

CURRENT EVENTS.

Krueger has been re-elected president of the South African republic.

President Barrios, of the Gaudaman republic, has been assassinated.

In the senate, Butler has introduced an amendment to the constitution giving congress the power to lay and collect an income tax.

Miss Christine Bradley, daughter of Governor Bradley, of Kentucky, will christen the new battleship that will bear the name of that state neither with wine nor whisky, but with water from the spring near the childhood home of Abraham Lincoln.

The state department last week demanded the recall of the Spanish minister, DeLome, for his vulgar criticism of the president in a letter to Canalejas, editor of a Madrid newspaper. Before this demand was acted upon, DeLome sent in his resignation, which was accepted.

The senate committee on foreign relations has decided to make an adverse report on Allen's proposition to amend the consular and diplomatic appropriation bill so as to recognize the belligerency of the Cuban insurgents. It was urged that appropriation bills were not proper vehicles for legislation bearing upon foreign questions.

The Cuban press appears to be completely muzzled. At Havana, General Pando summoned the editors of that city and gave the following order: "If directly or indirectly you refer to the failure of Blanco, the failure of autonomy, the failure of the prospects of the future peace of this island, or mention in any way our strained relations with the United states, I shall have the offending paper immediately suppressed and its editor sent to Spain."

A memorial by New York bankers and merchants, asking the president to end the war in Cuba, has been presented to the president. The memorial represents that the war has already cost American commerce \$300,000,000, and is now costing not less than \$100,000,000 a year. This important petition is signed by many commercial and banking firms of the highest financial standing in New York, and is considered one of the most serious expressions of the public feeling regarding Cuba.

A dispatch from Peking says: The imperial edict issued at the instance of the German minister being unsatisfactory, a second edict was issued February 1. In this the emperor expresses regret at the murder of the missionaries at Kiao Chow. Permission is granted to rebuild the churches and houses of

the missionaries and orders issued to all officials to protect the missions. China has ceded to Germany the bay of Kiao Chou and a zone of territory thirty miles wide for the construction of a railway 200 miles long, together with mining privileges along the line of the zone.

REFLECTED RAYS.

To be willing to help man is better than to worship God.—[Investigator.]

Better that men have their rights than that God has adoration.—[Investigator.]

Truth needs no veil, and you would not hesitate to expose the delusions of your unfortunate fellow men if you did not desire their welfare less than you fear their prejudices.—[Felix L. Oswald.]

Liberty consists in the right to do whatever is not contrary to the rights of others; thus, exercise of the natural rights of each individual has no limits other than those which secure to other members of society enjoyment of the same rights.—[Thomas Paine.]

We are pointed at by the Christian church as the orphans of the universe; as the descendants of the wandering Jew, as the lost souls that will forever stand outside of the gates of Paradise; I suppose, because we have so much faith in man that we have no need for faith in God.—[Washburn.]

Our father which art in heaven, and which eternally burnest the children who disobey thee, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, where we shall be as happy as we shall know others to be frantic with misery. Thy will be done on earth, where thou biddest everybody to have pity, as it is in heaven where thy saints behold Dives burning, and have no pity.—[Anon.]

The Church pleases to stye Materialism "The Gospel of Negation." Indeed! What do we deny? A solitary fact, truth, an object of knowledge, or what? The priest cannot answer. We simply deny their bold affirmations, originated in ages of ignorance, and which at the present day are farther from being maintained by the data of science than ever before. Materialists affirm that nature is all, that it is supreme, and that it contains within itself all the elements and the cogencies needed to evolve cosmic and animal life. This the Church denies. These self-evident facts, revealed to the humblest human being by science and his own senses, it ignores. Which is the "Gospel of Negation"? Which is the tsue "unbeliever"?—O. Wettstein.

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