

under any flag, is on its way to reinforce the fleet under Dewey. Already it is estimated there are 16,500 American soldiers in the Philippines, but it is held that this force must be increased to at least 20,000 in order to hold the turbulent elements there in check.

Mount Vesuvius is now presenting the grandest spectacle since 1872, due to a violent outburst of activity. The central crater and several new mouths are vomiting lava and ashes.

The tiny planet—only about 25 miles in diameter—discovered by the astronomer Witt at Uranda Observatory, Berlin, on August 14, is one of the most interesting travellers of its kind in the solar system. It will occasionally, when it most nearly approaches the earth and sun at the same time, become, the moon excepted, our nearest neighbor in space. It will be only 14 million miles from us, or about one-seventh the distance of the sun. It will thus upon every close opposition shine in our sky as a star of the sixth magnitude, and therefore be visible to the naked eye.

A Joint High Commission, representing England, Canada, the United States and Newfoundland, has been in session in Quebec since August 23rd. Lord Herschell, Ex-lord Chancellor of England, is chairman of the commission. It was deemed fitting, at a time when the relations between England and the United States were friendly, to consider certain questions which have caused some difference of opinion and even friction. Some of these questions are: The Behring Sea Seal Fishery, the Fisheries of the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts, the Settlement of the Alaska-Canadian Boundary, International Transit of Merchandise, International Mining Rights, Alien Labor Laws Common to Citizens of United States and Canada, Re-adjustment of Customs Duties. Some of the alleged decisions have been made public, but as the sessions of the commission are secret, one must wait for the final report for an "authorized version." The commission will probably adjourn during the first week in October to resume its sessions later in Washington.

The Plebiscite, to decide whether the people of Canada are in favor of prohibition or not, was taken on the 29th September. The result is not such as to justify the government in making a law to stop the importation and sale of intoxicating liquors. The majority in favor of prohibition—about 25,000—does not show an overwhelming public sentiment on which the government could rely in enforcing such an important measure. Quebec gave a very large majority against prohibition. In the Maritime Provinces, Manitoba and the North-West Territories the majority in favor was large. It was small in British Columbia and Ontario, all the leading cities, Toronto, Ottawa, Hamilton, London, giving an adverse vote. In fact all the chief cities in the dominion, except Winnipeg and those of the Maritime Provinces, voted against prohibition.

## 'ROUND TABLE TALKS.

"Subscriber" is reminded that no notice can be taken of his request to solve questions unless his name is given in confidence.

L. A. D.—Would you kindly answer in the REVIEW the following question? Suppose John Smith had LL.D., M. A., F. R. G. S., etc., etc., to his name, what are the different ways in which a letter could be properly addressed to him?

If you wish to give him all his degree begin with the M. A., then LL. D., etc. That is the only way unless you address him plainly as Mr. John Smith, or John Smith, Esq., ignoring the other titles. There seems to be a tendency to return to the simple address of Mr. instead of Esq., unless the one addressed is entitled to the latter distinction. Of course in writing official or semi-official letters it is better to give the person addressed all his titles unless these exhaust too much of the alphabet. If so give the most important. No man of sense, however, will be offended with simplicity of address.

G. M. P.—1. Can trustees legally deduct teachers' salary when absent on stormy days, on which it was not fit for pupils or teachers to be out?

2. How long would you think a teacher should remain at the school with only two or three pupils?

3. The teacher gets to the school and no pupils come,—stays around some time,—goes away and comes again at one o'clock, and no one there. Will the teacher lose the pay from the district and government?

1. As the district has provided a schoolhouse, which is made comfortable for stormy days, the trustees may deduct salary, if they choose, for such days.

2. For the whole session, or sessions, of course, just as if the school consisted of forty or fifty pupils.

3. She would lose the pay from government. She would not lose pay from the district if she remained in the school during the session or sessions and was prepared to do her work. If she did not remain at her post the trustees would not be legally bound to pay her. If the absence of pupils could be shown to be in consequence of the neglect of trustees to discharge their legal duties, they would be responsible to the teacher both for district and government payment.

T. Has New Brunswick an emblem? If so what plant is it?

We were under the impression that the maple leaf is our emblem, as in Ontario, but an excellent authority on the subject—I. Allen Jack, Esq., of St. John—writes us as follows:

"As far back as November, 1864, the late Alfred H. DeMill informed me that the plant emblem of New Brunswick is the potato, and wrote in doggerel for the