

of the imperial army connived at and fostered the "Boxer" movement. The latest advices would indicate that he assumed control of the government and undertook the issuing of imperial edicts shortly after the capture of the Taku forts by the European allies. These edicts, which have been sent out by runners to the various provinces, order the enrollment of Boxers and the complete expulsion and extermination of the "foreign devils." Whether this usurpation of the supreme power was connived at by the dowager empress and what the fate of the deposed emperor, Kwang Su, may be, cannot now be ascertained, but the fact remains that Tuan is in complete control of the situation in Peking and northern China.

The viceroys of the central and southern provinces, which extend from Hoang-ho or Yellow river on the north to the British and French frontiers on the extreme south, have, however, refused to recognize Tuan's usurpation and are actively preparing to resist his authority, at the same time endeavoring to maintain friendly relations with the foreign consuls in their provinces.

At the time of closing our account last week of the mysterious situation in China word had just come of the relief of Admiral Seymour, of the British navy, with his force of allied naval troops. This report was accompanied with information to the effect that Seymour had not succeeded in reaching Peking, the object of his expedition, but that he had rescued the foreign ministers and had them with him. It is now known, however, that Admiral Seymour did not succeed in rescuing the ministers, nor did he get to Peking, although he himself was relieved. In his own report to the British admiralty on the 27th he tells of engagements on the 13th and 14th, in both of which the Boxers were repulsed, and of the destruction of the railway on the 16th, which prevented his farther advance. On withdrawing to Yangtsun, on the Peiho river, he found it necessary to abandon the Peking expedition altogether and to follow the river down to Tientsin. During the return march he encountered opposition at nearly every village and did not succeed in reaching the vicinity of Tientsin until the 24th, where he captured the armory, with all its supplies, and then sent in to Tientsin for a relieving force, which

arrived on the 26th. He burned the armory before quitting it. Admiral Seymour's losses during his expedition were 62 killed and 206 wounded, the British loss being heaviest—27 killed and 75 wounded. His force consisted of British, Russians, Germans, French, Italians, Austrians, Japanese and Americans. The American loss was four killed and 25 wounded.

Of the position of the foreign colony and ministers besieged in Peking nothing authentic can be added to the report received by the navy department from Admiral Kcmpff on the 2d. This report was brought to Tientsin by a native runner who left Peking on the 24th and is as follows:

"Runner from Peking reports legations are besieged, provisions nearly exhausted, situation desperate. German minister going to tsung-li-yamen murdered by Chinese soldiers. American, Dutch and Italian legations burned. Twenty thousand Chinese soldiers inside, and 30,000 outside Peking."

This dispatch has been corroborated by a similar one from Shanghai a few days later, which says that all the foreigners have taken refuge in the British legation and are defending themselves against the repeated attacks of an infuriated mob of Chinese soldiery and Boxers. As the last runner left Peking ten days ago, at which time both provisions and ammunition were running low, and as the European allies have abandoned, for the present, any plan of relief, the horrible rumors, as to their fate, which fill the newspapers as we go to press, may well be true.

Fighting still continues at Tientsin, and with the Chinese investing forces receiving constant reinforcements the situation grows more serious daily. On the 4th came a report that once more the railroad between Tientsin and Taku had been cut and communication completely cut off, and accompanying this the report that Admiral Seymour had been wounded.

Reinforcements of the allies continue to arrive at Taku, the Russian and Japanese being represented with the largest quotas, although the other countries are making preparations to largely increase their forces. Germany, which is especially wrought up since the confirmation of the murder

of Baron Von Ketteler, is preparing to take vigorous measures and is forming a volunteer corps for Chinese service, and four battleships have been ordered to Chinese waters.

This country, which on the 3d formally notified the foreign powers that "the United States does not recognize a state of war to exist in China and that it has not sent troops to make war upon China, but to look out for Americans and their interests and to assist the legal government in establishing and maintaining order,"

has nevertheless ordered two more regiments in the Philippines to prepare for service in China, in addition to the one already sent.

Another appeal has come to the powers from Chinese viceroys in southern China (the first one is mentioned at page 185), asking them not to send troops to China, or at least not to the southern provinces, lest the native population there, which is now quiet, be stirred by fears of a foreign invasion. In answer, the American government has instructed American consuls in China to confer with the viceroys and obtain protection for American interests, agreeing not to send troops so long as the local authorities comply with the requirements of the consuls and keep the peace. It is understood that the other powers have given similar instructions. Accordingly the consuls at Shanghai of the various nations have entered into an agreement with the viceroys of Nankin and Hankow, in which the viceroys agree to protect the properties of the missionaries and foreign merchants in the valley of the Yangtse-Kiang and in the ports of Foochoo and Hankow, upon condition that sailors on board foreign warships shall not go ashore; that foreign warships shall not be sent to the Yangtse-Kiang without the consent of the viceroys, nor anchor near the Woosung forts or those in the valley under any pretext whatever, nor in the neighborhood of the Shanghai arsenal, and that missionaries and foreign travelers shall not go to places unprotected by Chinese troops. The agreement has not yet been signed by the consuls, who await specific authority from their respective governments.

To turn from affairs in China to the war in South Africa, it does not appear that Lord Roberts's enveloping movement in the Orange Free

State, the beginning of which was described at page 185 last week, has yet been completed. Some fighting has occurred, and British casualties within one period of three days are said to have amounted to 100; but there is no other news of moment. The belief prevails in London, however, that Lord Roberts is really now about to end the war by a master stroke in which he will surround the Boer force in the Free State.

The chief interest of the week in England with reference to the South African war was excited by charges of Mr. Burdett-Coutts, tory member of parliament for Westminster, that the British hospital arrangements in South Africa have been a disgrace to the service. The matter was the subject of acrimonious debate in the house of commons on the 29th. It is probable that these harrowing disclosures of Burdett-Coutts will result in the appointment of a commission of inquiry, and that a scandal not unlike that which attended the Alger investigation at the close of the Spanish-American war will attach to the British war office. The parliamentary secretary, Mr. Wyndham, in replying to the hospital charges upon the floor, admitted that the sick and wounded had been neglected to a lamentable extent, but insisted that this was due to no stinting of supplies, but to the insuperable difficulties of distributing supplies. The extent of the neglect may be inferred from the statements of war correspondents and others that British soldiers are infinitely better nursed in the Boer hospitals than in their own.

The British war office on the 3d issued the following report of British casualties since the outbreak of hostilities:

Killed in action .....	21,657
Died of wounds .....	680
Missing and prisoners .....	2,689
Died of disease .....	4,337
Invalided home .....	19,277
<b>Total .....</b>	<b>48,640</b>

The Boer envoys, Messrs. Fischer, Wolmarans and Wessels, who have been in this country for several weeks advising the American people of the merits of the Boer cause, sailed for France on the 29th on board the steamship L'Aquitaine. They were accompanied by Montagu White, formerly the representative of the South African republic in London. Mr.

White is to return the latter part of this month.

There is no news this week from the American war in the Philippines except a report from Gen. MacArthur on the 2d that Gen. Aquino had surrendered with a few followers at Tarlac on the 29th, and that fighting still continues in northern Luzon. The amnesty proclamation has had little effect apparently, as the insurgents still continue active.

American casualties in the Philippines since July 1, 1898, inclusive of all current official reports given out in detail at Washington to July 3, 1900, are as follows:

Deaths to May 16, 1900, (see page 91) .....	1,847
Killed reported since May 16, 1900, .....	22
Deaths from wounds, disease and accidents reported since May 16, 1900 .....	100
<b>Total deaths since July 1, 1898.....</b>	<b>1,969</b>
Wounded .....	2,179
<b>Total casualties since July, 1898.....</b>	<b>4,148</b>
<b>Total casualties reported last week .....</b>	<b>4,099</b>
<b>Total deaths reported last week.....</b>	<b>1,931</b>

Russia has advanced much farther, not to say much more peaceably, in the work of Russianizing Finland than either the United States or Great Britain in their kindred work in the Philippines and South Africa respectively. The story of this subjugation may be followed in detail by reference to The Public, No. 48 page 9, No. 57 page 6, No. 61 page 10, No. 75 page 10, and No. 77 page 10. The latest step in the process was the issue on the 27th by the czar of a manifesto directing that after September next all reports of the Finland senate must be made in the Russian language; that after New Year's day, 1903, only the Russian language shall be spoken in the senate, and that two years later it must be used in all government offices and departments. The official language now, which this manifesto is to supplant with the Russian, is the Finnish, which, as we have heretofore explained, has a high order of literature of its own. Besides thus forcing an alien language upon the Finns, Russia is suppressing freedom of speech and of the press. A Swedish paper published in Helsingfors, Finland, has been peremptorily suppressed, and four others, one published in Finnish, have been warned, while the dismissal of the editor of

another has been ordered. The effect of this drastic assertion of Russian sovereignty is indicated by data just published which show that in 1899 the emigration from Finland was nearly four times what it was in 1898.

In American politics the leading event of the week is the assembling of the democratic national convention at Kansas City, Mo. Up to the hour of this writing but little business had been done. The convention was called to order at 12 o'clock on the 4th by Gov. Charles M. Thomas, of Colorado, as temporary chairman, who made the opening address. After Gov. Thomas had finished speaking the declaration of independence was read amid great enthusiasm. A bust of William J. Bryan, the work of Richard George, the son of the late Henry George, was then presented to the convention by Tom L. Johnson, of Ohio, and once more the great convention hall shook with cheers. After the roll of the delegations had been called the convention adjourned until eight o'clock. At the evening session ex-Gov. Altgeld of Illinois made a forceful address and urged the convention to take no backward step on the money issue. James D. Richardson, of Tennessee, was then elected permanent chairman. His scathing arraignment of the republican administration was well received, but at the mention of Bryan's name a scene of wild enthusiasm, such as has never been equalled before at a political meeting, unless perhaps at the great convention in 1896, when Bryan himself captured the nomination by a wonderful speech. The convention then adjourned, but the committee on resolutions after an all night session decided, on the morning of the 5th, upon a specific declaration for 16 to 1, by a vote of 26 to 24, thus ending by this action the movement against the specific reaffirmation of the 1896 plank.

The principal state convention was that of the republican party of Michigan, which was in session and at a deadlock as we went to press last week. On the 28th, upon the nineteenth ballot, Aaron T. Bliss, of Saginaw, was nominated for governor. The Minnesota republican convention on the same day nominated Samuel R. Vansant for governor. Between the socialist labor party and the social democratic party, which have not yet come together on the presidential ticket, a complete fusion on state nominees