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it is evidently only the strong hand of the Powers upon Turkey that has prevented the latter from making immediate war upon Greece. In England popular feeling is strongly with the insurgent Cretans and Greece, and the Government would find it dangerous to go further in the way of opposing Greek influence in Crete by force of arms. But the contention of the Government is that its attitude toward the Cretan situation does not signify any support of Turkish interests. The Powers, by their interference in Crete, it is held, have acted with regard for the peace of Europe, and have sought to prevent in Crete the wholesale slaying of Moslems, which would almost certainly excite retaliation by the Turks upon the Armenian Christians in Asia Minor.

was entered it was found to be a terrible place, well deserving its name "City of Blood." Many victims of the Ju Ju or Fetish priests were found crucified, having been sacrificed to the various gods, and the priests' houses were reeking with the blood of those who had been beheaded in the religious ceremonies. No traces were found of Mr. Campbell, a consular official who was captured by the Beniuites at the time of the massacre, and it is supposed that he also was murdered. The King Drunami escaped from the city and fled northward, but a part of the expedition is in pursuit, and it is expected that he will be captured.

The United States and Spain. There is at present writing a good deal of feeling in the United States in reference to the treatment certain American citizens have received at the hands of Spanish prison authorities in Havana. A Dr. Ruiz, a citizen of the United States, recently died in prison there, and if there is substantial truth in the statements put forth as to the tortures inflicted upon him, resulting in his death while in prison, the United States Government will do a service to civilization at large, as well as to its own citizens, by calling to account a nation that permits such barbarities to be practised in its prisons. Another man, an American by birth, a stamp collector named Scott, recently released from a prison into which he was thrown on the charge of having in his possession stamps of the Cuban republic, states that, though not systematically tortured, he was treated with great barbarity. His cell, absolutely without furniture, was covered an inch deep with water, and food and drink were withheld from him for days at a time. Another American citizen, named Julio Sanguilly, is still in prison. Reports from Cuba, in which the interests of the belligerent parties there are concerned, are of course to be taken generally at large discount. It may be that there is just as little truth in the stories respecting the torturing of Dr. Ruiz, as there has been in much of the war news from Cuba. However, the condition of affairs is such as to cause irritation at Washington. The Senate's committee on Foreign Relations has reported a resolution instructing the President to demand the immediate release of the American citizen Sanguilly, now held a prisoner in Havana. This resolution and the reports of the debate on it are causing much excitement in Spain. A despatch, which United States Consul-General Lee at Havana had sent to Washington, and which the United States Government had desired to keep secret, has been published. The despatch asked that United States warships be sent immediately to Havana for the protection of the lives of American citizens, the Consul declaring that he could not and would not "stand another Ruiz murder." The publication of the despatch tends of course to inflame public feeling in both the United States and Spain.

The Policy of the Powers. According to information given to the House of Lords on Thursday last, by Lord Salisbury, it appears that the policy of the British Government respecting Crete includes an administrative autonomy, or power of self government, for the island which, however, it is held, should remain a part of the Turkish Empire. Both Turkey and Greece are to withdraw military and naval forces from the island, and if they persistently refuse to do so when required, the Powers are to impose their decision by force. Turkey is to be permitted to keep a few troops in Crete as a symbol of authority, but no military force of strength sufficient to have any effect in the way of overawing the Government or the people. Lord Salisbury's Government has already requested the co-operation of the great powers of Europe in carrying into effect this policy in respect to Crete. A statement similar to that of the Prime Minister was made in the House of Commons, by Mr. Balfour, Government leader in that body. The Liberal leaders in both Houses offered remarks indicating their sense of the extreme gravity of the situation, which the Government is called to deal with. Sir William Harcourt asked the Government to fix an early day for the discussion of the subject in the Commons. The settlement proposed will of course be far from satisfactory to Greece, and it will doubtless meet with much adverse criticism in England, where there is strong and general sympathy with Greece in its determination to annex Crete. It is, to say the least, doubtful whether the Powers can succeed in effecting even a temporary settlement of the difficulties along the lines indicated by Lord Salisbury. Nothing would seem more probable, under present conditions, than collision between Greek and Turkish forces on their common frontier, and though Greece could not cope with the forces of the Turkish Empire, yet if war should once break out it would be impossible to predict what forces would be drawn into it, or what the end would be.

The Nova Scotia Judiciary. The Attorney General of Nova Scotia last week introduced in the Provincial House of Assembly a bill relating to the administration of justice, which contemplates important readjustments of the judiciary system of the provinces. As explained by the Morning Chronicle, the bill proposed a complete amalgamation of the jurisdiction of the Supreme and County Courts, the County Court being abolished and the functions of the Supreme Court divided. For the purpose of trials there is to be a Chief Justice and ten puisne judges, who are to have jurisdiction in all matters from twenty dollars upwards, in actions in debt and contract, and in all breaches of trust. These judges are also to have power to try all criminal cases under the speedy trials act, and also to try criminal cases before a jury. There is also to be an Appeal court, consisting of the Chief Justice and four other judges of the Supreme Court. The function of this court will be to hear all appeals and to sit for that purpose all the time except during vacation.

For the purposes of the act the province is divided into ten judicial districts as follows:—

1. Halifax.
2. Digby and Annapolis.
3. Yarmouth and Shelburne.
4. Queens and Lunenburg.
5. Kings and Hants.
6. Cumberland and South Colchester.
7. Pictou and North Colchester.
8. Antigonish and Guysboro.
9. Cape Breton and Richmond.
10. Inverness and Victoria.

The Chief Justice of the court is to reside in Halifax, also the special judge assigned to district No. 1. Each of the other judges is to reside in one of the other districts.

Some of the advantages claimed for the proposed system are that:

"By having a court of appeal sitting all the time for the argument of causes it will be possible to have a very early decision in all matters which come up on trial in the various districts; and the appeal court will be composed of judges who are not concerned in any way with the judgments below. The ten trial judges will be able to hold frequent circuits for the trial of all matters civil and criminal which await them, and by having them alternate by means of circuits the country will have a constant change of presiding judges, instead of having the same judge within the district, as now prevails in connection with County Courts."

It is not expected that final action will be taken on the bill at the present session.

Benin Taken. About two months ago a peaceable British expedition, endeavoring to reach the native city of Benin in West Africa, was attacked and its members murdered. The King of Benin either led the attack or was responsible for it. An expedition was accordingly despatched by the British Government against Benin, and during the past week, news has been received that it has been entirely successful in its purpose. The expedition was not as bloodless as that of last year against the King of Ashantee. Some hard fighting, it appears, was necessary and the loss to the attacking party number, in killed and wounded, seventeen Europeans and twenty-three native members of the expedition. When Benin

The Cretan Question. Whether or not the trouble in Crete can be got over without war upon a larger scale than has already taken place between the supporters of Turkish rule on the island and the Cretan insurgents, aided by Greek troops, remains uncertain. The action of the warships of the European Powers in firing upon the insurgent and Greek camp near Canea in order to prevent an attack upon the town, which was being made contrary to commands of the Admirals of the United fleet, has caused great irritation in Greece, as well as in Crete. In their hot resentment the Greeks have been disposed to defy not only Turkey but all Europe. On the other hand,

—A London despatch of Feb. 28th says: It is stated here tonight that there is good authority for believing that the result of the conference between the representatives of the great powers at Constantinople and Athens will be the presentation of collective notes to Turkey and Greece tomorrow. Greece will be allowed four days to recall her land and sea forces from Crete. It is reported from Canea that several insurgent leaders have sent to Vice-Admiral Canevaro of the Italian fleet, a signed declaration that the Cretans will accept no solution of the pending question but political union with Greece.