

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE MONTH

General Sir Redvers Buller retired from the army the other day.

The Right Hon. E. J. Saunderson, Irish member of the British House of Commons, died on October 21st.

A plot in Ecuador to overthrow President Alfaro has been frustrated, and a number of arrests made.

Twenty-five miners were killed on Sunday night last by an explosion in the Wingate Colliery, near Durham, England.

The new British battleship 'Dreadnought' is expected to be launched within six months of the laying of her keel.

The Legislative Assembly of Western Australia, sitting at Perth on Oct. 16, adopted a motion to secede from the rest of the Commonwealth.

The Hindoo question at Vancouver has reached an acute stage. On Oct. 18 the authorities prevented the landing of a hundred men from the C. P. R. steamship 'Empress of Japan.'

The Countess of Carlisle, on October 20th, at the Boston Convention of the World's Women's Christian Temperance Union, was chosen president in succession to Lady Henry Somerset.

At the Dominion by-election in Quebec on October 23rd, Mr. Robitaille, the Independent-Liberal candidate, was elected over the government candidate, Mr. G. E. Amyot, by a majority of 447.

It is being rumored in London that Lord Kitchener, on the expiration of his term in India, will visit Australasia, and afterwards Canada, with the object of putting the land forces on a satisfactory basis.

General Picquart, who was dismissed from the French army on the occasion of the first Dreyfus trial, and who was appointed general of a brigade three months ago, has been named general of a division.

Mrs. Jefferson Davis, widow of the late president of the Confederate States of America, who had been ill for a week at the Hotel Majestic, New York, with pneumonia, passed away on Tuesday night, Oct. 16.

Mr. T. P. O'Connor, M.P., and president of the United Irish League of Great Britain, predicts that in a quarter of a century Ireland will have been accorded all the political rights now possessed by Australia and Canada.

All shipping has been forbidden in the waters about Vladivostok until they shall be swept of the mines left in the late war. No less than six vessels have lately been sunk. The latest was the 'Warjagin,' a Russian coasting steamer, which was sunk on Oct. 20, with a loss of some 200 lives.

The newly elected Parliament of Norway was opened on Oct. 15, by King Haakon, in the presence of Queen Maud and the diplomatic corps. The King said he rejoiced at the 'great good will shown by foreign countries towards our Fatherland since the establishment of its independence,' and spoke of Norway's future prospects.

The Admiralty is planning a re-arrangement of its ships to permit of the organization of a 'Home Fleet' with headquarters at Sheerness. The circular giving the announcement also says: 'No ships will be paid off, no men will be sent to barracks or instructional schools, and no alteration will be made in the proportion of officers and men serving afloat.'

Baron Tweedmouth, in a speech at Sheffield on October 18, denied that the fighting efficiency of the British navy was to be reduced. He concluded by stating that Great Britain's naval strength at the present moment is

greater than any combination that could be brought against her. The Admiralty have ordered three more new battleships to be constructed on the designs of the 'Dreadnought.'

A storm which raged on the coast of Florida, Virginia, and also in Cuba, Salvador, and the island of Curacao, caused the deaths of hundreds of persons, and the loss of many vessels. At Salvador a vast quantity of sulphur water was thrown from the Chulo volcano and inundated the town of Panchilarco, killing most of the inhabitants. There is reported to have been \$300,000 damage done at Willemstad, Curacao.

The Shantung correspondent of the 'Volks Zeitung' predicts for the near future worse outbreaks than the Boxer ravages of 1890. A rebellion, he says, has already been started in Shantung, and there are 20,000 robbers already in Tehianfu, in the centre of Shantung province who have so far beaten the local troops in every fight. He strongly condemns the withdrawal of the foreign forces.

A tragedy took place at Hongkong when the steamer 'Hankow,' carrying two thousand Chinese passengers, was burned as she lay at her wharf. The few European passengers managed to escape, but hundreds of the Chinese were either burned or jumped overboard and were drowned. The fire is said to have been started by the Chinese, who are carrying on a boycott against British river boats.

The mutilated bodies of four Alpine tourists have been found on the Plan Neva glacier, at the base of the precipitous mountain, Dent de Morcles, which is 9,800 feet high. It is believed that they are Swiss students, who started without a guide, laughing at the warnings of experienced together. The indications are that one of ice slope and then fell 2,400 feet sheer upon the glacier.

During the past week a discovery has been made near Dover, which Dr. W. Boyd Dawkins, professor of geology at Owens College, Manchester, describes as an event of greatest importance to the district since the Roman conquest. Rich seams of coal have been found at a boring seven miles from Dover, and if all that is said in praise is fulfilled, Kent will in a few years develop into another Lancashire.

The re-opening of the Imperial Parliament, on October 23, would have been a very quiet affair had it not been for the attendance of about a hundred woman suffragists, who forced their way into the outer lobbies and shouted and screamed until the police were forced to interfere. Several arrests were made, and on their appearance in Court next morning, Miss Pankhurst and nine others refused to accept freedom as the price of a promise to keep the peace, and they were consequently remanded.

The text of the Modus Vivendi between Great Britain and the United States, relating to the Newfoundland fisheries, has been published by the United States. In reply to a note from Mr. Whitelaw Reid, American Ambassador to London, the British Foreign Office said that the note had been received with satisfaction and that it would be considered by the British Government a sufficient ratification of the modus vivendi on the part of the United States Government.

The French Cabinet resigned on Oct. 19, and last week the personnel of the new ministers was made known, as follows:—Premier and Minister of the Interior, M. Clemenceau; Justice, M. Guyot-Bessaigne; Foreign Affairs, M. Pichon; Education, M. Briand; Finance, M. Caillaux; War, Gen. Picquart; Marine, M. Thomson; Public Works, M. Barthou; Com-

merce, M. Doumergue; Agriculture, M. Ruau; Labor, M. Viviani. Gen. Picquart, the new Minister of War, is the one who so valiantly defended Captain Dreyfus. The new premier is recognized as the strongest statesman in France.

The 'modus vivendi' concluded on October 6 between Great Britain and the United States, for the regulation of the herring fishery on the west coast of Newfoundland during the fishing season just opening, without any consultation of the Government of Newfoundland is rousing hot indignation in Britain's oldest colony. The terms of the compromise, says a well-known newspaper man, there, are even more objectionable than the principle of it. The American fishermen are allowed to use purse seines in our waters and to hire out men on their ships outside the three-mile limit, but are required to pay light dues, to enter and clear at our customs houses when practicable, and to refrain from fishing on Sundays.

Miss Bertha Krupp, daughter of the late Herr Krupp, and heir with her sister to her father's immense estate, was quietly married to Lieut. Gustav von Bohlen und Halbach on Oct. 15, in an improvised chapel adjoining her home. The Emperor William was present, and sat with the family during the simple Lutheran ceremony. Miss Krupp and Lieut. Bohlen, before the wedding, announced their joint gift of \$250,000 to the workmen's invalid fund, and Mrs. Krupp gave notice that she had donated another \$250,000 to the same fund, and 125 acres of land on which to build economical model dwellings for the workmen. The Emperor addressed the bride as his 'dear daughter,' and alluded to 'her sainted father, the good genius of the arms factory, unrivalled in the world.'

The publication of the memoirs of the late Prince von Hohenlohe has been the chief talk of Europe during the past month. Their revelation of intimate conversations and intrigues has so astounded politicians in Berlin that it is suggested that the publication of the memoirs constitutes part of a plot of the Kaiser's enemies to undermine his influence and discredit him in the eyes of Germany. On October 12 the 'Augsburger Zeitung' published the statement that Chancellor von Bulow had ordered disciplinary measures against Prince Alexander Hohenlohe for permitting the publication of the memoirs, following a precedent in the case of Dr. Geffcken, who was severely punished for publishing without authority the Emperor Frederick's diary. A few days later Prince Alexander, who has been a district governor in Alsace-Lorraine, resigned his post.

Mail advices from Annam received at Marseilles on Oct. 17, tell a horrible story of King Thanh-Thai. After killing one of his wives he caused the body to be cooked and served up for dinner, forcing his entourage to eat it, under pain of death. Some of the King's wives were bound and burned with boiling oil and subjected to other cruelty, while naked women were thrown into the cages of wild beasts, where they were devoured before the King. When the 'Royal Guard' was finally disbanded and the palace placed under the protection of 150 natives, under the French Colonial Government, numbers of other women were rescued, the majority of whom bore the marks of revolting tortures. Some of them were terribly mutilated, their faces being slashed and tongues cut out, while others had been suspended by pincers attached to the fleshy parts of their legs to increase their agonies. The King has been made a prisoner and judged by the doctor of the French colonial staff to be insane.