

Cuba is suffering from the depredations of bandits. Valuable property has been burned and several persons held for ransom.

London.—The Japanese prince Komatsu has arrived at Berlin. He is accompanied by the largest train of attendants on record.

Advices from China say the Tsung Li Yamen have agreed to pay \$25,000 to the American missionaries who suffered losses during the recent riots.

The Russian military commission has decided to adopt the new repeating rifle for use by the army, and orders for large numbers of them have been given.

The wheat harvest in Victoria is 12,000,000 bushels, an average of 12 bushels per acre. The exportable excess is 150,000 tons, or 60,000 tons over that of the preceding year.

Prince Alexander of Battenberg is about to make a prolonged tour of Egypt and the East, in order to put an end to the rumors that he intends to return to Bulgaria.

One of the largest stores in Paris claims to have sold more than \$1,000,000 in gloves to American visitors this year, outside of the wholesale orders from importers.

London.—Mr. Goschen, the newly appointed chancellor of the exchequer, will contest the exchange division of Liverpool, the seat for which was made vacant by the death of Mr. Duncan, home ruler.

Numerous avalanches have occurred in the cantons of Lucerne, Schuyse and Uri, Switzerland. Several villages have been completely cut off from communication with the outer world. A number of houses have been destroyed and many cattle killed.

Benjamin Moore, who died in Berlin recently, left by will a reward of one dollar for every policeman reporting a case of cruelty to animals. His will enriched the Berlin Society for the Protection of Animals nearly \$100,000.

The French Academy resolved to petition the Government to revoke the decree expelling the Duc Daumale, on the ground that he has proved his patriotism by his gift to France of the Chantilly estates. A favorable reply is expected.

A private letter from Buenos Ayres, dated December 10th, states that the cholera in its most malignant form is raging there. The number of deaths daily is frightful. The dead are removed to the outskirts of the city, piled up like cross ties and burned to ashes.

A majority of the committee of the Danish Folkething recommend the rejection of the Government's financial proposals, and the reduction of the extra army credit from 9,300,000 kroner and 1,300,000 kroners. It is believed that the Government meditate the dissolution of the Folkething in view of these recommendations.

Captain McMickan of the Cunarder Umbria has completed 800 trips across the Atlantic, besides nine trips to India and ten to Mediterranean ports, having travelled in all about 1,900,000 miles, carried about 150,000 passengers, and having had the care of vessels and cargoes valued at \$480,000,000.

The fortress of Hakoi in which there was a French garrison of fifty men, and the town of Monghoi thirty miles distant, both of which are in Tonquin, have been destroyed by Chinese pirates; the massacre in the latter place being of a most barbarous character. The affair will probably create new troubles between France and China.

It is stated that in the event of war involving Italy, the pope, the ministers and prelates of the congregation, have made arrangements with Charles III. to remove to the principality of Monaco, a little independent strip of country six miles in area, lying on the Mediterranean coast within the French Republic, and under the protection of Sardinia. At the present time the Prince of Monaco derives his income from the leasing of the gaming tables at Monte Carlo. Should the principality become an asylum for the Pope, gambling would have to be abandoned.

A Vienna newspaper states that besides the free distribution of money to gain Russian ends in Turkey, the Russian Ambassador in Constantinople has obtained a strong influence over the Imperial fortune-teller. This person possesses the greatest influence in the palace and is consulted by the Sultan daily. The effect of Russian control of this personage's advice to the Sultan will probably counteract all other influences that can be brought to bear on the Porte. Enlightened Mussulmans complain bitterly of the Sultan's superstition.

"The state of things in India continues to give rise to much uneasiness," says the London World. "Russian agents are hard at work both in the Punjab and the North-West Provinces; the Sikhs are said to be dissatisfied and unsettled, and the proclamation issued in the Maharajah Dhulep Singh's name is another ominous sign of the times. The highest authorities on Indian politics make no secret of their firm conviction that a war with Russia within twenty months is almost inevitable. These disquieting reports also affect appreciably the Queen's spirits."

The New York Post learns that Lord Randolph Churchill decided to offer his resignation three times. The first time was when Lord Iddesleigh was just taking the almost incredible step of despatching Condee Stephen, one of the hottest Russophobists in England, to Sofia, to urge the Bulgarians to resist Russia to the last. This would have been simply throwing a lighted match into a powder barrel. The second time was when Lord Salisbury despatched a secret memorandum to Vienna, offering a fighting alliance with Austria. On both these occasions Churchill stopped the folly of the Government by threats of instant resignation.

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