

commutation followed the "pouring in on government officials of hundreds of thousands of protests from the Dominion, the United States, and European countries," and that "the American protests were the most numerous and vigorous." According to the same dispatches (we quote from the Chicago Record Herald of the 15th)—

Mrs. Neapolitano killed her husband April 16 last. At her trial it was shown that she was driven to the act by Neapolitano's efforts to drive her to an improper life. It was represented that she was seeking to protect the name of her four children and of the one soon to be born. The husband, Pietro, had given his family a bare living, but Mrs. Neapolitano expected little and there seemed to be a fair measure of happiness in their poor home until he left her with the admonition to her to obtain money in a dishonorable way. When he returned three weeks later he repeated his demands. She refused, and Neapolitano stabbed her nine times. She fled, and in her desperation tried to drown herself in the river. She was rescued and sent to a hospital. That was last October. After her recovery she returned to the only place she knew as home. There was a reconciliation, followed by quarrels, and the husband renewed his sordid demands. Then, while he slept, Mrs. Neapolitano hacked him to death with an ax. She was arrested and confessed. The trial came quickly and resulted in conviction. Mrs. Neapolitano was sentenced to be hanged on Aug. 9.

+

A movement is now under way to raise funds to secure a new trial. Interviewed on this subject Anna E. Nicholes of the Neighborhood Settlement House, Chicago, is reported to have said:

We have read all the testimony presented in the trial of Mrs. Neapolitano and we are persuaded that she has not had a fair trial.

+ +

The Lords' Veto.

Having completed its committee stages in the House of Lords, the Asquith bill for abolishing the Lords' veto is to come up for third reading on the 20th. While it was still in committee of the whole, on the 13th, an amendment moved by Lord Cromer, the object of which was to prevent the tacking on of extraneous legislation to finance bills, was carried without division. Lord Lansdowne called the amendment vital, saying that "bills of far-reaching political and social consequences could be drafted in the guise of finance bills and would be entirely removed from the consideration of the upper house." Lord Newton moved an amendment providing that no bill for the further limitation of the legislative powers of the House of Lords shall be introduced until after another general election. This it had been expected would prove a basis of compromise between the Ministry and Tory peers, but Lord Morley declared that the Ministry would not accept it

because it reserved to the Lords too extensive powers in relation to the reference of rejected bills to a referendum, or to a general election. Lord Lansdowne gave it no support, and after adverse criticism by the Earl of Ancaster, Tory, the amendment was withdrawn. [See current volume, page 660.]

NEWS NOTES

—The French parliament has adjourned until October. [See current volume, pages 610, 661.]

—Asiatic cholera has appeared at the port of New York, with one death. [See vol. xiii, p. 1073.]

—Forest fires in northeast Michigan and in northern Ontario last week wiped out many villages and caused hundreds of deaths.

—Sir Eldon Gorst, British Agent in Egypt, died on the 12th, and Field Marshal Lord Kitchener has been appointed to the post in his place.

—In the Lorimer investigation, Governor Deneen testified last week and underwent a long cross-examination by Senator Lorimer's lawyer, Judge Hanecy. [See current volume, page 611.]

—The price of gas in Chicago was fixed by the City Council on the 17th for five years at 75 cents for the first, 70 cents for the second and third, and 68 cents for the fourth and fifth. [See vol. viii, pp. 760, 762, 766, 796; current volume, page 517.]

—The center of population in the United States has shifted from six miles southeast of Columbus, Ind., in 1900, to four and a quarter miles south of Unionville, Ind.,—thirty-one miles westward and seven-tenths of a mile northward from the former point. [See vol. xiii, p. 1189.]

—By a vote of 17 to 16 the New York Senate in committee of the whole on the 12th refused to advance the Stillwell woman suffrage resolution from general orders to order of final passage, thus killing it. A motion to disagree with the report of the committee was lost by a vote of 15 to 19.

—A Congressional committee has begun an investigation of the case of Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, food expert of the Agricultural Department, accused last March of authorizing illegal compensation to Dr. H. H. Rusby of the college of pharmacy of Columbia University. Attorney General Wickersham, after investigation, has advised President Taft to give Dr. Wiley an opportunity to resign.

—Governor Hoke Smith was elected United States Senator from Georgia on the first ballot taken by the House and Senate in joint session at noon on the 12th. He succeeds Joseph M. Terrell, who was appointed by Governor Brown to fill the unexpired term of the late A. S. Clay. Senator Terrell immediately telegraphed the Senate directing that his name be stricken from its rolls.

—Evelyn Arthur See, founder of a religious cult called "Absolute Life," was convicted of abduction at Chicago on the 13th. The trial involved a young woman. It appears from the news reports to have grown out of a quarrel between her mother and her