines in canceling the agreement, without conference and apparently without cause, has caused much surprise to Western lines. It is asked that all action be suspended immediately and until a conference of the associations can be held in New York. The Western lines say, if such conference is to be held, they prefer it should be either the 15th or 17th. The protest ends with the declaration that it is the belief of the Western lines that the trunk lines will not push the matter so far that the Western lines will be forced to take independent action, which means that if the trunk lines persist in their present course the Western lines will find it necessary to establish ticket offices of their own through the East to look after their interests. The trunk lines have made a demand upon the Western lines that they withdraw all their orders from the trunk line territory. They declare that the invasion of the Eastern territory by the Western lines is without reason or excuse, and is resulting in much loss of revenue to the trunk lines. There is doubt as to whether the trunk lines are really so anxious for the demand for the reason that the matter is scarcely in the jurisdiction of the association, and the lines are free to act as they see fit in the matter. They first put all their orders in the territory of the Eastern lines because they thought they were not being treated with justice in the matter of returning through business, and so took this remedy into their own hands. The association as an association will probably take no action of any kind in the matter. All in all there seems to be an excellent chance for warm words between the Western association and the trunk lines before the thing is adjusted.

NO LAST WORD SPOKEN.

Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes' End Came Unheralded and Sudden.

BOSTON, October 10.—Death came to Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes in a chamber overlooking the Charles river, immortalized in the famous poem, "My Aviator." The members of the family thought that the end might come in a few months; that the aged autocrat would not survive the chilling winds of another New England winter; and they were unprepared for his death Sunday. Seated in his chair, unconsciousness came to him, and in a short half hour his spirit had flown. There was no time to put him into bed, and before the physician, who had been summoned, could arrive Dr. Holmes was dead. There were no last passing words spoken, for the end came unheralded and sudden. Dr. Holmes' last illness was attended by Judge Holmes, who in the midst of conversation in the poet's chamber Sunday afternoon just preceding the former's death, and to neither, certainly not to the Judge, was there any evidence that the end was so near. The conversation which was often held between the two men. The dying poet, for he was even then, it seems, passing away, was sitting in a chair with his head bowed upon the arm of another chair, and it was thought he would be more comfortable. The Minister has arranged so favorably for him. Accordingly his son supported him to the big chair, and as the poet sank into it, he leaned his head on one of the side rests and said: "That is better; thank you." This simple domestic phrase was the final utterance of Dr. Holmes. His son, Mrs. Dixwell, who was in the room, soon noticed that the doctor's breathing became irregular, and it almost ceased altogether.

THE RESIDENCE WAS CLOSED TO ALL VISITORS. Messages of sympathy from all over the country have been received, and many callers have left their cards at the house. The funeral will be to-day at King's chapel, and the services will be conducted by Dr. Edward Everett Hale, a life-long companion of the departed. The interment will be in the Jackson lot at Mount Auburn. The pall-bearers will be members of the family.

PULLMAN CHARTER CASE.

CHICAGO, October 10.—The Pullman quo warranto proceedings were brought up again before Judge Gibbons this morning. Attorney-General Maloney being on hand early to see what procedure the attorneys of the company would adopt. General Counsel Bunnells of the Pullman Company announced that his company had decided to file a plea to the information filed by the Attorney-General, and that it was now on file in the Clerk's office. Attorney-General Maloney in response said that the probability would be that he would demur to the plea after he had read it, and in that case would be in a position to argue his demurrer during the day. Mr. Bunnells agreed to give Mr. Maloney a copy of the plea in a few days, and Judge Gibbons thereupon gave the attorneys until 2 o'clock this afternoon to present the matter further to him. The plea filed by the company is a long document, and covers the same ground as the information, denying most of the charges of the latter document. It declares that the company is not holding land or stocks or any other corporations in violation of its charter, and is not transacting any business beyond its corporate rights.

WHY "OLD HUTCH" CLOSED UP.

CHICAGO, October 10.—B. P. Hutchinson, once Chicago's greatest Board of Trade operator and familiarly known as "Old Hutch," closed his latest deal Saturday. It was his cigar business. He opened a retail store near the corner of Van Buren street and Pacific avenue a week ago. Business was slow. In the rear of the cigar store, however, a poker game flourished. The civic federation became aware of the side issue to the cigar store business, and a raid was threatened. The management accordingly concluded to stop selling cigars, so a "fore-run" sign was placed in a conspicuous place and the doors closed.

NEW LAWS IN ALASKA

Congress to be Asked to Do Something for Her.

IMMIGRANTS ARE VERY ANXIOUS

Laws Are Badly Needed Which Will Establish Closer Relations Between Alaska and the States—They Want a Delegate in Congress.

WASHINGTON, October 6.—An attempt is to be made during the coming session of Congress to enact legislation for the better governing of Alaska. Persons who have gone to that Territory and made investments are anxious to have laws which will make secure property, and which will also establish closer commercial relations between the Territory and the United States. It has been suggested that one of the first steps toward bringing Alaska into closer communication with the United States and making it more useful to the government would be to reorganize the Territory as others have been organized and send a delegate to Congress to represent it, who will point out the needs of the people to the legislators. This idea is combatted by those who claim that at present there are enough white people there to constitute a representative government, and that the native population has not attained a degree of intelligence to entitle it to participate in government affairs. Because of a lack of legislation the development of Alaska mines, said to be very rich, is retarded. Most of the mines are of a character that they require a great deal of machinery to operate them, and considerable capital must be invested before any results can be obtained. It is possible that during the short session of Congress there will be no time for passing adequate laws for the government of the Northwest Territory, yet great efforts are being made to push the West for years are determined that something must be done for Alaska, and her interests will be pressed upon Congress in the next Congress.

JAPANESE WAR SONGS.

They All Breathe of a Spiritual Bitterness Toward China.

WASHINGTON, October 6.—The officials of the Japanese legation have received a budget of news and gossip by the last mail from Japan. The spirit of the people is shown in the war songs sung by the Japanese troops as they push toward Peking. The songs were officially compiled by the Army and Navy, and are full of great bitterness against China, and declare that now is the time to plant the flag of the Rising Sun on the walls of Peking and to illuminate its darkness. Each verse of the song begins and ends with "Strike and chase China." Various verses describe the Chinese as arrogant and insolent, with an army of "soldiers." The Chinese troops' war songs say of the Japanese: "They are an undisciplined rabble, and however fine their arms look, they are useless, like a bunch of pig-tails." The Japanese Minister of Finance has officially made announcement that the war will not be allowed to interrupt the internal improvement of Japan. Consequently railway construction is to proceed with the same vigor as in the past. The Japanese Minister of Finance has also announced that the war will not be allowed to interrupt the internal improvement of Japan. Consequently railway construction is to proceed with the same vigor as in the past. The Japanese Minister of Finance has also announced that the war will not be allowed to interrupt the internal improvement of Japan. Consequently railway construction is to proceed with the same vigor as in the past.

DISPUTED GOLD FIELDS.

Both Brazil and French Guiana Claim the Country.

NEW YORK, October 6.—Additional advice were received here yesterday by the steamer Madiana, which arrived from West Indian ports, regarding the gold fever in the disputed country between Brazil and French Guiana. The colonists in the latter province are on a hunt for gold, and there are thousands of pirates and freebooters waiting for them to find it, and are ready to rob them of it. The government of French Guiana is powerless to protect them because of the international dispute over the country. Already the pirates have begun their work according to the news received. Several expeditions have left for the gold fields, a party left for the gold fields a short time ago, and have not been heard of since. The Governor and his friends are anxious about the fate of M. Herard. Meanwhile the French troops and gunboats are waiting for word from the home government to sail in and drive out the desperadoes.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM.

The Subject Debated in the Hungarian Upper House.

BUDA-PESTH, October 6.—The Hungarian Upper House to-day opened the debate on a bill granting liberty of worship to all sects. In the course of the discussion Cardinal Schlauch, Archbishop of Transylvania, declared the bill, if it should become a law, would ruin society and the State. The Serbian Patriarch and the Roumanian and orthodox Bishops spoke in a similar strain. Ex-Minister Caaky and the Calvinist Bishop, Brass, warmly supported the proposed reform, which was introduced by the Minister of Public Education. Baron Estevezy declared that the bill was prompted by a true sense of liberty and was the outcome of the spirit of the age. The debate was adjourned.

THE HASTY SUMMONS.

There Is No Real Explanation for the Cabinet Council.

LONDON, October 6.—The Cabinet meeting so hastily called met at noon to-day, and lasted from noon until 1:30 p. m. It is understood a perfect agreement was reached respecting the plans submitted for the protection of British residents in China. It is announced upon good authority that after discussing the state of affairs in China the Cabinet decided to send troops to that country to protect British interests. It is also probable additional ships will be sent to strengthen the fleet in Chinese waters under command of Admiral Fremantle. It is also said that in consequence of to-day's meeting of the Cabinet the British Legation at Peking will shortly be guarded by British blue jackets and native Indian soldiers. Lord Rosebery has gone to his country seat at Dalmeny Park, Linlithgowshire, and the other Ministers are returning to their several residences in the country, whence they were summoned.

FRANCE AND ENGLAND.

LONDON, October 6.—The news agency, which originated the report that to-day's Cabinet council was called on account of sudden new developments in England's relations with France, says it learns that nothing has occurred between France and England that is in any way likely to become critical.

SITUATION IN MADAGASCAR.

PORT LOUIS, Island of Mauritius, October 6.—The statement that a blockade of Madagascar had been declared by France was brought here by steamer from Madagascar. The report appears to have been due to the misconception of French measures to prevent the landing of Dr. Zabala, the Argentine Minister. The Madagascar papers state the French settlers have been warned to repair to the coast in view of possible hostilities. The French Bishop and French missionaries, however, decline to leave the capital until the latest moment.

SUSCEPTIBLE OF SETTLEMENT.

LONDON, October 6.—The Times will print to-morrow a dispatch from its Paris correspondent, stating that Mr. Phipps, Secretary of the embassy and Charge d'Affaires in the absence of Lord Dufferin, the British Ambassador, had an interview with M. Hanotaux, Foreign Minister, last evening. The interview, it is reported, was very cordial. After leaving M. Hanotaux Mr. Phipps expressed his conviction that any difficulties which may have arisen between France and England are perfectly susceptible of settlement.

ENGLISH PRESS COMMENT.

Its Tone Favors Interference for the Sake of Peace.

LONDON, October 7.—Commenting upon the Eastern situation, the Post says: The present position of China cannot be lightly regarded. If that empire was broken up or its position imperiled, the outlook would be extremely grave. Hitherto we have been accustomed to regard China as an ally, and we have trenchant agreements with her which require close attention. Li Hung Chang is the only man of eminence in China capable of advising the Emperor at this juncture. He deserves any aid that England can afford him in the effort to save his country from the terrible dangers with which it is menaced. The Graphic: It is time a halt was called by the European powers interested in keeping the peace. Neither Great Britain nor Germany wish to see China permanently crippled by the Japanese. A state of chaos in the former empire would raise problems that might set the world ablaze.

THE ACTING SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT SUBMITTED.

WASHINGTON, October 9.—Captain H. G. Gale of the Fourth Cavalry, Acting Superintendent of the Yosemite National Park, Cal., has submitted his report to the Secretary of the Interior.

He says there are many misunderstandings owing to the private ownership of land in the park. It would be wise, he believes, for the government to purchase the timber land in the park, and he thinks it would also be advisable for a commission to be appointed to appraise all land owned by private parties and learn if it could be secured. Game in the park is on the increase. The report recommends a reduction in the size of the park by withdrawing the mining and agricultural lands, and advocates the addition of natural instead of artificial boundary lines. The reduction would be to throw out about twenty townships and leave the remainder of the park almost wholly in possession of the government.

WEVILLS AND WHEAT.

Much of the Wheat Stored in San Francisco Has Been Destroyed.

SAN FRANCISCO, October 9.—An evening paper states that wevills are playing havoc with the stored wheat in this port, and if something is not done soon, there will be no grain left with which to load the disengaged ships now in port. Some days ago it was publicly stated that 6,700 tons of wheat at Port Costa was wevilled, and now it is announced that 11,000 tons at the Nevada dock and 4,400 more at Port Costa are infested and will have to be removed. That makes 23,200 tons unfit for shipment, and will have to be used for pig or chicken feed. If the wheat had been shipped at the low rates of freight in existence a few months ago, a small profit might have been made. Now it will be a total loss.

CONSOLIDATION AGAIN RUMORED.

SAN FRANCISCO, October 7.—It is stated here that the Pacific Mail Steamship Company is about to absorb the Occidental and Oriental Steamship Company. The latter company was started about twelve years ago by the Southern Pacific Company in opposition to the Pacific Mail. For a time there was a lively rivalry, but a compromise was effected and the steamers of the two companies divided the business between this port and the Orient. C. P. Huntington is now President of both companies, and as it is stated that the steamship lines of the Northern and Canadian Pacific have cut into the business from this port, the consolidation is proposed as a measure of economy. The Pacific Mail owns its own vessels, but the Occidental and Oriental leases its steamers from the White Star line.

DATE OF OPERATION.

When Will the New Woolen Schedule Take Effect?

WASHINGTON, October 6.—Thad Sharrett, member of the New York board of general customs appraisers, was at the Treasury Department to-day in conference with Secretary Hamlin regarding questions connected with the administration of the new tariff act. The question under discussion was whether the entire woolen schedule of the new act, which includes camel's hair, etc., goes into effect January 7, 1895, or only those parts which relate to articles of which the component or chief value is wool. The board of appraisers have decided that the entire schedule goes into operation January 1 next, but whether the department will adopt that ruling and instruct Collectors is yet undecided. Another question of importance discussed was what should constitute the value for duty purposes of beet sugar imported from Germany. The local appraisers at New York have decided that the value for duty purposes should be the local market value added to bonus paid by Germany on beet sugar for export. The question is an important one, as it would materially increase the cost of sugar imported from Germany and would likely greatly reduce the importations.

A BOUNDARY DISPUTE

Cleveland to Decide Between Brazil and Argentine.

A VERY COMPLICATED CASE.

Nearly Twelve Thousand Square Miles, Mostly Peopled by Brazilians, Are to be Passed Upon—Forthcoming Decision Awaited With Anxiety.

WASHINGTON, October 9.—President Cleveland is expected to give his decision as arbitrator of the boundary dispute between Brazil and Argentine soon after his return from Buzzard's Bay. Baron Rio Branco, special envoy from Brazil, accompanied by a large suite, is now here awaiting the decision. The case has been in Mr. Cleveland's hands eight months, and as the treaty of arbitration provides the decision must be made within a year, it is being looked for almost any day. The time for the decision expires February 10 next; but, as Mr. Cleveland will be busy with Congress and public affairs after his return, he is expected to dispose of the arbitration question before taking up domestic affairs. It is understood that he has made the arbitration his special study during working hours at Buzzard's Bay this summer. It is a very complicated case, the brief of Baron Rio Branco filling several large volumes, while the brief of the Argentine Minister, Dr. Zabala, the Argentine Minister, makes a fair sized library. Mr. Cleveland has not turned this mass of documents over to the State Department, but has undertaken personally to go through it and unravel the dispute. It is a self-imposed task which the President does out of courtesy to the Southern Republics, and in the extent of interests involved and legal complications it is as large as any case pending in the United States Supreme Court.

Mr. Cleveland's decision will settle whether the eastern boundary of Eastern Argentine remains as usually given in maps or is extended by a wedge-shaped projection almost to the Atlantic coast. If Argentine gains this strip, it will have a considerable effect on Southern Brazil, as it will almost sever the great State of Rio Grande do Sul from Upper Brazil, the remaining connection being a very narrow isthmus compared with the general width of Brazil. On the other hand, it will give Argentine a narrow arm of land stretching from the north to within forty leagues of the Atlantic. The forthcoming decision is awaited with anxiety by the Southern envoys, as it means much to the strategic strength of the two prominent South American countries. Moreover, the disputed territory is itself very valuable for its mineral and agricultural resources. It embraces 11,832 square miles, with towns and villages having a population of 5,793, most of them Brazilians.

Mr. Cleveland's arbitration is the result of the treaty made when Dom Pedro was Emperor of Brazil. It has taken since then to make the surveys and present the case, and Mr. Cleveland's decision will close the long controversy. Mr. Cleveland is obliged under the treaty to give all the disputed territory to Brazil or to Argentine, so that there is no opportunity for a compromise that will satisfy both parties.

Yosemite NATIONAL PARK.

The Acting Superintendent's Annual Report Submitted.

WASHINGTON, October 9.—Captain H. G. Gale of the Fourth Cavalry, Acting Superintendent of the Yosemite National Park, Cal., has submitted his report to the Secretary of the Interior. He says there are many misunderstandings owing to the private ownership of land in the park. It would be wise, he believes, for the government to purchase the timber land in the park, and he thinks it would also be advisable for a commission to be appointed to appraise all land owned by private parties and learn if it could be secured. Game in the park is on the increase. The report recommends a reduction in the size of the park by withdrawing the mining and agricultural lands, and advocates the addition of natural instead of artificial boundary lines. The reduction would be to throw out about twenty townships and leave the remainder of the park almost wholly in possession of the government.

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FOREIGNERS IN CHINA.

Co-operation for Their Protection Suggested by Secretary Herbert.

WASHINGTON, October 7.—Secretary Herbert said to-day, when asked about the steps he had taken for the safety of Americans in China, that about two weeks ago he had sent written instructions to Admiral Carpenter, commanding the American forces in Chinese waters, suggesting to him that he place himself in communication with the commanders of the foreign fleets and co-operate with them by arranging for concerted action in guarding foreign interests entrusted to their care. It was suggested that, if possible, an agreement might be reached for an effective distribution of ships in such a way that all the treaty and other ports where foreign interests might be endangered should be cared for by one or more ships from the fleets, with the understanding that they were mutually to give protection to the citizens of all nations entering into the agreement.

There are at present but five American vessels on the Asiatic station, and though this number will be increased to eight by December 1, there are at least fifteen ports where the lives of American citizens may be endangered. It is estimated that Admiral Carpenter can secure the co-operation of the British Admiral, the British and American ships could be distributed in such a manner as to protect both British and American subjects, and the British ships would assist Americans and Englishmen in one port while the American vessels looked after the Englishmen and Americans in others.

AN EX-CONSUL'S VIEWS.

NEW YORK, October 7.—Henry T. Andrews, recently United States Consul at Han Kow, China, was to-day asked to give his views on the present condition of China, particularly in regard to the danger threatening foreign residents at Peking, Shanghai, Han Kow and other places open to foreigners. He said in substance: "The danger to foreigners at Peking comes from the inability of the Chinese officers to restrain their soldiers, the latter always considering foreigners legitimate objects of ridicule and abuse. Peking being to a certain extent an isolated place, it is more important that the families of foreigners should be removed to points where they can have the protection of gunboats. The only access to Peking being overland and a hard trip, the road to Tien Tsin could easily be obstructed and closed, which would render it impossible for any way the women and children, except under the escort of armed force. I do not think there will be the slightest resistance offered to the entry of the British forces into Peking. The treaty ports on the Yang-tee-Kiang will be hard to relieve in case of trouble, and hence the necessity of anticipating it."

MURDERED BY JAPANESE.

One Place Where There is a Death of Civilization.

SAN FRANCISCO, October 7.—One hears from time to time good reports concerning the spread of Christianity in Koshi prefecture, says the Japan Mail. There certainly is need of a civilizing factor in that part of Japan. Elections are there most fiercely contested, always with attendant bloodshed. The "Soc" is there in his native element. He swears and threatens and carries sword canes or bludgeons, and his services, questionable and illegal though they be, are constantly requisitioned by men who ought to know better than to appeal to the authorities. Finally murders of colossal dimensions are of no infrequent occurrence. The death by violence of one man generally includes that of most all of the members of his family. August 23 another wholesale slaughter is recorded as having taken place in Kami Yatai Maru, one of the larger villages in that troubled prefecture. Two local constables, brothers, had for some years been connected with another man, the husband of their only sister, in the sake brewing business. Some time in June the brother-in-law suddenly announced an intention to divorce his wife and retire from the trade. It was found that he had expended a large sum to redeem a prostitute from the house in which she had lived. The woman thereupon became the new wife of the ex-sister brother, who was urgently requested by the angry brothers of his former spouse to return moneys he held of theirs. This he alleged was an impossibility, as he had paid out all the funds he possessed. Doubly indignant at this and the harsh manner in which he had divorced their sister, the two brothers entered his house in the dead of night and killed him, his two children (their own nephew and niece), the man's mother, the ex-prostitute wife and another woman who happened to be in the house, and left the remainder of the elder assassin thereupon immediately disemboweled himself, while the younger threw himself from a height of some seventy feet into a bamboo grove, receiving fatal injuries, although still alive according to the latest reports. This is the third or fourth time this year that ten people and terrifying a whole district for more than a month.

QUESTION OF COMPENSATION.

Senatorial Congress Approves Mahan-Vesques Claim Convention.

WASHINGTON, October 7.—The Department of State has been officially notified that the Congress of Ecuador August 8 approved the Mahan-Vesques claim convention, providing for the arbitration of the claim of Julio R. Santos. Ten years ago the Santos case created intense excitement. Santos was a naturalized American, who was arrested in Ecuador for participation in a revolution. His property was confiscated, and he was held in jail without trial. Ecuador refused outright to recognize his naturalization as an American citizen. As soon as Mr. Bayard became Secretary of State, Captain Mahan and two United States warships were sent to Guayaquil to enforce the peremptory demand for the release of Santos. This had the effect of securing a full pardon for Santos, and the negotiations between the two countries have since been confined to the question of compensating Santos for the injury done him. Little progress was made until February, 1893, when the American Minister to Ecuador, R. B. Mahan, succeeded in negotiating a measure providing for an arbitration of the dispute, and this convention has awaited the action of the Ecuadorian Congress since that time, which has now been ratified.

DISCOURAGING REPORTS.

Washington, October 8.—The reports of naval officers commanding the vessels of the Behring Sea patrol present a very discouraging outlook for the future of our seal fisheries. One officer ventures the assertion that at the present rate of slaughter the seals will be exterminated within five years.

FOR SOUTH DAKOTA INSTITUTIONS.

Washington, October 8.—Acting Secretary Sims of the Interior Department has approved selections of land for South Dakota institutions amounting to 36,527 acres.

THE PUBLIC DOMAIN.

Report of Commissioner of General Land Office.

TOTAL AGRICULTURAL PATENTS

Less Activity Than Formerly Because of the Hard Times and the Falling Off in Immigration—The Total Cash Receipts of the Office.

WASHINGTON, October 8.—S. W. Lammoreux, Commissioner of the Land Office, in his annual report shows that there has not been so much activity in public land offices this year as formerly, due to the hard times and consequent falling off in immigration. Among other recommendations made is one for an innovation in survey. Instead of the contract system under which public lands are now surveyed, he says the government should make the surveys. He suggests the work be done by the geological survey, and points out that the geological survey is compelled to go over the same ground which has been previously gone over by the contractors' surveyors. The geographical survey and the topographical survey can be made at the same time and with much less expense. The disposal of land for the year ended June 30 was as follows:

Table with 2 columns: Sold for cash, Acres. Miscellaneous entries, 2,238,225. Indian lands, 2,238,225. Total, 4,476,450.

The total cash receipts of the office were \$12,767,824, a decrease of \$1,711,800, and the total agricultural patents issued 35,258, a decrease of 5,420. The number of mineral patents was 1,162. The report further shows:

Table with 2 columns: Railroad land grants patented, 83,776. Approved to States under public grants, 25,876. Indian and miscellaneous, 202,252. Total, 311,904.

Surveys amounting to 6,935,837 acres have been approved during the year. The Commissioner recommends that an appropriation be made for at least six attorneys to supervise and direct the proceedings of the special agents in operating in the districts designated by the Commissioner, the attorneys to have charge of the prosecution of cases discovered by the special agents. He renews his recommendation of last year that the law permitting cutting of timber on the public lands be repealed.

SCHOOL FUNDS.

Their Custody in California Belongs to the County Treasurer.

SAN FRANCISCO, October 7.—The Supreme Court has decided that the custody of State and county school funds belongs to the County Treasurer, and not to the City Treasurer, as a legislative amendment of 1893 decreed. The Supreme Court decided that the Legislature exceeded its power in making such amendments to former acts. The case in point was that of Louis Bruch, a principal in the public schools of San Jose, who asked for a writ of mandamus on the refusal of the City Treasurer to pay his salary as School Treasurer. The court's opinion, written by Commissioner Jackson Temple and concurred in by the court, closes with the following words: "I think the law authorizing the City Treasurer to have the custody of State and school moneys is invalid, both because it violates the requirements of uniformity and the provisions prohibiting special and local laws in the management of the common schools. On this ground, therefore, I am of the opinion that the writ of mandamus should be denied."

THE LOTTERY LAW.

Alleged Violation by Life Insurance Company.

CHICAGO, October 8.—Ex-Governor John T. Beveridge of Illinois, F. D. Arnold and S. M. Biddison were prisoners in United States Commissioner Hoyme's court this afternoon, charged with violating the postal laws by practicing a lottery scheme through the mails. The men are the President, Vice-President and Treasurer respectively, of the Mutual Life Insurance Company, which is alleged to be a mere imitation in its methods of the late Guarantee Investment Company, which lately had trouble with the authorities. Mr. Biddison, however, denies that this is the case, and claims that his company contains no lottery element. All the parties to the case gave bail and were released. Ex-Governor Beveridge is said to be glad of the opportunity to show that the company is not in the wrong. Assistant State Attorney Fagin states that in some manner the subscribers have a chance to draw \$500 for a few dollars.

MAY LEAD TO COURT-MARTIAL.