

pinos have made no move to settle upon the public land it is recommended that the limit which any person may buy from the public domain be raised from 40 acres to 1,000 acres, and that the limit of land which any one person or corporation may hold in the islands be raised from 2,500 to 25,000 acres. It is hoped that in this way an influx of American capital may be induced.

The divorce of church and state in France.

Efforts to enforce the new law of France for the separation of church and State (p. 581), have raised a storm of protest all over France, and in some places rioting has occurred. The especial reason for this commotion is the enforcement of that clause of the law which requires inventories of church property. In several Paris churches on the 1st pitched battles were fought, and hundreds of church members were arrested. According to Paris dispatches of the 1st the Ministry was interpellated on the subject in the Chamber of Deputies and—

Premier Rouvier replied that the Ministry was determined to do its duty at any cost, even employing armed force if necessary. Scenes of extreme violence took place at the Church of St. Clothilde. The church had been filled since early morning, the congregation including many prominent men. Repeated charges by the police on the crowds gathered outside led to fifty arrests, including two priests. The crowd eventually became so violent that the police drew their swords. Many were injured during the fighting. Fire engines were placed near the church so as to be able if necessary to drench the crowd. The women showed the greatest determination, opening umbrellas for their protection and chanting psalms. Under a shower of broken chairs the officers broke down the church doors and entered the building. One of the principal officers was wounded severely. Inside the church the congregation had erected barricades, which had to be taken by assault while men and women fainted. At the altar a few of the congregation and some young priests stood, defiantly brandishing sticks. The ejection of the remainder of the crowd resulted in the injuring of many persons on both sides, including fifty policemen and guards and a still higher number of the militant Roman Catholics. All the windows of the church were broken and every chair smashed. Similar scenes were enacted in many parts of the country. The prefect of the Departement of the

Seine has issued an order to the clergy instructing them to give up the keys of their churches and adding that in case of refusal the commissioners are instructed to call on the armed forces for assistance.

Further rioting was reported on the 20th. A fight in the church of St. Pierre du Groscaillou resulted in the injury of fifty persons, some of them seriously. Three thousand were in the church. The police give the names of seven persons seriously injured, including the Marquis Daubigny and two priests. The duc de la Rochefoucauld, who was arrested during the troubles at the Church of Ste. Clothilde, was condemned to three months' imprisonment. Dispatches of the latter date explain that—

those offering resistance belonged to the mixed classes. There was undoubtedly a considerable proportion of fervent Catholic of both sexes among them who believed in the sanctity of their cause, and who were prepared for martyrdom, but many were mere anti-republican partisans, including royalists, imperialists and nationalists.

The British elections.

As a result of the overwhelming Liberal victory in the British elections (p. 727), a split in the Conservative party is reported, between the old Conservatives under Balfour's leadership, and the followers of Chamberlain. Most of the reports on this head are, however, little better than political gossip. Not until Parliament assembles and factional lines appear, is any trustworthy news regarding Opposition leadership probable. Meanwhile Balfour and Chamberlain have agreed to call a general meeting of the party for an early date not yet announced.

Intelligent explanations of the significance of the Liberal victory are only beginning to find their way into the daily press on the American side. The following from the New York daily Press (Rep.) of February 4—a staff correspondent's letter of January 25 from London—comes exceptionally near to being a correct estimate:

Upholders of Henry George's principles have cause to rejoice in the great Liberal landslide in England. Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the new Premier, has definitely committed his

Government. Besides the Prime Minister, the most important members of the Cabinet are well-known advocates of taxation of the value of the land. Among these are Mr. Asquith, Chancellor of the Exchequer; Sir Edward Grey, Mr. John Morley, Mr. Haldane, Earl of Carrington, Mr. Bryce, the Earl of Aberdeen, Mr. Herbert Gladstone and others. There is naturally great rejoicing at the offices of the English League for the Taxation of Land Values. Frederick Verinder, its secretary, who has been connected with this movement in England for a quarter of a century, expressed himself as elated at the results obtained by the agitation which practically began on the street corners in 1881. "By the way," he said, "people all over England have been surprised at the arguments advanced in this election by workmen and the supposedly 'ignorant classes' on the mooted points of Protection versus Free Trade. So it may interest you to hear that Henry George's book, 'Protection and Free Trade,' to the extent of 30,000 copies was placed by our league where it would do the most good; and we also sent out daily, long before the election, practically hundreds of thousands of leaflets setting forth plainly just what we meant by land-value taxation." "But is the Prime Minister sincere in his utterances on that head, or were they only made to catch the popular vote?" I asked. "I have every reason to believe that Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman means exactly what he says," answered the single taxer, "and will carry out all his promises. He is committed definitely and irrevocably to the principle of taxation of land values; and, even if he were not, there are many other members of the Cabinet who are in favor of the principle. "I suppose, in England, with its great landlords, and all the property in the hands of a few, it was not easy to get these principles before the country?" "Well, I admit there were enormous difficulties, and now that we have won," replied Mr. Verinder, "I feel that we have a right to be in high spirits over the real triumph of Henry George's principles." "Have any of the great landlords begun to see things your way; are they willing that their individual property should be taxed on a land-value scheme?" was asked. "The Marquis of Northampton," replied Mr. Verinder, "one of the greatest property owners in England, who has large tracts in London itself, was originally one of the prime movers in the land-value direction; one of our vice presidents was Lord Hobhouse, and so was Earl Compton. It does not seem to be at all well known," he added, "that a bill for the taxation of land values has long been before Parliament. In 1904 and 1905 it was carried by majorities of 67