say that the House of Lords should be confined within the authority of a Second Chamber, as I stated it to you a few moments ago. The absolute veto which it at present possesses must go. (Loud and continued cheers). The power which it claims from time to time, of, in effect, compelling us to choose between a dissolution and—so far as legislative projects are concerned—legislative sterility—that power must go also. The people in future when they elect a new House of Commons must be able to feel what they cannot feel now, that they are sending to Westminster men who will have the power, not merely of proposing and debating, but of making laws. (Cheers). The will of the people as deliberately expressed by their elected representatives, must within the limits of the lifetime of a single Parliament be made effective. . . .

And how do we stand ourselves? United, I hope and trust, for I cannot believe that, with such causes at stake, there will be found any room for sectional divisions or local differences or personal rivalry. (Hear, hear). All these will, I am convinced, be fused and combined in a common campaign against a common enemy. For, gentlemen, in the three capital issues which I have endeavored to lay before you —the control of the Commons over finance, the maintenance of Free Trade—(loud cheers)—and the effective limitation and curtailment of the legislative powers of the House of Lords—(hear, hear)—these three issues we are following are based on the surest lines of Liberal tradition and Liberal policy. We have behind us authorities whose teaching and example we must revere, the founders and fathers of our Constitution, the economists and administrators who rescued our industries from the fetters—(cheers)—the greatest apostles of democracy of our time—Gladstone and Bright. (Loud cheers). We have to support us the memories of the past, the needs of the present, and the hopes of the future. Show yourselves worthy of the task, and quit yourselves like men. (Loud and prolonged cheers).

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New King of the Belgians.

Albert, nephew of the late King Leopold II (p. 1234), took the oath of office before the Belgian parliament on the 23d, and became King of the Belgians under the style of Albert II. His wife, Elizabeth, now Queen of Belgium, is a daughter of the late Duke Karl Theodor of Bavaria, physician and oculist (p. 1189). Queen Elizabeth has her father's scientific tastes and she began the study of medicine at the age of sixteen under her father's guidance. Shortly before her marriage she took her M. D. degree at Leipzig, and since then she has continued her medical studies at Brussels, where also she has founded the Albert-Elizabeth dispensary for poor, tuberculosis patients.

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A New Regime in Nicaragua.

Dr. José Madris, elected on the 20th President of Nicaragua in place of José Santos Zelaya (p. 1233), was inaugurated as President on the 21st. On the same day and the following the revolutionists on the east coast, under General Estrada, won a decisive and important victory over the Zelayan troops in a battle that will probably be known as the battle of Rama, said to be the fiercest ever fought in Central America. Of the Zelayan army of 3,000 men but 500 escaped. The killed and wounded of both sides numbered 600, and 1,900 of the Zelayan troops, sick and starved, surrendered. After Zelaya's trenches had been shelled they were taken by assault. By order of Secretary Knox the American Red Cross funds were to be expended in caring for the sick and wounded of both armies. The ex-President, Mr. Zelaya, left Managua before daylight on the 24th with an armed escort, and fled to Corinto where he took refuge on a Mexican gunboat, the General Guerrero, which took him to Salina Cruz, a Mexican seaport. Pending the threatened invasion of the revolutionists from the east, President Madriz has taken up the reins of government with a strong hand, and is establishing reforms. The treasury is empty, and Joaquin Passos, Zelaya's son-in-law, and Ernesto Martinez, Zelaya's last finance minister, have been arrested, charged with misappropriation of funds, failure to register government bonds and the circulation of unsigned paper money. Francisco Baca, who has replaced Dr. Julian Irias as Minister General, is preparing a decree establishing a commission for the purpose of revoking the franchises under which a score of monopolies, given to individuals by Zelaya, have been operated. These monopolies are said to have poured into Zelaya's purse vast sums of money, for, while they were ostensibly in the hands of others, it was to the former President that the greater portion of the returns are asserted to have been transferred. Passos is looked upon as the creator of these monopolies and the "dummy" utilized by Zelaya to cover his large stock interests. His arrest was enthusiastically received.

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Local Option in Rhode Island.

The special committee of the Rhode Island legislature appointed at its last session to consider questions of taxation (p. 590) has entered upon a series of public hearings, the first having been held on the 16th to consider the subject of local option in taxation. There was some opposition, but the demand is strongly supported. The following platform is signed by 483 persons, firms and corporations of Rhode Island engaged in competitive business—principally manufacturing—

Local self-government is that system of government under which the greatest number of minds, knowing the most and having the fullest opportunities of knowing it, about the special matter in hand and having the greatest interest in its well working, have the management of it. Local self-government is the right of a free people, and every community is entitled thereto in all matters affecting itself alone.

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The method of taxation by which local revenues shall be collected is such a matter and each city and town shall have power to decide this for itself, without being held back by those indifferent to the injustice and dishonesty of present systems. Of House Bill No. 9 [permitting towns and cities to raise taxes on "real or personal estate or on both, or on improvements or on land or on both personal estate and land, . . . provided, the same be voted at a legal meeting of the electors of the town"], Gen. Wm. Ames wrote to the Secretary of the Board of Trade as follows: "In passing, I desire to say that in my opinion the only way to improve business conditions in this State and City is to procure the amendment of Chapter 36 of the General Laws, giving the towns and cities of this State 'local option in taxation.'"

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Free Speech in Chicago.

Chicago's new Chief of Police, LeRoy T. Steward (p. 804), has decided to permit Emma Goldman to address a series of meetings being arranged for her in Chicago, beginning January 16. When Miss Goldman tried to hold meetings in this city two years ago, the police department, aided by the building department, succeeded in preventing her (vol. x, pp. 1212, 1233, 1237). According to the Inter Ocean, in deciding to permit the Goldman meetings the Chief of Police declares he is governed solely by the fact that he has no legal right to prohibit them. He declares, however, that he does not believe any harm will be done by the affairs unless they are given undue advertising, and that he will have policemen at them in plain clothes to take notes upon the speeches and report to him. Uniformed policemen will not be sent to the meetings for fear that their presence might serve as an excuse for an outbreak.

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Cleveland Traction.

The city council passed on the 21st an ordinance granting temporary three-cent franchises to the Cleveland Railway company on all lines where present grants expire in January. The ordinance provides merely against expiration of franchises pending the result of the expected referendum on the Tayler compromise traction settlement franchise (p. 1231). The board of directors of the Cleveland Railway company on the 24th formally approved the acceptance of the Tayler ordinance.

NEWS NOTES

—Senate Anselm J. McLaurin of Mississippi died suddenly at his home at Brandon in that State on the 22nd.

—Mr. Yi, Premier of Korea (p. 1068), was fatally stabbed by a Korean youth at Seoul, the capital of Korea, on the 22nd.

—Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Gilman will lecture on January 6 at Abraham Lincoln Center at 8 p. m., on "Our Brains and What Ails Them." Admission, fifty cents.

—A resolution supporting women suffrage was adopted with enthusiasm at the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania State Grange (p. 1119) on the 24th.

—The Kansas bank guaranty law (p. 326) was declared invalid in two injunctions granted by Judge John C. Pollock, sitting in the United States district court at Topeka on the 24th.

—A. M. T. Jackson, chief magistrate of Nasik in the presidency of Bombay, India (p. 1119), was assassinated by a native while attending a theatrical performance on the evening of the 21st.

—Frederic Remington, painter and delineator of frontier and military life, died at his home at Edgefield, Conn., on the 26th, following an operation for appendicitis. He was in his 49th year.

—A contradiction of the death of King Menelik of Abyssinia, reported last week (p. 1235), came over the wires from Addis Abeba on the 22nd. The King's condition, however, is reported to be grave.

—C. C. Dickinson received the Democratic nomination for Congress in the sixth Missouri district on the 24th, to fill the place of the late David A. DeArmond (p. 1163). The convention took 675 ballots before making a nomination.

—The Conference of Governors (vol. xi, p. 179) and the National Civic Federation (vol. x, p. 902) are to hold joint sessions in Washington, January 18, 19 and 20, to especially consider the desirability of uniform State legislation.

—The long delayed trials of Count Tchaykovsky (vol. xi, p. 758) and Madame Katherine Breshkovsky (vol. x, p. 949), accused by the Russian government of being members of the Russian revolutionary organization, have been set for February.

—The British House of Lords, sitting as final court of review in cases appealed, decided on the 21st that a trade union must not levy assessments upon its members to provide pay for its representatives in Parliament, thereby affirming a judgment of the British Appellate court.

—T. P. O'Connor (p. 1188), who with Richard McGhee has been in the United States for several weeks collecting funds for the Irish parliamentary party, sailed from New York on the 22nd. As a result of the efforts of the two emissaries more than $40,000 has been sent to Ireland.

—The revolution reported in Santo Domingo in October (p. 1021) seems to be gaining in strength. Reports of the 24th by way of Porto Rico declare that President Caceres cannot much longer hold out against the revolutionists, who are headed by former Presidents Jiminez and Morales.

—Portugal has another new cabinet (p. 14). All of the new ministry are Progressists. The Cortes will assemble on January 2, but will probably immediately adjourn for two months to permit the Government time for the preparation of a program of reforms, including amendments to the constitution and the improvement of the electoral system.

—Raymond Robins made 26 addresses in Rhode Island between the 5th and the 13th of December—all "of great power and charm," as Governor Garvin describes them. They were made before labor organ-

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