

OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

[SPECIAL TO THE NEWS.]

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 25.—Councils of war are once more a feature at the White House, called to aid the President with advice and information in regard to furnishing the quota of U. S. for the allied forces which are to invade China, rescue the foreigners who are still alive, punish the Chinese for the murder of those who have been killed, and establish law and order. All this is well enough as far as it goes, necessary, in fact; but what is to come after the Chinese are whipped into submission? That is the question of the hour in Washington, and so deeply interested therein are men of prominence that the action of the Philippines convention, which ended yesterday, is regarded as unimportant in comparison. The convention's action was so well known in advance that it is regarded as a matter of course. This invasion of China is a very different matter, and may affect the whole future of this country. It is true that Russia and Japan, the two countries which will probably furnish more of the invading army than all the rest of the nations combined, have voluntarily assured the other nations that they would not make the invasion an excuse for trying to secure Chinese territory, but assurances of that nature have been made and broken before. Of course the U. S., which has many citizens and great commercial interests in China, could not refuse to join in the invasion. But a thing may be necessary and still be fraught with the gravest danger for those participating. That is the way this Chinese business looks to many close students of the situation. If the allied forces overthrow the present government of China, which is considered probable, they will have to set up another. Can the allies agree on that question, and if not, what will happen? Russia and Japan have long been ready to fight each other on account of Chinese territory, while both have been intensely jealous of the growing influence in China of England and Germany, and all of them have been envious of the rapidly growing Chinese trade of the U. S. That being the situation, it is easy to understand that serious trouble may grow out of an attempt of these nations, allied for a humane purpose but all more or less com-

mercial rivals of each other for Chinese trade, to determine how and by whom China shall be governed. The situation is full of dynamite.

Inasmuch as many consider the iron trade an infallible commercial barometer, the following remarks of Mr. J. E. Johnson, a prominent Virginia iron man, are interesting: "The iron trade, in which there has been for several months such a remarkable boom, is in a peculiar state at present. I am just returning from a trip to Pittsburg, where, being interested in the pig iron business, I have talked with a number of gentlemen well informed on that subject. They tell me there is a pause in the trade, and that at present there is nothing at all doing. Contracts made some months ago are being filled, but, further than filling those contracts, the blast furnaces have no work. I expect that a number of blast furnaces which started up in the hope of profiting from the boom in the iron business, will soon be compelled to shut down. The price of iron went too high, and there must come a reduction. Pig iron alone has fallen off \$5 or \$6 a ton. But contracts for the Lake Superior ores, which enter into most of the iron manufactured, have been made for the coming year. The contracts for last year were made by the Lake Superior people at an actual loss in many cases, but were carried out in good faith. The prices were nearly doubled in this year's contracts for Lake Superior ores, which will, to a large extent, influence the market price of iron for the next six months."

"In union there is strength" seems to have been forgotten for the time by the two rival assemblies now sitting in Washington, each claiming to be the regular and legally constituted legislative body of the Knights' of Labor of North America, and each seeking the removal from office of the leader of its rival faction. Mr. John N. Parsons, of N. Y., general master workman, heads one faction, and Mr. John W. Hayes, of Washington, general secretary-treasurer, the other. The case, which is being gleefully watched by the enemies of organized labor, is to be taken to the courts for settlement.

Both political parties are engaged in advertising the remarkable oratorical powers displayed by Representative Littlefield, of Maine; who gained more prominence in a single

session of Congress, than any new member of the House ever did before, by circulating his speeches by thousands. But the two campaign committees are not circulating the same speech. The democrats are circulating his Porto Rican speech, which so strongly condemned the policy of his party, while the republicans are circulating his anti-trust speech, which scored leading democrats for their record on the trust question. Meanwhile the wide advertising cannot fail to be beneficial to Mr. Littlefield, and if he keeps up a proportionate rate of growth he will be cutting as wide a swath in the political field early in the new century as some of his Maine predecessors in the House notably Mr. Blaine and Mr. Reed, did only a little while back.

Glorious News

Comes from Dr. D. B. Cargil, of Washita, I. T. He writes: "Electric Bitters has cured Mrs. Brewer of scrofula, which has caused her great suffering for years. Terrible sores would break out on her head and face, and the best doctors could give no help; but now her health is excellent." Electric Bitters is the best blood purifier known. It's the supreme remedy for eczema, tetter, salt rheum, ulcers, boils and running sores. It stimulates liver, kidneys and bowels, expels poisons, helps digestion, builds up the strength. Only 50 cts. Sold by Emery J. Eastman, Druggist. Guaranteed.

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James Hand.

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