



HUNGARIAN PEASANT.

ing several sessions, and open violence at last compelled the Speaker to summon the police, who forcibly ejected or silenced the principal disturbers. Premier Badeni lost the day and the Emperor finally dismissed his ministers. A new ministry has been formed under Count Gautsch, but even that is already opposed bitterly by the German party. Rioting at Prague, in Bohemia, compelled the proclamation of martial law, and troops fired upon the mob, killing and wounding large numbers. The Emperor is sixty-eight years old and his burdens increase as his days increase. It is the general impression that his continued life has prolonged the existence of the dual empire, which will rapidly disintegrate after his death.

"Nearly eighty per cent. of the

population of Austria and fifty-one per cent. of Hungary are of the Roman Catholic religion. Nine per cent. of the whole empire is Greek Catholic, over fifteen per cent. Greek Oriental, eighteen per cent. Evangelical and about five per cent. Jewish. The empire is not distinguished for tolerance, and the sum of present peace simply has its roots in unwillingness to have perpetual war. Ten million in Austria and 9,500,000 in Hungary can neither read nor write. Yet these countries are struggling toward the light, and out of their present woes may come light and blessing. The great need is earnest religious uplifting. Austria-Hungary shares in the solvent state in which human thinking, feeling and aspiration are mighty agents."

Mr. E. Segrob, an Austrian writer, in *The Review of Reviews*, describes the difficulty of commanding an army in which eleven different languages are spoken, namely, Magyar, Polish, Czech, Ruthenian, Roumanian, Slavonic, Croat, Slovak, Servian, Bosnian, and Italian. The Parliament likewise presents a modern "Tower of Babel." The Austrian House of Commons has a few dozen members who cannot speak German, some who even do not understand it, and speeches are delivered in half-a-dozen tongues not understood by the majority of the members. Similar conditions are prevalent in all branches of government.

The jury system has become a farce and sham on account of nationalistic prejudices, and by reason of the inability of many jurors to understand any other language but their own. The postal, telegraph, and railroad service, the collection of taxes, the execution of law, business, commerce, industry, and last, not least, the education of the people, suffer