

tions (p. 714) are ended, and Sir Henry Campbell - Bannerman's ministry will have a majority over all of at least 82—the largest ever given a British cabinet. The latest reported returns, with 9 constituencies to hear from, give the following result:

Liberals	376
Conservatives	160
Irish Nationalists	84
Labor	50

Among the 50 Labor candidates the earlier reports mentioned a Socialist. The probability is that several socialistic Labor men have been elected, but no Socialist party candidate. Of the Labor members, some are expected to cooperate with the Liberal party, while others form a distinct group for common action on labor questions.

Death of King Christian.

Denmark's king, Christian IX., died suddenly of heart failure at Copenhagen on the 29th. The fourth son of Duke William of Schleswig - Holstein - Sonderburg - Glucksburg, and born April 8, 1818, Christian IX. ascended the Danish throne November 15, 1863, by right of his wife, a niece of Christian VIII, under treaty of May 8, 1852. He came to be facetiously known as "the father-in-law of Europe," in consequence of the marriages of his descendants to European royal personages. Either personally or through their consorts he was directly related to the rulers of Great Britain, Russia, Greece, Sweden and Norway. One of his daughters is Queen Alexandra of England. Frederick VIII, oldest son of Christian, has succeeded to the throne, having been proclaimed king on the 30th.

Troubles of the Standard Oil trust.

On our own side of the ocean, reasons for increasing interest in proceedings against the Standard Oil trust are multiplying. Since Gov. Folk's accession to office as governor of Missouri, the attorney general of that State, Herman S. Hadley, has been prosecuting this trust for violations of the laws of Missouri. In the course of his proceedings, Attorney General Hadley went in person to New York to take evidence under the laws of that State for use in his own State. Among the witnesses

whom he examined was H. H. Rogers, who refused to answer important questions, and was consequently brought before the New York courts in proceedings for contempt. On the 31st the New York court sustained Mr. Rogers. The New York proceedings having been widely published, an attempt has been made in the legislature of New Jersey to hold the Standard Oil trust to accountability as a corporation of that State's creation. The matter came before the New Jersey legislature in the form of a resolution introduced on the 30th by Senator Minturn in the upper house. Senator Minturn's resolution reads as follows:

Whereas, it appears from the testimony of witnesses produced in the examination in New York city in the case of the State of Missouri against the Standard Oil company system that the evils incident to this, the greatest of all trusts, are due to the laxity of the corporation laws of the State under the provisions of which the Standard Oil company is organized, and that the laws of the different States and the United States are habitually violated and contemned by it, its agents and subsidiary corporations, to the subversion of popular rights and the lasting disgrace of our State, therefore resolved by the Senate of the State of New Jersey, the House of Assembly concurring, that the attorney general be and is hereby directed to institute legal proceedings forthwith in the name of the State against the Standard Oil company of New Jersey and its subsidiary corporations in this State, for the purpose of annulling and forfeiting the charter of such companies upon the ground of the violation by such companies of the common law relating to monopolies, and violation of the provisions of the Elkins law and the law relative to interstate commerce.

Senator Minturn explains that—

by the testimony in the case pending in the Supreme Court of Missouri taken in New York, the attorney general of Missouri succeeded in showing that the various oil companies in the West, and in fact in all parts of the country, which go to make up the Standard oil trust, are based upon the parent company organized in New Jersey. This resolution is intended to enable the attorney general of New Jersey to institute proceedings for the purpose of investigating whether that is a fact, as I believe it to be, and if it is a fact, then the charter of that company should be forfeited, because it represents a company that is violating the general law, as well as the Sherman

anti-trust law and the other acts of Congress dealing with the subject.

Originally the Standard Oil trust was incorporated in Ohio, but a subsidiary corporation was maintained in New Jersey. Some years ago Attorney General Monnett of Ohio instituted legal proceedings against the trust, which resulted at first in his being refused a renomination by the Republican party, but ultimately in the withdrawal of the trust from Ohio. Thereupon the New Jersey subsidiary company became the parent company of the trust.

After the withdrawal of the Standard from Ohio it secretly manipulated the Republic company of Ohio, which was supposed to be an independent concern. The fact that this company is the Standard under another name has now been unearthed by the Missouri attorney general through testimony he has taken in Cleveland; and as a result of those investigations there the Ohio attorney general announces his intention of taking proceedings against the Standard combination in behalf of Ohio. Attorney General Hadley charges such plain crimes as fraud and forgery.

In the Ohio legislature.

In the upper house of the Ohio legislature on the 25th a bill for the limitation of railroad fares to two cents a mile, the Rathburn bill, was adopted by unanimous vote. For twenty years the railroad lobby at Columbus has fought this measure; but now, so decisive was the vote in the Senate, it is believed that the bill will readily be passed by the House.

The general situation at Columbus (p. 673) is thus described in the Cincinnati Enquirer of the 28th, by Columbus special of the 27th:

The public service corporations and all that class of business represented by the somewhat threadbare name of vested interests are alive to the situation. So are the professional politicians—the leaders and the followers. They are not exactly alarmed, but they are watching movements with rare vigilance. The corporations are preparing to resist any further advance of the municipal ownership theory of government. So far as the ownership of water, gas and electric light utilities is concerned, the corporations hold untenable ground, or nearly so. Out-