

nate for us that England has war vessels stationed in every quarter of the globe, and that they render, willingly, courteously and bravely, the services to Americans that our own navy should perform; but we ought to hasten the time when the richest nation on the face of the globe can not only protect her own citizens abroad, but offer that generous protection to others that she has now so long received.

Again has attention been called to the defenseless condition of the northwest by two of the most able generals in the United States army. In an article on the subject in the *Journal of the Military Service Institution* for September, General Gibbon reviews the various points of defense on Puget sound, and shows that with that body of water unprotected the whole Pacific coast is in jeopardy. General Miles, also, has made a special tour of inspection and has incorporated his ideas in his official report to the war department. Both of these gentlemen agree that millions of dollars of property in the Columbia river and Puget sound regions lie wholly at the mercy of any power possessing a first-class war vessel. Our country can not afford to let such a state of affairs continue. Proper defenses should be established on the sound and at the mouth of the Columbia, and the proposed naval station and ship yard should at once be founded.

Montana bids fair to become the champion doubtful state of the union. For nearly a week after the late election the general result was in doubt, and even at this date there is a suspicion that the official count may change the personnel of the legislature, if not the entire political complexion of that body. As now understood, the republicans have the national representative and the democrats the remainder of the ticket, which, of course, carries with it the choice of United States senators. All this political ambiguity could be borne with comparative equanimity if it were not for the astounding fact following in its wake that over \$70,000 of bets on the general result are hung up in the hands of stakeholders in Helena, with a fair prospect of the bets being declared off. This is truly heartrending. Such uncertainties ought never to be permitted. What are elections for, anyhow?

The legislature of Montana is so evenly divided between the two great parties that unless the members be governed by a patriotic sense of duty, but little good may be hoped to result from their coming session. The political canvass and conflict at the polls was so heated and earnest, that, it is to be feared, it will be carried into the legislature and the members will bend their energies to a struggle for political advantage, to the sad neglect of the important duties they have been

chosen to perform. Montana has a good constitution, and she needs good laws, and many of them, to carry it into effect. Let us hope that the legislature, when senators have been elected, will drop politics and attend strictly to the business of providing for the welfare of the new state.

The session of the Columbia Waterway Association just held in Portland, emphasized again the necessity of taking some independent action to open the Columbia river to continuous navigation. In time, of course, this can all be secured through the general government, but meanwhile the producers of the country are being taxed millions of dollars for transportation, and the growth and development in wealth, population, commerce and industry of city and country alike are being stunted. The states of Oregon and Washington should take this matter into their own hands, and furnish the means for at least a temporary opening of the river, permitting the government to make the permanent improvements in its own leisurely and uselessly extravagant manner.

Rev. Irwin seems to think that the Indian training school at Chemawa is an institution for the promotion of Methodism, but his action in discharging old, trusted and competent assistants to make room for "brethren" of his particular theological stripe seems rather to be a movement for the promotion of Methodists. It is time the entire Indian service of the government were completely divorced from any ecclesiastical connection whatever. This parcelling out of schools and agencies among the different creeds ought to cease. If half as much effort were made to transform the aborigine into a self-sustaining citizen as is now put forward to make him Catholic, Methodist or Presbyterian, more practical results would be obtained.

A law school for woman has been opened in New York by Madame Emily Kempin, graduate of the University of Zurich, who has also taken a full course in law in this country. So many obstacles are encountered by women who seek to secure a legal education in the law schools and colleges, that this effort to make a special school for them must meet with the approval of every person who thinks that the higher education of women, and a better general knowledge on their part of law, business and the principles of government, should precede the general extension to them of the elective franchise.

Kaiser Wilhelm has entertained the czar with a near view of his army, and we may soon expect the German emperor to go to Russia and take a look at the Muscovite warriors. It would be a good idea for