

468) met in the same place on Saturday, the 11th, to lay out its plans for future work.

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#### Finland Loses Her Autonomy.

The Russian Douma on the 10th passed the bill (p. 543) which practically deprives Finland of her ancient rights of autonomy. The vote on the third reading of the bill was 164 to 23. When the victory of the government's measure was announced Vladimir Purishkevich, the president of the reactionary "League of the Archangel Michael," sprang to his feet and triumphantly shouted: "Finis Finlandiae." The bill does not, however, nominally completely destroy Finland's independent existence, for her Diet is not abolished; but so much of her government is transferred from her Diet to the Douma that her rights of local self-government are practically gone. These autonomous rights were affirmed to the people of Finland when the Grand-duchy was ceded by Sweden to the Czar of Russia in 1809, as a continuation of the rights of the Finns under the Swedish constitution of 1772 and 1789.

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#### Religious Toleration in Spain.

The Government of Spain (p. 492) announced on the 9th an impending decree abolishing the article in the constitution which forbade non-Catholics to worship publicly in Spain. The dispatch which reported this news stated that this prodigious step in religious toleration had caused a sensation and was likely to arouse much opposition. The step had been taken under the leadership of Premier Canalejas (pp. 160, 255, 351, 445) and other Liberals, who had been aided by the sympathy of the King with the proposal. On the 11th the decree was issued amending the constitution, and authorizing the edifices of non-Catholic religious societies to display insignia for public worship and other ceremonies. This decree became promptly the subject of protest from the Vatican. On the 13th the Premier declared in the Chamber of Deputies that unless the constitution were respected he would resign. He asserted that he was undisturbed by the protest from the Vatican, although the Government was still corresponding with the Vatican upon the matter. He announced that the Government was resolved to live up to the constitution and to settle the religious question from the standpoint of reform; and further, that they meant to regenerate Spain intellectually, and from the economic and military points of view.

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William Pitt when overwhelmed with official duties, divided his work into three parts—that which was not worth doing, that which would do itself, and that which was quite enough for any man to attempt.—Sent by Bolton Hall.

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## NEWS NOTES

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—The National Mothers' Congress is in session this week at Denver.

—Seattle suffered from a million dollar fire, on the 11th, along its northern water front. No lives were lost.

—Louis R. Ehrich has been elected president of the American Free Trade League, the headquarters of which is at 6 Beacon St., Boston.

—Ex-President Roosevelt (p. 514), and his family sailed for home from Southampton, June 10, on the steamship Kaiserin Auguste Victoria.

—The appointment of Sir Charles Hardinge as Viceroy of India (p. 111) in place of the Earl of Minto, was announced in London on the 10th.

—The revolt of the Indians of Yucatan against the Mexican government (p. 542), is reported to have included a massacre of government officials at Valladolid.

—At a special referendium election in Oklahoma on the 11th, Oklahoma City was chosen for the State capital, by a plurality of 50,000 over Guthrie and Shawnee.

—George E. Hooker, civics secretary of the City Club of Chicago, is making a special study of the city-building exposition in progress in Berlin, at the instance of the directors of the club.

—Charles H. Heike, secretary of the Sugar trust, was convicted on the 10th in the Federal court at New York, of conspiracy to defraud the government of customs duties on imported sugar (p. 350).

—The Rev. Herbert S. Bigelow will speak at the First Universalist Church of Elgin on Sunday morning, June 19, at 10:30 o'clock, taking for his subject, "Les Miserables—The Sermon on the Mount of Fiction."

—Mrs. John Franklin Johnson, principal of the Organic School at Fairhope, Ala., will address the Chicago Single Tax Club at its hall in the Schiller Building on Friday evening, the 17th, on "Organic Education."

—Presidents of Eastern railroads met President Taft at the White House on the 7th with reference to the arrangement made with Western roads (p. 539), and after a conference a similar arrangement was made regarding the Eastern roads.

—At a committee hearing in Washington, preliminary to a Congressional investigation of American relations with Mexico (vol. xii, p. 1064), witnesses testified last week that political refugees from Mexico are transported unlawfully by American officials.

—The supports of a great steel water tank on the roof of the Herald building in Montreal collapsed on the 13th, and 25 tons of metal and water crashed through the building to the basement. Fire broke out immediately, and added to the fatalities, which amounted to between 20 and 30.

—A deal in behalf of the Steel trust was reported from Marquette, Mich., on the 1st, in which this trust takes from the Michigan Iron and Land Com-