

many prominent members of the Liberal party have been put under arrest. As a result of the suspension of the constitutional guarantees, large accessions to the insurgent ranks were reported on the 11th. The United States government on the 11th hastily ordered the cruiser Des Moines to Key West, where she will be within a few hours' sail of Havana, as it is said, "in case of need," which is interpreted as meaning, if the Island breaks out in open conflagration.

+ +

#### Another Massacre in Russia.

Siedlce, in Russia Poland, has been the scene of a hideous massacre of the Jews, reported as worse than that at Bialystock in June (p. 274). The first reports said that two terrorists shot and killed two soldiers on the evening of Saturday, the 8th. The soldiers retaliated, shooting into a crowd. The following morning the terrorists retaliated in turn, and then pandemonium was set loose, the soldiers attacking with fury all who came in their way, but especially the Jews. In their attacks on the Jews they were aided by the "Black Hundreds," those bands of the most degraded outcasts who have been organized as Jew-baiters everywhere in Russia by the reactionaries in power. On the 10th, after thirty-six hours of slaughter, accompanied by the most ghastly atrocities, and by looting, it was believed that about 1,000 Jews had been wounded, and 200 killed. The refugees arriving at Warsaw declare that "they gave no provocation for the attack upon them by the soldiery, and were completely surprised at the outbreak Saturday. They declare that the shots which started the massacre, instead of being fired by terrorists, were delivered by house owners and shopkeepers defending their property against soldiers, who wound up a carouse with attempts to pillage." On the 11th the massacre seemed to be over, leaving the town in a frightful condition. A dispatch from St. Petersburg under date of the 11th states that "it now is becoming apparent that the massacre was the result of a deliberate plot against the Jews on the part of the soldiers. The Jews, who are not permitted to flee, are in terror, believing the slaughter will be renewed."

+

To the Czar's appanage lands which it has been already announced are to be sold to the peasants on long term payments (p. 511), the government proposes to add a part of the state lands held by the government, separate from the lands of the Emperor and the imperial family. The ministry of finance are arranging for absorbing the scrip given by the land banks in payment for private estates acquired in accordance with the further agrarian program, "so as to prevent too great a depreciation by the sudden flooding of the market; and has decided to authorize the investment therein of funds accumulated in the government's hands for pensions, bar-rack construction, etc." The dispatches state that it "is hoped to absorb practically all the \$35,000,000 to \$40,000,000, which it is calculated to issue this year, and to maintain the price at not less than 95. Both 5 and 6 per cent. scrip will be purchased. While the 6 per cent. scrip is nominally untransferrable it can at issue be made payable to anyone whom the

seilers of the land nominate. The purchase of scrip by insurance companies, including the American, which are required to invest a part of their reserve in government securities, is authorized." In regard to the price of the lands sold to the peasants it is announced that "the land will be sold in small parcels, on the basis of the capitalization of the average annual income for the last three years, the price not to exceed twenty times the yearly rental."

---

## NEWS NOTES

---

—Mayor Dunne spoke for municipal ownership at Minneapolis on the 10th.

—The Harvard (American)-Cambridge (English) boat race in England on the 8th was won by the Cambridge crew.

—The seventh quinquennial International Homeopathic Congress opened on the 10th at Atlantic City, N. J., in conjunction with the American institute of Homeopathy.

—At the Republican convention of California on the 6th James N. Gillett was nominated for governor by 591½ votes, to 233½ for the present governor, George C. Pardee.

—Walter Wellman's north pole expedition (p. 514) sailed from Spitzbergen on the 4th and arrived at Tromsø, Norway, on the 8th, the polar cruise having been postponed until spring.

—The question of the validity of the Mueller certificates (p. 228) for the installation of a municipally owned traction system in Chicago, was submitted to Judge Windes for decision on the 10th.

—On the second ballot at Rome on the 8th, Father Francis Xavier Wernz, a German, was elected general of the Congregation of the Company of Jesus, commonly known as Jesuits (p. 541). His chief opponent was Father Meyer of St. Louis.

—The Shah of Persia (p. 511), after more disorders at Teheran, has at last signed the national assembly ordinance prepared by the clergy, in place of the one prepared by his Grand Vizir, Ain-ed-Dowleh, and has dismissed the Grand Vizir.

—Earthquakes were reported on the 7th in southern Indiana; in Kingston on the Island of St. Vincent, British West Indies; and in Chile. And on the 11th Valparaiso (p. 512) suffered a shock that started a panic among its nerve-shaken citizens.

—The new Governor-General of the Philippines, General James T. Smith, succeeding Governor Ide, arrived in Manila on the 11th. Under the same date the Pulajanes (p. 464) are reported as having killed Lieutenant R. E. Treadwell, of the Philippine scouts.

—At the Polar congress in session at Brussels, Dr. Jean Charcot announced that he was organizing an expedition to the South Pole, and Charles Bernard, President of the Belgian Oceanographic Society, announced that that society was organizing an expedition to the North Pole.

—About two dozen Onondaga Indians on a sight-seeing tour of New York last week gave much attention to General Grant's tomb at Riverside. Af-