

streets trying to get into the house, trying to find my wife and my children, looking along the water front, looking in the face of every child, of every woman.

"One came to me and said: 'A ship, the Regina Margherita, sails for Palermo. Hopeless I go. My clothes, they are in rags. I have had no food, so that I am not able to move around longer. I go aboard the ship to Palermo.

"On the ship are many living and 200 dead. In Palermo the people are very good to me. One, a Baron, comes upon me in the street and asks me what he can do. 'Give me money to go to America. All here is gone.' He put his hand in his pocket and gave me \$38. I shall never go back to Italy. I was here a little while seven years ago. I should have stayed. It is all."

His brother led him away. Both were weeping.

+ +

#### Turkish-Austrian Question Settled.

The Turkish government (vol. xi, p. 923) has accepted from Austria-Hungary an offer of \$10,800,000 indemnity for the annexation of Bosnia and Herzegovina (vol. xi, pp. 660, 686, 758, 901), thus removing, according to the Associated Press dispatches, the possibility of the dreaded "war in the Balkans." In addition to paying the indemnity, Austria abandons her rights in Novi-Bazar, in which she has maintained a military force since the treaty of Berlin, though the little district has been civilly administered by Turkey (vol. xi, p. 660). Austria further agrees to the abrogation of certain old privileges over the Albanian Catholics, and other questions have been satisfactorily adjusted. Serbia is reported as dissatisfied with the settlement, an enlarged Serbian nation, formed of the allied states of Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, having been hoped for by the Serbs.

+ +

#### Cuban Autonomy.

The new Cuban Congress (vol. xi, pp. 802, 900) met on the 13th to pass on credentials of members, and on the 18th to elect permanent officers. Martin Morua Delgado, the colored leader, was unanimously elected president of the Senate. This office, however, is mainly honorary, the dispatches say, as Vice President Zayas doubtless will preside at all the sessions. In the House of Representatives Colonel Orestes Ferrera, a prominent military leader in the last revolution, was elected president almost unanimously. The inauguration of President José Miguel Gomez and Vice-President Alfredo Zayas will take place on the 28th, when the American provisional government will withdraw.

+ +

#### Monopoly of Water Power.

In a veto message on the 15th President Roosevelt specifically condemned the improvident granting of water power to private corporations. The vetoed bill was House bill No. 17,707, which

authorized William H. Standish to construct a dam across James River in Stone County, Mo., and divert part of its waters through a tunnel for electric power. "My reasons for not signing the bill," the President says, "are that it gives the grantee a valuable privilege which by its very nature is monopolistic and does not contain the conditions essential to public interest." Discussing the case of the Desplaines River in Illinois, as an example, he proceeded:

The great corporations are acting with foresight, singleness of purpose and vigor to control the water powers of the country. They pay no attention to State boundaries and are not interested in the Constitutional law affecting navigable streams. It is significant that they are opposing the control of water power on the Desplaines River by the State of Illinois with equal vigor and like arguments to those with which they oppose the national government pursuing the policy I advocate. Their attitude is the same with reference to their projects upon the mountain streams of the West, where the jurisdiction of the Federal government as the owner of the public lands and national forests is not open to question. . . . The people of the country are threatened by a monopoly far more powerful, because in far closer touch with their domestic and industrial life, than anything known to our experience. A single generation will see the exhaustion of our natural resources of oil and gas, and such a rise in the price of coal, as will make the price of electrically transmitted water power a controlling factor in transportation, in manufacturing and in household lighting and heating. . . . No grant of this kind should be made except as it provides for a fee to secure title to the people and for termination of the grant or privilege at a definite time. I will sign no bill granting a privilege of this character which does not contain the substance of these conditions. I consider myself bound, as far as exercise of my executive power will allow, to do for the people, in prevention of monopoly of their resources, what I believe they would do for themselves, if they were in a position to act.

+ +

#### Oregon Senatorial Election.

The two houses of the Oregon legislature met in separate session on the 19th to vote for United States Senator. The occasion was of extraordinary interest and importance, owing to the peculiar laws of Oregon in this respect—laws growing out of the right of direct legislation reserved by Constitutional amendment to the people of that State.

+ +

One of those laws authorizes an alternative statement to be signed by candidates for the legislature. One of these, known as "Statement No. 1," pledges the candidate, if elected, to vote, regardless of all party considerations, for the person for United States Senator whom a majority of voters shall have designated for that office at the polls; the other, known as "Statement No. 2," is a