

British government that the Chinese journalists should not be surrendered.

There appear also to be other indications of a revival of the persecutions of 1898 (vol. 1, No. 25, p. 9; No. 26, p. 7; No. 27, pp. 7, 11), when the Empress dowager regained control of the democratically inclined Emperor and beheaded his democratic advisers, Kang Yu Mei alone of the prominent ones escaping by fleeing the country. With the termination of the subsequent "boxer" troubles and the foreign invasion of China (vol. III, pp. 150, 167, 184, 198, 216, 232; vol. v. p. 312) a more liberal spirit marked the imperial policy, and political discussions again arose among the Chinese. To silence these, not only is the effort being made to gain the custody of the Shanghai editors and behead them, but one reformer, Shen Chien, was beheaded on the 31st, and some forty reformers in Peking are under accusation by the Chinese censor and in danger of immediate arrest and summary execution. This is reported to have had its intended effect. The liberal Chinese, especially those who have been associated with the reformers, are said to be in such fear that it is now impossible to find one who will discuss politics. The people are afraid even to mention the execution of Shen Chien.

Disquieting rumors of a revival in the Philippines of the war for independence are leaking out through returning tourists. One of them, W. C. Deering, of Chicago, who arrived at Victoria, B. C., on the 3d, predicted in a newspaper interview there that an uprising soon is certain. He said that although the people of the United States may not be aware of the fact, the Filipinos are organizing and drilling, filibusters are continually landing arms on the coasts, and the patrol is looked upon as a farce. Schooners laden with contraband goods have no difficulty, he says, in running in their cargoes. He also reports that many deserters from the United States army and broken down British and European soldiers are in the Filipino service.

News of the Negro-lynching mania in the United States (pp. 233, 263) for the current week comes from different quarters. An attempt on the 31st to seize and lynch two Negro prisoners in West Virginia failed, but through no lack of effort on the part of the white mob. The Negroes had been arrested upon suspicion of having shot and seriously injured a railroad brakeman, and were being taken to jail by railroad. The train was signaled by the mob to stop, and when it slowed up they rushed for the prisoners, but were unable to get at them, owing to the resistance of the officers, and the skill of the trainmen, who managed to get the train under way, leaving the mob behind. The mob fired several shots through the windows of the car in which the prisoners were in custody. In Albany, N. Y., on the 2d a Negro cut a white man with a razor in a brawl, and was chased by a mob of 200 men. The mob was finally held at bay by an officer who arrested the Negro. An attempt on the 2d to lynch a Negro prisoner in Statesville, N. C., while the sheriff was taking him to Charlotte, was frustrated by the sheriff. At Smyrna, Del., on the 3d a lynching mob chased a Negro who had shot a constable while resisting arrest. With a pistol he had held his pursuers at bay and effected his escape. In Ohio a mob gathered at Belle Center on the 4th to lynch a Negro prisoner on his way to the jail at Kenton. The officers having him in custody got him safely away from this mob and also from one at Kenton which lay in wait for him there. On the same day a mob in Bartholomew county, Ind., chased a Negro into the Flat Rock river, where he drowned. In Needmore, Tenn., a Negro suburb of Lewisburg, a Negro preacher and his Negro son-in-law were lynched on the 4th by a masked mob. The mob went to the Negro's house about midnight, some 20 or 30 strong. Their intended victim tried to escape, and they shot him as he ran, killing him instantly. Nine bullet holes were found in his body. His son-in-law also tried to escape, and was shot and mortally wounded by the mob. Both the preacher and his son-in-law are reported to have

born a good reputation, and no reasons for the lynching are known. The coroner's jury rendered a verdict to the effect that the Negroes had been shot by a masked mob unknown to the jury. A similar verdict was returned on the 30th by the coroner's jury at Danville, Ill., with reference to the lynching (p. 263) and brutal murder of a Negro there. It returned a verdict of "death at the hands of persons who are unknown."

The political campaign in Ohio was opened on the 30th at Canton by the Democrats. This was a surprise to the Republicans, for the Democratic state convention will not assemble until August 25th (p. 39), and it had been supposed that there would be no activity in the campaign until that time. But Mayor Johnson's campaigning is full of surprises, and this challenge to an early and long contest was one of them. He took advantage of the meeting of the Democratic senatorial convention at Canton, to sound the keynote of the State campaign in Stark and Carroll counties with two speeches which indicated that it is the legislature rather than the governorship that the Democrats will try to carry, and that the issues they will raise will be home rule and just taxation. The convention nominated Hamilton G. De Weese as the Democratic candidate for State senator. Mr. De Weese pledged himself to support the reforms Mayor Johnson is advocating, and he is reported to be a man who can be relied upon. His Republican adversary is Robert L. Pollock, of whom Mayor Johnson, in his speech, said:

I have nothing to say of his personality, but in his public record he has always voted on the wrong side. In fact, he has never voted right. When we appealed to the State legislature to equalize the taxes on steam railroads, Pollock voted no. When the Republicans overthrew the government of Cleveland and with it the government of every city and town in the State, Pollock voted for the iniquitous code. But above all Pollock voted for the infamous curative act, and for this his name should go down in shame.

The convention indorsed the Johnson policy in its platform in these terms:

We favor home rule and just and equal taxation, and denounce the action of the

last Republican legislature governing cities from Columbus and increasing the burdens of taxation. We deprecate the unjust discrimination of our laws in taxation, and heartily indorse Mayor Tom L. Johnson, of Cleveland, in his efforts to remedy this glaring defect, and in his efforts to secure for the people the right to vote upon the granting of franchises to street railroads and other public service corporations, to protect the people from the baneful effects of petty bribery through railroad passes.

This senatorial district is strongly Republican.

An extraordinarily important municipal gathering, to which little or no attention has been paid by the general press of the East or of the middle West, closed its work at Denver on the 2d, after having been in session there for 60 days. It was a pioneer body in a work entirely new in the way of municipal government. Authorized by the State of Colorado, it has framed a constitution for the city of Denver which is now to be submitted to the people of Denver for adoption.

This radical innovation in municipal government was authorized by an amendment to the State constitution adopted at the elections (vol. v., p. 548) last Fall. By that amendment the city of Denver is incorporated as the "City and County of Denver," with all the ordinary powers of a municipality, together with the power to—

construct, condemn and purchase, purchase, acquire, lease, add to, maintain, conduct and operate, waterworks, light plants, power plants, transportation systems, heating plants, and any other public utilities or works or ways local in use and extent, in whole or in part, and everything required therefor.

Provision is made also for the construction of a charter by the municipality itself. For this purpose a special election is required to be held for the election of a charter convention to frame a charter which, upon approval by a majority of the citizens voting thereon, shall be the charter of the municipality. In case of rejection by the people, then, within thirty days thereafter, a new charter convention is required to be forthwith elected, the work of which shall be likewise submitted to popular vote. And so on until a charter is finally approved by a

majority of the voters voting thereon, "whereupon it shall become the charter of the said city and county of Denver and shall become the organic law thereof, and supersede any existing charters and amendments thereof." Initiative and referendum provisions for amending the charter, when once adopted, and for any other purpose, are as follows:

It shall be competent for qualified electors in number not less than five per cent. of the next preceding gubernatorial vote in said city and county, to petition the council for any measure, or charter amendment, or for a charter convention. The council shall submit the same to a vote of the qualified electors at the next general election not held within 30 days after such petition is filed; whenever such petition is signed by qualified electors in number not less than ten per cent. of the next preceding gubernatorial vote in said city and county, with a request for a special election, the council shall submit it at a special election to be held not less than 30 nor more than 60 days from the date of filing the petition; provided, that any question so submitted at a special election shall not again be submitted at a special election within two years thereafter. In submitting any such charter, charter amendment or measure, any alternative article or proposition may be presented for the choice of the voters, and may be voted on separately without prejudice to others. Whenever the question of a charter convention is carried by a majority of those voting thereon, a charter convention shall be called through a special election ordinance as provided in section 4 hereof [the section providing for the original charter convention, described above], and the same shall be constituted and held and the proposed charter submitted to a vote of the qualified electors, approved or rejected, and all expense paid, as in said section provided.

It is furthermore provided by the constitutional amendment in question that "no charter, charter amendment, or measure, adopted or defeated under the provisions of this amendment shall be amended, repealed or revived, except by petition and electoral vote.

Pursuant to the provisions of the constitutional amendment of Colorado described above, the charter convention was elected which has just finished its novel work. The charter it has framed for submission to the people, vests the legislative department of the municipality in a council of

ten; centers the administrative responsibility in the Mayor; creates a municipal court, and abolishes the fee system in courts. It also makes initiative and referendum provisions, and proposes a recall provision enabling the voters to recall any elective officer who fails to do as they wish.

NEWS NOTES.

—The national convention of photographers met at Indianapolis on the 3d.

—Phil May, cartoonist on the London Punch, died on the 5th, at the age of 39.

—Charles M. Schwab has ceased to be president of the steel trust. He is succeeded by W. E. Corey, his former assistant.

—Another panic (p. 263) in Wall street occurred on the 5th, in which two important firms failed—Sharp & Bryan and Hurlbutt, Hatch & Co.

—At a joint convention of the Teamsters' National union and the Team Drivers' International union, held at Niagara Falls on the 5th, these two organizations were merged into one.

—After touring Ireland, King Edward and his queen arrived at Cowes, Isle of Wight, on the 2d and issued to the Irish an address of appreciation of the cordial welcome they had given the royal pair.

—The Builders' Exchange League, of Pittsburg, declared a general lock-out on the 1st, because of a strike of hoisting engineers against one building firm. The lockout drives 25,000 men out of employment.

—A battle between a party of convicts who escaped from the Folsom prison, California, on the 27th, and the posse of the sheriff of Eldorado county, took place on the 1st. Two of the sheriff's posse were killed.

—It is reported by way of Berlin that 27 of the rioters in the Jewish massacre at Kishineff, Russia (p. 251), have been condemned to penal servitude for terms varying from two months to a year, and that 45 others under accusation still await trial.

—A war department investigation finds that Congressman L. N. Littauer is guilty of a violation of the law which provides that no member of Congress shall have contracts, directly or indirectly, with the government, he having had a pecuniary interest in glove contracts.

—The Irish land purchase bill (p. 264) passed its second reading in the House of Lords on the 4th. In the course of the debate the duke of Abercorn declared that if the sporting rights of the Irish landlords were lost