

deputies to use their revolvers. Their first volley, fired in the air, was replied to by shots from the crowd, in consequence of which the sheriff ordered his deputies to shoot low, and they obeyed. The other side of the story is to the effect that the first demonstration was a shot, not from the crowd, but from a saloon; that this was followed by a shower of stones from the same source; that the sheriff, without first ordering the crowd to disperse, then ordered his deputies to fire, which they did with deadly effect; and that the crowd thereupon, enraged by the slaughter, pursued the sheriff's posse to a hotel, where it took refuge. Three deputies were wounded—one with a brick and two with stones. Of the crowd, the volley from the deputies killed one man and wounded seven, besides almost if not quite fatally wounding one little girl. She was at first reported to have been killed. This event was the sheriff's reason for his call upon the governor for troops, in response to which on midnight of the 21st three infantry regiments, the governor's troop and a battery were ordered out under command of Gen. Gobin. They arrived at Shenandoah on the 22d.

Gen. Gobin promptly held a long conference with the mine owners, who decided in consequence of this interview to reopen their mines on the 24th. They attempted to do so on that day, but contrary to their expectations the presence of the troops failed to weaken the strike. By holding another long conference with the mine owners on the 25th, Gen. Gobin has not unnaturally excited a suspicion that he aims less at impartially keeping the peace than at serving special interests of the great operators.

Next in importance to the strike is the situation in China. Our last report (page 378), closed with the German note to the other powers proposing that the powers demand the surrender of the undoubted leaders in the Boxer outrages as a preliminary to peace negotiations. Replies agreeing without reserve to Germany's proposal have been made by Italy, Austria and France; but the United States refused acquiescence, in a note made on the 21st, over the signature of David J. Hill, secretary of state, as follows:

The government of the United

States has from the outset proclaimed its purpose to hold to the uttermost accountability the responsible authors of any wrongs done in China to citizens of the United States and their interests, as was stated in the government's circular communication to the powers of July 3 last. These wrongs have been committed not alone in Peking, but in many parts of the empire, and their punishment is believed to be an essential element of any effective settlement which shall prevent a recurrence of such outrages and bring about permanent safety and peace in China. It is thought, however, that no punitive measures can be so effective by way of reparation for wrongs suffered and as deterrent examples for the future as the degradation and punishment of the responsible authors by the supreme imperial authority itself, and it seems only just to China that she should be afforded in the first instance an opportunity to do this and thus rehabilitate herself before the world. Believing thus, and without abating in any wise its deliberate purpose to exact the fullest accountability from the responsible authors of the wrongs we have suffered in China, the government of the United States is not disposed, as a preliminary condition to entering into diplomatic negotiations with the Chinese government, to join in a demand that the Chinese government surrender to the powers such persons as, according to the determination of the powers themselves, may be held to be the first and real perpetrators of those wrongs. On the other hand, this government is disposed to hold that the punishment of the high responsible authors of these wrongs not only in Peking, but throughout China, is essentially a condition to be embraced and provided for in the negotiations for a final settlement. It is the purpose of this government, at the earliest practicable moment, to name its plenipotentiaries for negotiating a settlement with China, and in the meantime to authorize its minister in Peking to enter forthwith in the conference with the duly authorized representatives of the Chinese government, with a view to bringing about a preliminary agreement whereby the full exercise of the imperial power for the preservation of order and the protection of foreign life and property throughout China, pending final negotiations with the powers, shall be assured.

Relative to the appointment of Li Hung Chang as envoy plenipotentiary, regarding the acceptance of which the American government had been in doubt (page 360-61), that government now accepts his authority, together with that of his colleague, Prince Ching, of whose appointment it

was also notified by the Chinese minister. This was done on the 21st by means of a memorandum from Acting Secretary Hill to the Chinese minister at Washington, in which the former said:

The government of the United States accepts the plenipotentiary authority of Earl Li Hung Chang and Prince Ching as prima facie sufficient for the preliminary negotiations looking toward the return of the imperial Chinese government and to the resumption of its authority at Peking and toward the negotiation of a complete settlement by the only appointed plenipotentiaries of the powers and of China. To these ends the United States minister in Peking will be authorized to enter into relations with Earl Li and Prince Ching as the immediate representatives of the Chinese emperor.

In communicating the fact of this recognition to Russia, which had made inquiries upon the subject, the American government also answered an inquiry as to Russia's proposal that the legations withdraw from Peking to Tientsin (pages 334, 360), by saying that—

the government of the United States has not any present intention to withdraw its legation from Peking.

In view of these pacific diplomatic proceedings, and of the fact that the reason for invading China—to save the legations—had been satisfied, a report of the 20th to the effect that the allied forces, including the Americans, had attacked the Peitang and Lutai forts and captured them with great loss was startling. The report has been neither confirmed nor disputed. It was closely followed by orders from the naval department to strengthen our Asiatic fleet, which is to comprise two first-class battleships, one armored cruiser, and two protected cruisers, two turreted monitors, and 30 gunboats, besides supply ships, etc. An explanation is made, however, that this strengthening of the fleet is intended not as a menace to China but to command consideration for American interests in the final settlement of Chinese affairs by the allies. Yet, at the same time orders have been given through the war department to reduce the American military forces in China to a legation guard of one infantry regiment and four cavalry troops. The remainder of the force in China is ordered to Manila. Gen. Chaffee, in command of the American forces in China, is reported upon trustworthy authority to have expressed his opin-

ion that "recalling the army at this time is simply an outrageous desertion of immense mercantile and missionary interests in north China."

It has been surmised that the withdrawal of American troops from China to Manila is not wholly unconnected with the growing necessity for reenforcing the American army in the Philippines. Our last week's report of the situation in the Philippines told of the problem of insufficient troops, and also of one of the worst battles of the war. This battle was fought near Siniloan, on the eastern shore of the lake that lies a few miles east of Manila. The report of last week gave the American casualties as 12 killed, 26 wounded and five missing; but the official report received since puts the wounded at 19 and the killed at 24. The number of Americans engaged was 130, and that of the Filipinos 800, of whom 20 are reported to have been wounded and ten killed. Besides this battle, there have been numerous other fights of which no definite reports are made, but which must have been serious since the American casualties in killed, wounded and missing during the ten days preceding the 23d are reported to have numbered almost 100.

Aguinaldo has been heard from in a communication to Buencamino, who has been endeavoring to induce him and other Filipinos to accept the terms of the 90-day amnesty proclamation of President McKinley (see page 313). He replies definitely to Buencamino declining the overtures.

American casualties since July 1, 1898, inclusive of all current official reports given out in detail at Washington to September 26, 1900, are as follows:

Deaths to May 16, 1900 (see page 91) .....	1,847
Killed reported since May 16, 1900	79
Deaths from wounds, disease and accidents reported since May 16, 1900 .....	409
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Total deaths since July 1, 1898...	2,335
Wounded .....	2,274
Captured .....	10
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Total casualties since July 1, 1898...	4,619
Total casualties reported last.....	4,576
Total deaths reported last.....	2,311

In the Transvaal, resistance to invasion is not so promising. At latest

accounts last week fighting was in progress at Komatipoort, but on the 23d the British had entered the town without opposition. Some 3,000 Boers retreated before the British advance; and under date of the 19th Lord Roberts reported that 700 of these had sought refuge in Portuguese territory while others had deserted in various directions, the remainder having crossed the Komati river and occupied spurs of the Lobompo mountains. This is regarded by the British correspondents as the collapse of the Boer armies and the end of further resistance to British occupation. The Transvaal postmaster general, the assistant secretary of state, and the state treasurer sailed from Lourenzo Marques for Europe on the 26th.

On the 25th, in accordance with the arrangements reported last week, the British parliament was dissolved and writs were issued for the election of new members of the house of commons. Voting is to begin on the 1st of October and to continue until the 15th. The campaign is consequently already in full swing, and contrary to expectations the liberals are electioneering vigorously. There are 644 constituencies, all told, and 670 members to be elected—some of the constituencies being entitled to two members each.

NEWS NOTES.

—An international socialist congress is in session at Paris.

—Campos, the Spanish general who was succeeded in Cuba by Weyler, died on the 23d.

—Tolstoi has been excommunicated by the holy synod of the Greek church, as an enemy of the church.

—The fourteenth national meeting of the United Typothetae, the employing printers' union, began at Kansas City on the 25th.

—Felix Marchand, the premier of the province of Quebec and one of the most distinguished Canadians, died at Montreal on the 25th.

—Gen. John M. Palmer, formerly United States senator from Illinois, and presidential candidate of the gold democracy in 1896, died at Springfield, Ill., on the 25th aged 83.

—The record of trotting horses was reduced half a second on the 25th at Terre Haute by "Abbot," a seven-year-old, who made his mile in 2.03¼. The lowest previous record was 2.03¼.

—Prof. George D. Herron, who has recently returned from a long tour of

travel for study in Egypt, Palestine and Europe, spoke on the 18th at a large meeting in Plymouth county, Mass., in endorsement of Eugene V. Debs, the social-democratic candidate for president, and is announced to speak at a Debs meeting at Central Music hall, Chicago, on the 29th.

—The second annual conference of the Missouri single tax league is to be held in Reform Headquarters hall, 312 North Twelfth street, St. Louis, on the 5th, opening at ten a. m. The league announces that John S. Crosby, the Rev. Herbert S. Bigelow and Tom L. Johnson will make public addresses at the exposition building on the 6th.

—On the 26th, at Frankfort, Ky., James Howard was convicted of the actual murder of Goebel, and his punishment fixed by the jury at death. The jury was composed of nine democrats, two anti-Goebel democrats and one republican. It reached its verdict on the first ballot. Howard's conviction is one of the culminating events of the Kentucky political imbroglio to which references have been made on pages 314, 153, 136 and 10.

—The American Transvaal league was permanently organized at a national convention of delegates held at Chicago on the 25th. The national officers are Judge H. D. Peck, of Cincinnati, president; Judge E. L. Dunne, of Chicago, vice president; Herman Vanderploeg, of Chicago, secretary, and Peter Van Vlissingen, of Chicago, treasurer. A national committee of 100 was formed, inclusive of the following executive committee: S. Wessellus, M. H. Walker, H. B. DeBey, Louis F. Post, Prof. Frederick Starr, Dr. D. Berkhoff, R. O'S. Burke and Judge George M. van Hoeseu.

MISCELLANY

DO WE NOT UNDERSTAND?

For The Public.  
 Is this our nation's watchword—our newer trumpet cry?  
 "Let empires live and flourish, but let republics die!  
 Seek out your subject peoples and rule with iron hand?"  
 Lo! we are sons of freemen—do we not understand?  
 What is it that hath blinded the sons of Bunker Hill?  
 Have Lexington and Yorktown no potent memories still?  
 Have we exchanged the fathers for him, the last and worst,  
 Our country's first apostate and freedom's last accurst?  
 Lo, we are not an empire, and not a land of kings;  
 We move to freedom's music, and faith shall lend us wings;  
 And on the heights we master, to which our feet shall climb,