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OUR WASHINGTON LETTER.

[SPECIAL TO THE NEWS.]

WASHINGTON, D. C. Aug. 20.—The crisis in Chinese affairs is believed to be at hand, and whether it had anything to do with the President's return to Washington or not, there is a feeling of satisfaction that he is in the White House to meet it. The allied army is outside of Pekin, and there are rumors that the Chinese government intends to compel the foreigners to go out to the army instead of having the army go in to them, but these are rumors only. What is actually going on is known only to the favored few who have been allowed to read the important messages, from Minister Conger and others, which this government has deemed it wise to suppress until the foreigners are safely out of Pekin. But the uncertainty is almost at an end and that is a reason for thankfulness even if the outcome should not be altogether to our liking. The thing in which Americans feel the greatest personal interest is the safety of the Americans who have been shut up in Pekin during these weary weeks.

An ominous feature of the Chinese business is that not a single European government has seen fit to make any explanation to this government of the assembling of warships and troops at Shanghai by England, Germany and France, which so many regard as the first step towards an international war in which the European nations will not be allies. In fact, according to officials of the Department of State, who say that no communication regarding its intentions in China has been received from any European government, this government is being ignored by its whilom allies. This may mean nothing, but it looks odd.

Evidence is continually increasing that man is learning to control

nature. The latest is contained in a report from the U. S. Consul at Lyons, France, to the Department of State, which deals with an interesting and apparently successful experiment to prevent to annual devastation by hail storms in the grape-growing section of France, by breaking up the clouds by shooting into them with cannon. The French government, the French Agricultural Society, and a number of wealthy grape-growers contributed the money to make the experiment on a large scale, the government loaning the cannon, of which 52 were used, and selling the powder for 2½ cents a pound. The experiment proved so successful that arrangements are under way to provide for its permanent establishment during the storm season throughout the grape-growing belt of France.

Our people as a rule know very little about our trade with South American countries and the possibilities of largely increasing it. Mr. F. A. Pezet, Peruvian Consul General to the U. S., said of our commerce with his country: "Last year we shipped to the U. S. 90,000 tons of sugar. Ten years ago our shipment for twelve months was but 5,000 tons; in fact, our entire yield of sugar then was but 70,000 tons a year. Trade in other lines has increased in proportion, and both countries are reaping the benefit. The amount of American goods that go to Peru has increased astonishingly during the past decade. We have now two lines of steamers plying between Peru and the U. S., and a third line is soon to be established. Peruvians have a very warm feeling for the people of the U. S., and the hope of my government is that trade relations will continue to grow. Much trading that Peru now does with Europe might come to the U. S. with benefit to both countries."

The three Bids submitted for furnishing armor plate for new war-

ships having been unsatisfactory in price and in other particulars, have been rejected by the Navy Department and new bids called for, to be opened October 2. Congress authorized Secretary Long to accept bids at what he considered a fair price, but if they were too high to spend \$4,000,000 in establishing a plant for the government to make its own armor.

That further trouble is feared in China by this government is shown by the ordering of the closing of U. S. Consulates in the interior towns of Chin-Kiang and Chung-Kiang and the removal of the consuls and their American assistants to Shanghai until further notice.

Great changes come in a few years. During the last administration the whole country was in a state of alarm and excitement because of the shipment of gold to Europe, and this week when the largest amount of gold ever sent out of the country at once left New York for Europe nobody paid any particular attention to it, and the Secretary of the Treasury says it merely means that we have more gold than we need and that it is going over to pay for the British war loan recently subscribed to by Americans.

Story of A Slave.

To be bound hand and foot for years by the chains of disease is the worst form of slavery, George D. Williams, of Manchester, Mich., says; "My wife has been so helpless for five years that she could not turn over in bed alone. After using two bottles of Electric Bitters she is wonderfully improved and able to do her own work." This supreme remedy for female diseases quickly cures nervousness, sleeplessness, melancholy, headache, backache, fainting and dizzy spells. It is a godsend to weak, sickly, run-down people. Cure guaranteed. Only 50c. Sold by E. J. Eastman, druggist.

A Mother Tells How She Saved Her Little Daughter's Life.

I am the mother of eight children and have had a great deal of experience with medicines. Last summer my little daughter had the dysentery in its worst form. We thought she would die. I tried everything I could think of, but nothing seemed to do her any good. I saw by an advertisement in our paper that Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy was highly recommended and sent and got a bottle at once. It proved to be one of the very best medicines we ever had in the house. It saved my little daughter's life. I am anxious for every mother to know what an excellent medicine it is. Had I known it at first it would have saved me a great deal of anxiety and my little daughter much suffering.—Yours truly, Mrs. Geo. F. Burdick, Liberty, R. I. For sale by E. J. Eastman, Gold Hill or Ben Haymond, Rock Point.

"Yes, sir!" shouted the little man with thin straggly hair, "the Constitution of the United States guarantees to every man liberty of speech, and I'd like to see any one try to deprive me of it!"

"John Henry," exclaimed a large woman of decided mein, who had just entered the room, "you dry up and come home."—Examiner.

A resident of Wichita, Kan., who is now at Cape Nome, recently wrote a letter to a relative at home, from which the following is an extract: "Here lies the rolling sea; towering above that are the ice-green mountains, and towering above the mountains is the price of grub."

At Grant City, Mo., the other day a man beat his wife and was arrested on a warrant sworn out by her. He was sentenced to the rock pile, and the next morning the people were astonished to see the wife patiently holding an umbrella over her spouse as he hammered away at the rock.

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