

always accessible. The new Shah began immediately upon his accession to hear that because of his entourage he was difficult to approach. So, says the Teheran correspondent of the London Daily Mail, his majesty has ordered that telephonic communication be installed between the palace and a public square, and has invited his subjects to use this telephone in order to enter in direct communication with him.

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#### The National Congress in India.

Mail advices report the proceedings of the Indian National Congress (p. 944) held in Calcutta from Dec. 26 to Dec. 29. This was the largest of these congresses ever held. Over 1,500 delegates attended, including more than a hundred Mahomedans. Every day the pavilion was packed with an audience of over 15,000. All India was represented. The demand of the Congress was for a greater degree of home rule. One resolution advocated the introduction of self-government under the colonial system; another advocated greater freedom for municipalities. On the 27th the Congress passed a resolution recording its sense of indignation that Indians should be denied citizen rights in the Transvaal. To British Imperialists the chairman said: "Do not misread the signs of the times. Your choice is between a contented people and another Ireland in the East." The Congress will meet again at Nagpur next Christmas.

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#### A Japanese Test Case in San Francisco.

A test case to determine whether Japanese children can be legally excluded from the public schools of San Francisco has been arranged for. Keikichi Ooki, the ten-year-old son of a Japanese bookseller, formally applied for admission to the Redding primary school on the 17th, and met with prearranged refusal. The United States district attorney thereupon applied to the Supreme Court for a writ of mandamus compelling the board of education to admit the boy, and commenced suit in the United States Circuit Court for the same purpose. The dispatches state that attached to the petition for the mandamus was a request by United States Attorney General Bonaparte to the effect that the United States be made a party to the record for the purpose of enforcing the treaty with Japan. State rights, the treaty of the United States with Japan, the validity of the order issued by the San Francisco board of education, and the constitutionality of a law of the State of California, as well as an interpretation of the word "Mongolian" are involved in the two suits. A contention which heretofore has not been mentioned in this controversy between the State and the Federal government is the claim that the Federal government, by land grants and appropriations of money, has helped to support the public schools of the State with the understanding and intent that said schools should be conducted in conformity with the legislation of the United States, and with all treaties made under the authority of the United States.

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#### A Day of Railroad Disasters.

On the 19th ten railroad accidents occurred in different parts of the United States, four of them in

Indiana. The Chicago Tribune thus enumerates them:

Terre Haute, Ind.—Car of powder on siding exploded as Big Four passenger train passed; both trains blown to pieces; at least twenty-five killed; many others injured.

Fowler, Ind.—Big Four passenger express from Chicago wrecked in collision with freight train; at least sixteen persons killed or burned to death.

Hammond, Ind.—Lake Shore suburban train in collision with empty freight; twelve passengers hurt.

Schnelder, Ind.—Two trainmen fatally injured in collision between freights on Indiana Harbor road.

Houston, Tex.—Passenger train on the International and Great Northern railway wrecked; many passengers are reported injured.

Minneapolis, Minn.—Winnipeg flyer of the Great Northern wrecked ten miles out of Minneapolis; three passengers injured.

Bureau, Ill.—Train 337 on the Rock Island road wrecked in washout near Bureau; engineer and fireman and four passengers hurt.

Meridian, Miss.—Collision between passenger and freight on the New Orleans and Northeastern railroad; engineer killed.

Desoto, Kan.—Locomotive exploded on Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe railway, killing the engineer and fireman and a brakeman and demolishing the bridge it was crossing.

Alma, Mich.—Pere Marquette passenger train wrecked by a broken rail; none of the passengers was seriously injured. Fireman Homer Johnson was buried under the engine and killed and several other members of the train crew were bruised.

The first of the above wrecks was the most dreadful. It occurred at Sanford, nine miles east of Terre Haute. Later reports give the number of bodies recovered as 27. As some bodies were completely dismembered, it will be difficult to be certain as to the exact number of the dead. There is doubt as to the contents of the car which exploded, and an investigation is on foot.

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#### The Jamaica Earthquake.

The destruction and the loss of life at Kingston (p. 995) were even greater than at first reported. Three days after the earthquake it was discovered that the shores of the harbor were sinking, at least in part, and that the bed of the harbor had wholly changed. The city was described on the 16th as being like a charnel pit, with hundreds of decomposing corpses beneath its ruins. Every business house, church, theatre, bank and hotel had been destroyed by earthquake or fire.

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There being no British warships in West Indian waters at the time of the disaster, American naval officers hastened to offer relief to the stricken city. A dispatch dated at Kingston on the 17th stated that

The streets of this city are now picketed with American guards. Admiral Evans at the request of the British authorities landed a force of marines from the battle ships Missouri and Indiana.

Admiral Davis reported to the Navy Department, through Admiral Evans on the 18th, very fully of the situation. Among other particulars, stating that:

The Governor, Sir Alexander Swettenham . . . assures me there is no need of police protection or relief; declined my offer to land wrecking party to assist in hos-

pital, to police streets, clear away debris, to bury dead. . . . Later, upon request, I landed fifty men under arms from the Indiana to prevent alleged mutiny at penitentiary containing between 500 and 600 prisoners, then proceeded in carriage with government official to King's house. Governor with family were living in tents; accompanied Governor to city and shall this afternoon probably withdraw guard at penitentiary, as he assures me he is capable of controlling the situation.

After the foregoing Great Britain and the United States were considerably surprised, when the following correspondence was made public in the press of the 21st:

Kingston, Jan. 17.—My Dear Governor: I beg you to accept my apology for the mistake of the salute this afternoon. My order was misunderstood and the disregard of your wishes was due to a mistake in the transmission of my order. I trust the apparent disregard of your wishes will be overlooked.

I landed working parties from both ships today to aid in clearing the various streets and buildings and purpose landing parties tomorrow for the same purpose unless you expressly do not desire it. I think a great deal may be done in the way of assistance to private individuals without interfering with the forces of yourself and the government officials. As the only object of my being here is to render such assistance as I can, I trust you will justify me in this matter for the cause of common humanity.

I had a patrol of six men ashore today to guard and secure the archives of the United States consulate, together with a party of ten clearing away wreckage. This party after finishing its work at the consulate assisted a working party to catch thieves, recovering from them a safe taken from a jewelry store valued at \$5,000. From this I judge that the police surveillance of the city is inadequate for the protection of private property.

Actuated by the same motive—namely, common humanity—I shall direct the medical officers of my squadron to make all efforts to aid cases of distress which perhaps do not come under the observation of your medical officers.

I shall have pleasure in meeting you at the hour appointed, 10 a. m., at headquarters house.

I trust you approve of my action in this matter. Your obedient servant,

C. H. DAVIS, Rear Admiral.

Kingston, Jan. 18.—Dear Admiral: Thanks very much for your letter, your kind call and all the assistance given or offered us. While I most heartily appreciate the very generous offers of assistance, I feel it my duty to ask you to re-embark the working party and all parties which your kindness prompted you to land.

If in consideration of the vice consul's assiduous attentions to his family at his country house the American consulate needs guarding in your opinion, although he was present and it was not guarded an hour ago, I have no objection to your detaching a force for the sole purpose of guarding; but the party must have no fire-arms and nothing more offensive than clubs or staves for this function.

I find your working party was this morning helping Mr. Crosswell clean his store. Crosswell was delighted that the work was done without cost. If your excellency should remain long enough I am sure almost all the private owners would be glad of the services of the navy to save expense.

It is no longer a question of humanity; all the dead died days ago and the work of giving them burial is merely one of convenience.

I would be glad to accept delivery of the safe which it is alleged thieves had possession of. The American vice consul has no knowledge of it; the store is close to a sentry post and the officers of the post profess ignorance of the incident.

I believe the police surveillance of the city is adequate for the protection of private property. I may remind your excellency that not long ago it was discovered that thieves had lodged in and pillaged the residence of some New York millionaire during his absence in the summer, but this would not have justified a British admiral landing an armed party and assisting the New York police.

I have the honor to be, with profound gratitude and the highest respect, your obedient servant,

ALEXANDER SWETTENHAM, Governor.

Kingston was reported as angry at the Governor's course. The Mayor of Kingston telegraphed the Mayor of New York on the 21st as follows:

Kingston, Jamaica, Jan. 21.—Mayor, New York: On behalf of stricken people I appeal through you to generosity of American people for help. Every house destroyed. Money, lumber, and building materials most urgently needed.

TAIT, Mayor.

In the meantime the following dispatches were exchanged by the two governments involved:

The Hon. Elihu Root, Secretary of State, Washington:

Have read in the newspapers this morning what purports to be a letter from Governor of Jamaica. Can only say that on materials before me I entertain, as responsible for troops in island, feeling of deep gratitude to American Admiral for generous assistance tendered at most critical time.

HALDANE,

Secretary of State for War.

The President greatly appreciates your cordial telegram, and is glad if the proximity of this country has made it possible to be of the slightest assistance to the stricken people of Jamaica in this crisis. If, because of this proximity, and pending the arrival of your own warships and transports, we can render any further aid whatever, the President earnestly hopes you will call on him without hesitation. We know how cheerfully you would render such aid to us were the circumstances reversed.

BACON, Acting Secretary of State.

These were followed by the following dispatch from the Governor of Jamaica:

The Hon. Elihu Root, Secretary of State, Washington: Jamaica profoundly grateful to your excellency for expression of sympathy and for the very practical aid so kindly given by Admiral Davis and the entire particular service squadron of the United States navy.

GOVERNOR.

The incident now apparently closed is summed up in a letter from George Bernard Shaw to the London Tribune, in connection with giving his signature to a protest against the Governor's action:

Rear Admiral Davis evidently is not accustomed to the manners of the English official classes. Governor Swettenham would naturally regard an American admiral with a certain suspiciousness, first as a foreigner and dissenter; secondly, as a member of a naval branch into which the sons of clergymen and other professional persons enter freely, and finally as an officious intruder whose action implied that England could not cope with an earthquake without assistance. The governor probably conceived himself as acting with studied politeness under circumstances of most presumptuous provocation.

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Coincident with the Kingston earthquake came increased activity of Mt. Vesuvius and Mt. Etna in Italy. Earthquake shocks and a tidal wave have been reported from Manila, and on the 20th severe shocks from two points in Russia. Further particulars of the tidal wave reported on the 11th as having swept over the Dutch West Indies (p. 995) have been

received. Eighteen hundred persons are said to have lost their lives, 1,500 of them on the Island of Simalu, which has practically disappeared. Simalu or Hog Island lies in the Indian Ocean west of the northern part of Sumatra.

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#### The Shea Case.

The trial, lasting 131 days, of Cornelius P. Shea, the leader of the teamsters' strike of 1905 in Chicago (vol. viii, p. 279), together with his principal associates who were included in the same indictment, came to an end on the 21st with the discharge of the jury for failure to agree. The charge was conspiracy to injure a business firm—Montgomery Ward & Co. But the issue as it reached the jury was the question of whether a sympathetic strike constitutes criminal conspiracy. Although violent outbreaks on the streets were proved by the prosecution, the defendants were not allowed by the court to prove that these outbreaks were caused by the Employers' Association instead of the strikers. Neither were the defendants allowed to prove that the strikers had tried to arbitrate the labor differences and the employers had refused. Among the witnesses for the prosecution was Albert H. Young, a labor leader who had turned state's evidence. The jury were out 54 hours and stood 5 for conviction and 7 for acquittal. The difficulty in getting a jury in the case may be inferred from the fact that 4,710 jurymen were examined before 12 were found satisfactory to both sides. Immediately upon the discharge of the jury the defense demanded another trial.

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#### Funeral Services for Ernest Crosby.

The following account of the funeral services for Ernest Howard Crosby (p. 966) is taken from the Rhinebeck Gazette of Jan. 12. Rhinebeck is situated on the east side of the Hudson River between Poughkeepsie and Catskill.

"The body of Hon. Ernest H. Crosby, who died of pneumonia at Baltimore, Md., early on the morning of January 3, was brought to this village for burial on Monday.

"The funeral service was held at the Church of the Messiah at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, Rev. Ernest C. Saunders officiating. The body was brought from New York in a special car attached to the 12:47 train, and was taken at once to the church. The public were allowed to view the remains, which were placed in the vestibule, from 1:45 until 2 o'clock, when the service commenced.

"The coffin was of solid mahogany with pillared corners and oxidized ornamentation, bearing the inscription, 'Ernest Howard Crosby, 1856-1907.' The pall bearers were as follows: Jacob V. Beach, Edward Moody, Olandrew Mattison, Clinton Mattison, Dexter Burroughs and Edward Van Etten, and were chosen from among the employees at 'Grasmere,' Mr. Crosby's country estate.

"The altar was piled high with beautiful floral pieces and bouquets.

"At shortly after 1 o'clock on Monday the business places and offices about town were closed, and an air of mourning pervaded the village. Flags were hung at half mast throughout the day. Long before the service commenced the church was filled with

mourners gathered to do honor to the memory of their departed friend and townsman. The Episcopal service was used. The Board of Education of the Rhinebeck High School, of which he was a member, together with the faculty, attended in a body. Among those present from out of town were Messrs. Whilden Graham, P. T. Jones, J. J. Murphy, Kirk Paulding and William Ordway Partridge, and Dr. Elizabeth Robbins, Miss Lillian Wald and Miss Waters, all of New York City, together with a delegation of ten members of the Single Tax Society of New York.

"The remains were placed in the receiving vault at the rural cemetery, in charge of Wm. Carroll & Son, and will later be interred in the family plot.

"The community has scarcely yet recovered from the shock of his death. Loved, honored and respected by every one, his death has bereft the community of its noblest example and its most righteous force. With the sordid commercialism of the age, with its desire to get everything out of animal existence that sensuality can yield, he had no fellowship."

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## NEWS NOTES

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—The London Tribune, the able Liberal daily, is about to create a special news bureau in Washington.

—Mrs. Cella Parker Woolley will speak on "Personal Influence" at Fullerton Hall in the Art Institute on Jan. 26 at 10:30 in the morning.

—Josiah Flynt Willard, known to the literature of under-world life as "Josiah Flynt," died at Chicago on the 21st of pneumonia. He was a nephew of Frances Willard.

—Pittsburg saw no daylight at all on the 18th. A combination of warm fog, windless atmosphere, and the soft coal smoke which always overhangs the city, is given as the cause of the phenomenon.

—The government railways of Denmark, which have been a great boon to the country as well as always a profitable financial undertaking, report for the year 1905 to 1906 a surplus of more than 22 per cent. of the total receipts.

—John R. Walsh, until recently the most powerful financier of Chicago, but who has gone to the financial "wall" (vol. viii, p. 822), was indicted in the Federal court at Chicago on the 18th for violations of the national banking law. He was president of the Chicago National Bank.

—A process of extracting nitric acid from the atmosphere has been discovered by Sir William Crookes. The London Chronicle says that the process is available for commercial, industrial, and agricultural purposes and that it will revolutionize the nitrate industry and the world's food problem.

—Mr. Elihu Root, United States Secretary of State, visited the Governor-General of Canada, Earl Grey, at Ottawa, from the 19th to the 22nd. On the 22nd at a luncheon given in his honor by the Canadian Club, Mr. Root made an address upon the problems confronting the two nations, and their mutual relations.

—Oliver Dyer, the first person to master phonography in the United States, an associate editor with Robert Bonner in publishing the New York