

treaty between Brazil and Bolivia was signed, in 1867, the population consisted entirely of nomadic and hostile Indians, and the dangers of exploration were augmented by the prevalence of fevers and reptiles and insects of the most deadly description. Not until the rubber industry at Manaos and Para became of value and the prospectors pushed westward into the wilderness to locate new lands suitable for this tree did the district receive special attention. It had been in undisputed possession of Brazil, and only in 1894 did both countries realize the necessity for a more definite boundary line at this point. In 1895 a joint commission of the two governments agreed to adopt a provisional line running from the point at latitude 7 degrees 1 minute 17 seconds south of the equator, on the Javary river, agreed on by the treaty of 1874, to the junction of the rivers Beni and Guapore with the Madeira river. This survey did not receive the final approval of the Brazilian government, the minister for foreign affairs objecting that the only just way to decide the frontier was by determining the true source of the Javary as stipulated in the first treaty. A further examination under the direction of the Brazilian commission fixed the head-waters of the Javary three degrees north of the earlier suppositions. This would result in an additional loss of territory to Brazil, and, as Bolivia did not cooperate in the expedition, a protocol was signed stipulating that a mixed commission be appointed to investigate the disputed question more thoroughly. The original treaty fixed the starting point of the boundary line on the left bank of the Madeira river at its juncture with the Beni, thence along parallel 10 degrees 20 minutes south to meet the Javary. If the source of the terminal river should be north of the east and west line, the treaty stipulated that the boundary should follow in a straight line until meeting the source of the Javary. As there is no misunderstanding regarding the starting point at the confluence of the Beni and Madeira rivers, the whole question rests on the clause stating that if the source of the Javary should prove to be north of the parallel 10 degrees 20 minutes south the frontier should follow from the parallel in a straight line to meet the main source of the Javary. Whether this line should start from the initial point at the juncture of the Beni and Madeira and run diagonally to the source of the Javary,

as maintained by Bolivia, or should extend west to the intersection of the Brazilian and Peruvian boundaries and thence northwest to the source of the Javary, as claimed by Brazil, is the mooted point. The Brazilian government claims that it was the intention of the original treaty to make the parallel 10 degrees 20 minutes the boundary line as far as possible, and from its termination, in Brazilian territory, should the true source of the Javary be farther north, straight from the intersection to the river's headwaters.

Along the frontier as claimed by Bolivia, the government of that country established forts and sent troops to support their custom houses in the collection of export tariffs on rubber. Against these reactions the Brazilians engaged in rubber raising there rose in rebellion; and they met with such success that on the 24th of last month, under Placido Castro, they captured Porto Acre, the last point in the Acre territory on which the Bolivian troops held out against them. So, at any rate, says the Brazilian minister to the United States, who made this further statement in an interview on the 8th:

Castro has been proclaimed governor by the victorious revolutionists and is ready to acknowledge Brazilian authority, I am advised. With the fall of Porto Acre there are no Bolivians left in the whole territory, and 300 Bolivian prisoners, including Governor Romero and Colonels Consecro and Ibanez, the latter two wounded, have been sent by the revolutionists to the Brazilian city of Manaos, capital of the state of Amazonas.

In consequence of the success of this revolution, which Brazil had evidently fostered, her government sent an ultimatum to Bolivia early in February. It was in effect a notice that if Bolivia should attempt to re-occupy the disputed territory, Brazil would pacify and administer it by military force until a settlement of the whole dispute had been reached. Bolivia thereupon agreed to Brazilian military occupation and administration of all the disputed country to the west of the Yaco river, at the same time advising Brazil that she was sending to Rio Janeiro a minister specially authorized to negotiate a satisfactory agreement, or failing that to arrange for arbitration.

The only news of the week from the civil war in Morocco (p. 695) re-

ports another bloody battle. This discredits the previous report of the annihilation of the revolutionary army, for not only was it severe, but it was fought up to the very gates of Fez; where, however, the rebels were driven back. The report came from Tangier on the 5th, and is as yet unconfirmed.

Still following the flight of the sanguinary angel of war, we are taken to the Balkans, whence come ugly rumors of the mobilization of troops by Turkey, Austria and Russia, and report of a probable Macedonian uprising. But these exciting reports, apparently inspired by European state departments, seem less to forebode a Balkan war than some secret movement of the continental powers for which rumors of Balkan difficulties are a mask.

In the Philippines there are evidences of a continuance of resistance to the American occupation. According to Associated Press reports from Manila, a force of 100 constabulary under Inspector Keithly defeated a body of 200 insurgents on Sunday, the 8th, near Mariquina, a small town seven miles from Manila. This victory of the armed American constabulary followed a severe engagement in which Inspector Harris and one man of the constabulary were killed and two other men of the constabulary wounded. The Filipinos left 15 dead and 3 wounded. Their little army formed the main force of Gen. San Miguel, who claims that he succeeded to the command of the Filipino forces when the other generals surrendered. His headquarters were captured, and, after seizure of his records, were burned. This dispatch of the following day from the same source, which cautiously phrased, is significant of a more irreconcilable condition in the Philippines than previous reports have indicated:

The government is preparing to round up the disorderly elements in the provinces of Bulacan and Rizal, where the constabulary will be reinforced by several companies of native scouts. The rumors from the disaffected provinces are believed to exaggerate the number of hostiles, of whom it is said there are 2,000 in the field. More trustworthy reports say there are not over 500 natives under arms, and that the bulk of these scattered after Sunday's fight. There is little doubt that the hostiles will speedily be suppressed.

Another part of the same dispatch is even more significant. We quote it with the suggestion that the word "ladrones" is used in dispatches to lend color to the charge that the Filipino irreconcilables are only bands of thieves. Too much confidence ought not to be given to this indiscriminating characterization. Following is the quotation:

General Allen has hurried reinforcements to the north, and has taken advantage of the Congressional action by placing the Filipino scouts in the field. Numerous commands are now patrolling the province of Bulacan. They have frequent skirmishes with the ladrones, but it is not likely that they will capture the principal leaders, who will probably escape to the hills of the neighboring provinces. The present outbreak is the gravest on the island of Luzon since the outbreak of the original revolution. Alarmists claim that it is the beginning of a second insurrection, because the movement is so widespread, and the armed men are carrying the flags of the Katipunan society. This is common, however, as all the ladrones when they are captured claim that they are insurrectos, hoping that in that way they will escape the severe laws against bandits.

Legislation in the United States Congress on the subject of trusts has culminated in measures which are described by the Republicans as "preliminary," and by the Democrats as "ineffective." There are four bills. One, known as the Elkins bill, amends the inter-State commerce law so as to punish the giving or taking of freight rebates by pecuniary fines, instead of fine and imprisonment. It lessens the penalty upon the plea of making the law more effective. This bill was passed in the Senate on the 3d. A second bill is known as the Hoar bill. It provides for hurrying on the trial in the Federal courts of cases under anti-trust laws. It passed the Senate on the 4th and the House on the 5th. The third bill is an amendment offered by Senator Nelson to the House bill for establishing a department of commerce and labor. It provides for enabling a bureau in that department to investigate the affairs of corporations doing an inter-State business (except common carriers). It was adopted in conference committee of the two Houses on the 7th, and was passed by the lower House on the 10th. This bill gives substantially the same powers respecting inter-State corporations in general that the inter-State commerce commission has re-

specting common carriers. The Littlefield bill is the fourth of the lot. It is more comprehensive, dealing with trusts at length. The House passed it on the 7th. But on the 9th a conference on trust legislation was held at the White House between the President and certain members of both Houses of Congress, at which all the trust bills were considered. It is understood that at this conference an agreement was reached to abandon the Littlefield bill, and to enact only the Nelson amendment to the department of commerce and labor bill, the Hoar bill for expediting trials and the Elkins rebate bill. That idea was confirmed on the 10th by Mr. Littlefield's bolting from the Republicans. Complaining that the President, after encouraging him to lead a fight for the suppression of trusts, had notified Congressmen that he would not sign a comprehensive bill on the trust subject, Mr. Littlefield voted against the conference report on the department of commerce and labor bill, which inserted the Nelson amendment. His "insurrectionary" act was evidently dictated by his belief that the Nelson amendment, which now goes to the President as part of the commerce and labor bill, is designed to displace the Littlefield bill.

Almost the proceedings of the anthracite arbitration commission are at an end. Evidence in rebuttal was closed on the 5th, when an adjournment was taken to the 9th. Upon re-assembling on the latter day arguments for the strikers were made by Daniel J. McCarthy and Henry Demarest Lloyd. On the 10th John T. Lenahan spoke for the nonunion miners, and on the 11th Samuel Dickinson, Simon P. Wolverton, Ira H. Burns and Francis I. Gowen spoke for the operators and the railroads.

While the anthracite arbitration has been going on, the bituminous miners and operators have been negotiating at Indianapolis with reference to an increase of wages. The conference ended on the 8th with an agreement for an increase of 14 per cent. The agreement affects mining only in the Illinois, Indiana, Ohio and the Pittsburgh district of Pennsylvania, but it will be urged as the basis for agreements in all the bituminous fields. The increase is to be paid to union miners only.

A unique labor strike in Chicago

terminated on the 10th after nearly a week's duration. It was a strike of elevator men, in the tall office buildings. The principal question in dispute related to wages. The men had formed unions and fixed the scale at \$55 a month, an increase of from 10 to 20 per cent. The privilege of sitting down while at work during slack hours was also demanded, and the buildings were asked to pay the expense of working uniforms. According to the managers' association a further demand was made that non-union men should not be employed. These demands being refused, the men struck work, and some 15 "skyscrapers" were deprived of elevator service for the greater part of a week. Buildings that conceded the increase in wages were not disturbed, which would indicate that the principal issue was over wages. On the 7th the teamsters' union took advantage of the elevator strike to institute one of their own against the managers who were resisting, and it became impossible for these to get coal. In heating and lighting as well as elevator service they were almost completely "tied up," and their tenants had to climb stairways to rooms 15 and 16 stories high. The struggle came to its end on the 10th, when all parties agreed to submit the questions in dispute to arbitration before the joint arbitration board of the Chicago teamsters and their employers. The strikers proposed the arbitration and the building managers' association accepted. Work in the buildings was immediately resumed.

#### NEWS NOTES.

—The Alaskan boundary treaty (p. 680) was ratified by the United States Senate on the 11th.

—By a vote of 46 to 19 the city council of Chicago refused on the 9th to increase the salaries of councilmen from \$1,500 to \$3,000.

—A woman suffrage bill before the Montana Senate was defeated on the 5th upon a motion for indefinite postponement, the vote standing 16 to 10.

—On the 6th the La Follette primary election bill for the reformation of voting at primaries, passed the lower House of the Wisconsin legislature.

—Gen. Uribe-Urbe, one of the famous military leaders of the recent revolution in Colombia, committed suicide on the 30th. The first reports, no details being given, came from Kingston, Jamaica, on the 8th.

—Twenty-six hours before the ocean liner Minneapolis arrived on