

possessed it, but it passed to the Greeks in course of time. When Napoleon became President, with a view of popularity in the East, he bullied the Sultan to transfer the privilege from the Greeks to the Roman Catholics.

The moment the Sultan had conceded that point, Prince Menschikoff appeared in Constantinople, and demanded that the privilege should be restored at once. This was done, the French giving way, but this did not suit Menschikoff's purpose, and he said as the privileges of the Greek church had been violated once, they might be again, and asked for a guarantee from the Sultan for the protection not only of the Greek Christians at the Holy Sepulchre, but throughout the Ottoman Empire. The Sultan replied that he had never violated them, and never would; and then came out the ultimatum. This, in the first place, was a demand that the Patriarch of Constantinople was to be installed by the Czar, with the exclusion of the Sultan; and in the second place, that the Czar was to exercise a protectorate over all the Greek Christians throughout the Ottoman Empire.

The lecturer detailed the events which transpired, down to the Turkish declaration of war, showing clearly enough, three things: first, that Russia was actuated in the invasion of the Danubian principalities by a desire to get possession of Constantinople; secondly, that England and France, united against the Czar for no higher virtue than the maintenance of the "balance of power" in Europe; and thirdly, that Prussia, Austria, Sweden and Denmark remained neutral because their personal interests dictated that course as the wisest to be pursued on their part. Those who saw a semblance of justice in the conduct of Russia in this struggle, Dr. Solger maintained, took but a superficial view of the real position of affairs in the East, and this he promised to make clearer in subsequent lectures.—*Exchange.*

NO HOPE FOR POLAND.

A well-informed writer in the 'Life Illustrated,' expresses the opinion, that the re-construction of Poland is 'beyond the reach of human probabilities.' He says that Poland is one of the poorest countries on the globe—poorer than Ireland. Twenty-four years have elapsed since the last war in Poland, and yet the wounds inflicted on the peasantry are not yet healed. Should Poland be again visited by the curse of a war, which would be far more fierce than the former one, nearly a century would be required for her partial recovery. This is felt by the Polish peasantry, whatever may be asserted to the contrary. There exists no sympathetic tie between the mass of the people, and the few more pugnacious nobles.

THE GREAT VALLEY OF THE WEST.

The difference of elevation of the valleys of the Missouri and Mississippi has been determined. The level of the Missouri at Council Bluffs is one thousand and twenty feet above the Mexican Gulf; that of the Mississippi at Rock Island, in the same latitude, only five hundred and twenty eight feet. At Port Hierre on the Missouri, in lat. 44 deg. 24 min., the elevation is one thousand and fifty-six feet, while at the lower end of Lake Pepin, in the same latitude on the Mississippi, the elevation is only seven hundred feet above the Gulf. There are in the Missouri 210 islands between the Yellowstone and the mouth; one half of them produce forest trees; chiefly cottonwood and plane trees below the Platte; and above intermingling gradually with trees and shrubs, peculiar to higher

regions, until the predominant growth is stunted cedar and pine. The number of tribes within the same space is over two hundred. Very few of the rivers are of any size or length. The Kansas and Platte are the only ones west of the States of any value for navigation.—*Exchange.*

From the New York Times.

THE GOVERNMENT OF UTAH.

The President still suspends the appointment of a successor to Brigham Young. There is undoubtedly a good reason for this. I hazard little in saying that the President has determined to make the issue with the Mormons; to see at once whether they intend to maintain the attitude of defiance to the Federal authority which their present Governor and spiritual leader has assumed for them. Young certainly will not be re-appointed, and ought not to be.

If his successor is to have a struggle with the people of Utah, it is better that he should go out armed with all the moral power possible; and to this end probably, he will not be appointed until the Senate is in session to confirm the nomination at once. A rare combination of wisdom, firmness, and courage, will be indispensable to the successful nominee for this important station.

THE IRON MOUNTAIN.

Who has not heard of the "Iron Mountain of Missouri?" In the county of St. Francis, and in the midst of a fertile and flourishing agricultural region, some eighty miles from St. Louis, and some twenty-eight from the Mississippi, rises this famous eminence of iron. It is thus described by a correspondent of the St. Louis Republican:

"The mountain and the mound consist of masses of Iron ore of the richest quality, arranged by the hand of nature in 'ready made' lumps, from the size of a pigeon's egg upward, mixed with a small portion of reddish yellow clay, which itself contains quite a percentage of iron. Thus far the workings—there is no mining necessary—have been confined to a small portion of the westerly slope of the mound, the mountain being held in reserve, I presume, for the grander operations of future generations. A few hands, with little labor or cost, pick out enough ore to supply the furnaces. The entire mound, so far as it has been excavated and tested, is composed of these lumps of ore, almost as pure as pig metal, easily separated from the clay which fills the interstices.—In many places, scarcely anything but lumps of pure ore, with hardly any admixture, appear. In some parts of the workings, the ore taken out requires no roasting to prepare it for the furnace; but generally it is roasted in immense heaps, which at this time form a large store for future use. When this mound or that portion of it above the level of the furnaces, is all changed from its crude state to iron, the company may proceed to excavate below that level, or continue eastward a few hundred feet, and attack the mountain itself, which, so far as is known, is but a vastly enlarged edition of the same volume. But at what period will the mound, even, be exhausted? I have seen no calculations, and heard of no estimate of the quantity of ore; but for my own satisfaction, assuming the following data as entirely within reasonable bounds, these results are obtained:

"Twenty acres, an average depth of fifty feet, yielding, say four tons of ore to the cubic yard, would produce about six and a half millions of tons of ore; and allowing seventy per cent. as the net