

connection with the British invasion of Thibet (p. 25), an obstructive Thibetan force having been attacked by the British expedition near Gyantse at a point about 16,000 feet above sea level. The attack was made on the 6th, and the fight lasted two hours. The Thibetans were dislodged from their entrenchments with a loss of about 75, the British loss in killed being 5, including Captain Bethune, who led the attack. Subsequent reports indicate that the Thibetans are opposing greater resistance to the British advance.

The pacification of the Moros in the Philippines by the United States does not appear to have been as complete as announced (vol. vi, p. 808) by Gen. Wood two months ago. News dispatches of the 11th from Manila report that Lieut. Winfield Harper and 39 men of Company F of the Seventeenth United States infantry, were caught in ambush May 8, by several hundred Moros. Two American officers and 15 men were killed and 5 men were wounded. The ambush occurred at Simpatem, on the east shore of Lake Liguasan, Island of Mindanao.

Meagre reports of probable war between Brazil and Peru are at hand. The difficulty grows out of conflicting claims to parts of the so-called Acre country regarding which Brazil and Bolivia came near engaging in war some 15 months ago. The Acre country comprises 80,000 square miles. Its resources for rubber production are said to have been discovered by the celebrated mountain climber, Sir Martin Conway, an Englishman, who procured from Bolivia a grant of the land, with vast powers of government, in which American capitalists are now deeply interested. The region is described as lying far inland, 2,500 miles or more from the mouth of the Amazon, a wild section of South America, untraversed by any railroad, without telegraph lines, and a three weeks' journey by the uncertain river boats from Para. It is watered by three great tributaries of the Amazon—the Javary, Jurua and Purus—and their affluents, deriving its name from one of the latter, the river "Aquiry" or "Acre." It is bounded on the north and east by

the Brazilian states of Amazonas and Matto Grosso, on the south by Bolivia and on the west by Peru. When the original boundary treaty between Brazil and Bolivia was signed, in 1867, the population consisted entirely of nomadic and hostile Indians, and the dangers of exploration were augmented by the prevalence of fevers and reptiles and insects of the most deadly description. Not until the rubber industry at Manaos and Para became of value and the prospectors pushed westward into the wilderness to locate new lands suitable for this tree did the district receive special attention. It had been in undisputed possession of Brazil, and only in 1894 did Brazil and Bolivia realize the necessity for a more definite boundary line at this point. In 1895 a joint commission of those two governments agreed to adopt a provisional line, but disputes afterward arose, and in the winter of 1903 the rubber interests in the Acre country claimed by Bolivia rose in successful revolt against that country (vol. v, pp. 711, 712), following which Brazil sent an ultimatum giving notice to Bolivia that if she should attempt to re-occupy the disputed territory, Brazil would pacify and administer it by military force until a settlement of the whole dispute had been reached. Bolivia thereupon agreed to Brazilian military occupation and administration of all the disputed country to the west of the Yaco river, at the same time advising Brazil that she was sending to Rio Janeiro a minister specially authorized to negotiate a satisfactory agreement, or failing that to arrange for arbitration. No further reports of the difficulty between Brazil and Bolivia have been published in this country. But on the 3d came reports of rumors in Rio Janeiro to the effect that orders had been issued for concentration of all the Brazilian forces in the first military district at points on the frontier of Peru where Peruvian troops were reported to have crossed into the territory. These rumors were confirmed by dispatches of the 4th from Rio, which also stated that naval as well as military preparations were under way looking to war with Peru.

It seems that Peru had asserted

claims in the Acre country by occupying the Jurua and the Perus valleys with troops, and that Brazil had notified her to evacuate. No reply to this notice having been received, Brazil proceeded with her military and naval preparations. From Lima, Peru, also on the 4th, the Peruvian minister for foreign affairs was reported as saying that his government was preparing to resist the "unjust aggression" of Brazil. He was further reported as asserting that it is a political whim of Brazil's foreign minister to annex the territories of Alto Jurua and Alto Perus, inventing as a basis for such action stories of Peruvian invasions, and that Brazil had now sent troops to occupy the coveted region.

Five days later a dispatch from Manaos announced that an important battle had been fought between the Brazilian forces and the Peruvians near the river Chandles, and that the Peruvians were completely routed. It is said to be the general opinion, however, that there will not be a war, the Peruvian minister to Brazil having delivered a note proposing an examination of the property rights of both countries in the disputed Acre territory, without taking into account the actual occupation of the district.

In American politics there have been during the week six Republican State conventions. The Colorado convention on the 6th gave instructions for Roosevelt; that of New Jersey on the 10th endorsed his administration, but gave no instructions; those of Connecticut, Maryland and Alabama, on the 11th, endorsed but did not instruct; and that of Washington, also on the 11th, both endorsed and instructed.

The week's record of Democratic State conventions comprises those of Connecticut and Washington. In Connecticut the delegates were subjected to the unit rule and were instructed for Parker. This was done by a vote of 366 to 186, the minority being supporters of Hearst. In Washington on the 5th no instructions for anyone were made, but the unit rule was adopted and of the 10 national delegates