

In the Chinese complications there is no definite change. Great Britain is said to have replied to Germany after the manner of the reply of the United States (page 397), to the effect that while demanding the punishment of the Boxer leaders, she will not join in the demand that they be delivered up to the powers for punishment as a condition precedent to negotiations for peace. And the United States, pursuant to its policy as thus far outlined, cabled instructions to Minister Conger on the 29th to the following effect:

Prince Tuan [regarded as the leader of the revolt] must be removed from office, and some one acceptable to the allies be appointed in his place. Minister Conger has no general authority to act in connection with mediation. But he may accept any reasonable programme of a majority of the powers which stipulates for measures less severe than Germany demands. If the disagreement of the allies continues, Minister Conger is to proceed to negotiate with Li Hung Chang and Prince Ching solely with regard to American interests and future American action. He is to inform the powers plainly that the United States intends to guard Amoy and New Chwang with a large naval force, solely in the interest of trade rights, and that aside from the legation guard in Peking no American troops will be permitted to remain in China.

Whether as a result of these instructions or not, it appears to be the fact that Prince Tuan has been degraded and ordered to be tried by the supreme judicial tribunal of China.

The Russian troops and the Russian legation have been withdrawn from Peking to Tientsin. This is in accordance with Russia's proposal to the powers noted on page 360.

Germany has reiterated her demand for the punishment of the Boxer leaders, doing so, however, in an imperial letter which inferentially recedes from her demand (page 378) that those leaders be delivered up to the powers as a condition precedent to peace negotiations. The Chinese emperor having addressed a message to the German emperor regarding the murder of the German minister at Peking—Baron von Ketteler—pleading the inability of the Chinese officials to prevent the murder, and stating that by decree a sacrifice had been ordered by him to "be made on an altar for the deceased" and that the chief secretary had "been instructed to pour libations on the al-

tar," the German emperor replied on the 30th, saying:

I have observed with satisfaction that your majesty is anxious to expiate according to the custom and precept of your religion the shameful murder of my minister, which set at naught all civilization, yet, as the German emperor and a Christian, I cannot regard that abominable crime as atoned for by a libation. Besides my murdered minister, there have gone before the throne of God a large number of our brethren of Christian faith, bishops and missionaries, women and children, who, for the sake of their faith, which is also mine, have died the violent death of martyrs and are accusers of your majesty. Do the libations commanded by your majesty suffice for all these innocent ones?

I do not make your majesty personally responsible for the outrages against the legations, which are held inviolable among all nations, nor for the grievous wrongs done so many nations and faiths and to the subjects of your majesty of my Christian belief. But the advisers of your majesty's throne and the officials on whose heads rest the blood guilt of a crime which fills all Christian nations with horror must expiate their abominable deed. When your majesty brings them to the punishment they have deserved that I will regard as an expiation which will satisfy the nations of Christendom. If your majesty will use your imperial power for this purpose, accepting to that end the support of all the injured nations, I, for my part, declare myself agreed on that point. I should also gladly welcome the return of your majesty to Peking. For this my general, Field Marshal von Walderssee, will be instructed not only to receive your majesty with the honors due your rank, but he will also afford your majesty the military protection you may desire and which you may need against the rebels. I also long for peace which atones for the guilt, which makes good wrongs done and which offers to all foreigners in China security for life and property, and, above all, for the free service of their religion.

NEWS NOTES.

—The Fiji islands are taking steps to federate with New Zealand.

—Railway mail clerks of the United States opened the sessions of their twenty-fifth annual convention in Detroit on the 2d with a large attendance.

—President Charles K. Adams, of the University of Wisconsin, has retired from his official duties for an indefinite period owing to continued ill health.

—Count Yamagata, premier of Japan, resigned with the rest of his cabinet on the 29th. Marquis Ito, of

Japan-Chinese war fame, has been asked by the mikado to form a new cabinet.

The American Bankers' association opened the sessions of its twenty-ninth annual convention at Richmond, Va., on the 2d. More than 700 members of the association were in attendance.

—A company recently incorporated at Grand Rapids, Mich., with H. S. Boyle, of that city, as its organizer, undertakes to insure nations against war. The scheme is based upon a popular stock membership at \$1 a share.

—The Michigan supreme court on the 2d held the beet sugar bounty law of 1897, which called for a bounty of one cent a pound on beet sugar produced in the state, to be unconstitutional, as an appropriation of public money to private uses.

—The Henry George Bryan and Stevenson Campaign club, of Chicago, is holding public meetings at 83 Randolph street, ground floor, every day at noon and at eight o'clock in the evening. It provides a variety of speakers and the attendance is large.

—The British flag was formally raised over the Porcupine, Alaska, mining district on September 17 by Justice Archer Martin, of the British commission, in compliance with the terms of the recent *modus vivendi* between Great Britain and the United States.

—The Kentucky legislature on the 27th passed an election law by a vote of 58 to 40. The bill, which provides for equal party representation on the election boards and in election officers, is a substitute for the unfair Goebel law, described in number 97 of *The Public*, on page 5, which provided for a partisan election board.

—A meeting held in the Central Music hall, Chicago, on the 27th to protest against the extortion of the gas companies of that city adopted resolutions favoring municipal ownership, authorizing the attorney general to bring suit attacking the constitutionality of the present gas consolidation act, and empowering the chairman to appoint a committee of 100 to take up the question of municipal ownership after the November election.

—Walter Vrooman, the founder of Ruskin hall, the labor college at Oxford, England, has finally succeeded in raising the necessary funds to revive the old Avalon college, of Trenton, Mo., as a labor college under the name of Ruskin college, which will work along the lines of its English prototype. Prof. George McK. Miller, late of Avon college, and formerly a lawyer in Chicago, is president of Ruskin college, and Prof. Thomas E. Will, late of the Kansas Agricultural college, is vice president.