

White House it will be necessary either to postpone this matter until December, and thus run the risk of the wicked Democrats charging that this is further evidence of the determination of the Republican party to suppress any attempted fraud, corruption and "graft," or else appoint a committee to prosecute the impeachment proceedings against Swayne in the Senate, and then adjourn. The other, and, for them, unpleasant, alternative, is for the House to continue in session with the very serious danger ever before them that the President may "break loose" at any moment, commit some act of egregious folly which Mr. Williams, of Mississippi, and other Democratic leaders in the House would naturally expect to exploit to the fullest extent. This is a reversal of conditions which have occasionally existed here. It has sometimes been said that a President "has Congress on his hands!" In this case the party has "the President on its hands!"

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## NEWS

Week ending Thursday, March 31.

No change in the situation at the seat of the Russo-Japanese war (p. 808) has been reported during the week. The regular succession of rumors of naval skirmishing before Port Arthur is at hand; and these have been supplemented with indefinite reports of land skirmishing near Chongju, Korea, about 50 miles northwest from Pingyang. If the latter reports are true, the Russians are in Korean territory as far as 20 or 30 miles to the east of the Yalu river. But the censorship on both sides is so strict that no inferences can be safely drawn from any reports.

Martial law has been declared by the Russians in Newchwang, and all foreign flags over consulates, including the British and the American, have been lowered.

Another disorganizing occurrence in Parliament (p. 809) again directs attention to the confusion in British politics. It occurred in the Commons on the 29th. The Liberal leader, Campbell-Bannerman, and the Premier, Mr. Balfour, had measured swords in debate over the policy of the ministry, which the distinguished Liberal described as indecisive, confused and vacillating, when Winston Churchill, Conservative,

pressed the Premier for further explanations of the fiscal policy of the Ministry. He declared that the Ministry's vacillation had caused him to become one of its opponents instead of one of its supporters. Owing to his previous opposition, Mr. Churchill is not in favor with the Ministry; and while he was speaking the Premier and all but 10 of his party significantly left the House.

An advance in the drastic legislation of France against the Catholic religious orders (vol. v, p. 822) was taken in the Chamber of Deputies on the 28th. Notwithstanding the narrow majority of the Ministry (vol. vi, p. 810) last week on another question, this measure against the religious orders was passed by 316 to 269.

The first law against these orders (vol. v, p. 295) suppressed the unauthorized teaching orders, which had for a long time carried on their vocation despite the lack of legal sanction. The new law does not make any distinction between authorized and unauthorized congregations, but sweeps away the whole system of teaching by religious orders, thus in effect substituting the system of state schools for those heretofore conducted by the Church. The parliamentary battle over the bill is described by the dispatches as one of the severest which the Chamber of Deputies has seen in recent years. Premier Combes suffered severely by defections from his own side, such leaders as George Leygues (radical Republican), minister of public instruction in the Waldeck-Rousseau cabinet; Alexandre Millerand (radical Socialist), and Joseph Caillaux (Republican) carrying amendments which considerably modified the drastic character of the original measure. The bill still has to pass the Senate, though no very serious opposition to it is expected there. It forbids all teaching by religious orders in the territory of France proper, and provides for the suppression within ten years of all orders actually holding an authorization to teach. An amendment which was carried despite the wishes of Premier Combes renders the measure inapplicable to the colonies, but as the Premier pointed out in the

final debate, this does not affect the power conferred on the government by the law of 1901 to close such schools in the colonies.

In the United States there are some further developments in connection with the local war in Colorado (p. 713) which grew out of the strike of the mill men in the mining regions and is supported by the miners. Militia detachments have again been sent both to Telluride in San Miguel county and to Trinidad in Las Animas county.

Those going to Telluride are reported to have been sent by Gov. Peabody for the purpose of preventing the return of residents who have been expelled from the county as vagrants. The circumstances of their expulsion were described on the 21st editorially by the Daily Denver Times, which said:

During the military occupation of Telluride the troops expelled from the town a number of men who declined to go to work in the mines until the union's demand upon the reduction works had been complied with. After martial law was ended these deported persons returned to the town. They were arrested by the civil authorities and carried before a justice of the peace, who sentenced them as vagrants. A number of them were compelled to work on the streets. One man, Harry Maki, who declined to fill a cesspool at the order of a deputy sheriff, was chained for an hour to a telephone pole. The truth is that the men were not vagrants at all. Some of them owned mining claims and real estate in the town and none of them was in danger of becoming a public charge. The cases were appealed from the justice of the peace to the county court where Judge Wardlaw held that the men were not vagrants, were illegally held and must be discharged. No attempt is made anywhere to claim that his decision was anything but absolutely sound. One night a week ago an armed mob, led by some of the most prominent citizens of the town, visited the houses of sixty-two of these men and compelled them to march to the depot, where they were placed on a special train and deported at 2 o'clock in the morning. In securing the men houses were broken in and some of the prisoners were maltreated. The entire proceeding was outside the law, there being no warrants or other legal authority for any of the arrests. During the past week other men have been notified that it would be to their advantage to leave Telluride and they