THE UNHAPPY SULTAN.

Report That He Has Been Poisoned—He Has Received Numerous Significant Warnings.

Palace Spies and Police Watching Night and Day—Lives of Ministers Threatened.

LONDON, Nov. 19.—It is only a week since, according to a Constantinople dispatch, that a mysterious letter was laid on the Sultan's table, giving him the alternative of abdication or assassination, and now a dispatch from Sofia, Bulgaria, states that Abdul Hamid has been poisoned, it is believed by the young Turkish party. This organization has recently grown to enormous proportions, and has given to the Sultan numerous significant warnings. Its members have become more determined since the execution of some of their number by being dropped from a gunboat into the Bosphorus. Moreover, the trouble with the Armenians and the attitude of the Powers have been used to their utmost to the disadvantage of the head of the Faithful.

The correspondent of the Daily News announces that the Sultan has been so upset by the recent turn affairs have taken that another nervous fever has set in, and that he is now so sick he only devotes two hours daily to public affairs. The young son of the Sultan is always with him.

The Sultan has lately developed symptoms of a monomania hardly disguishable from insanity, and it is not unlikely that he will meet with the same fate as his brother, the former Sultan, and thus simplify the work of Europe.

The Sultan has prohibited the entry into Turkey of all papers containing accounts of Lord Salisbury's speech at the lord mayor's dinner at London a week ago.

The correspondent of the Times learns that the constitutional party professes no personal animus against the Sultan, complaining only against him on account of his odious misgovernment. The constitutional party should not be confounded with the young Turks' party. The members of the constitutional party say they desire only rational government by peaceful means. They have never cared for vengeance or for bloodshed.

It is said that much of the onslaught upon Armenians is due to the fact that the Porte desires to distract attention from the Mohammedan agitation against the Sultan. Palace spies and police are kept busy night and day in Constantinople, but this does not prevent the revolutionary movement from spreading. The police have just made a fresh seizure in the Turkish part of the city of a large quantity of placards demanding a constitution, which were intended for distribution in the main thoroughfares. The two battalions of troops and the detachment of artillery at Yildiz kiosk are kept closely within the grounds of the palace. The lives of nearly all of the ministers have been threatened. Hassan Pasha, the minister of marine, is known to distrust the navy to the extent that he has a guard of troops, and, it is claimed, dares not go on board a war vessel.

A despatch to the Chronicle from Rome says that information has reached its correspondent there to the effect that when the combined fleets of the Powers have assembled in the Turkish waters an ultimatum will be sent to the Sublime Porte and that only a short time will be allowed him to make a reply.

A despatch to London from Constantinople says that the Sultan yesterday called on the ministers to devise plans for mobilizing 500,000 troops. It being hinted that the treasury was empty the Sultan flew into a passion, and as a result several ministers tendered their resignations, which were not accepted.

BOSTON, Nov. 19 —The stories sent out from Constantinople to the effect that in the recent disturbances the Armenians have been the aggressors is designated as a gross calumny by a reliable correspondent, who writes to friends in this city from Constantinople. The correspondent says: "The government—the Porte and Palace alike—are doing their utmost to convince Europe that the Armenians are everywhere the aggressors. That gross calumny is being spread for the justification of the massacres, and many people are deceived. The Armenians are being exterminated. The violence of the revolutionary party has been a grievous blunder but the question has now passed that stage. Again and again we hear that the Sultan is soon to be taken off. It does look sometimes as if his throne and that of his dynasty would go down together. It is hardly possible to conceive of times more critical. None can comprehend what a slaughter house Turkey is becoming or what a terrible incubus the chief criminal is upon his own people as well as upon Christians."

CONSTANTINOPLE, Nov. 20.—The Sultan continues in a state of the greatest alarm. Some of his ministers have to be kept constantly guarded by soldiers in order to give them courage enough to transact the business of their respective offices. Throughout the night of Saturday, November 16, the most critical for the Turkish empire, the Sultan was engaged, sitting close to telegraph instruments in Yildiz Kiosk, personally dictating instructions to the provincial governors to do their duty to restore order in their districts. This indicates that the Sultan has finally determined to take the reins of government in his own hands.

As intimated, during the last few days, the attitude of the Sultan has undergone a decided change since the other fleets began to join the British fleet in the naval demonstration in Salonica bay. No doubt the pressure brought to bear upon the Sultan has been strong enough to make him take personal charge of the work in Armenia, and it is now hoped there will be no further bloodshed. His Majesty has sanctioned the scheme for reforms submitted by the three great powers, and preparations are now proceeding to carry them out.

The lack of sufficient funds to equip the reserves called out and the scarcity of regular troops in the disturbed provinces are a matter of great concern to the Sultan, who is said to be rapidly getting an idea of the extent to which the disorder has spread. Winter, with its deadly cold and deep snows to interrupt, will, it is expected, put a stop to the Kurdish outbreaks more effectively than the Turkish troops. It will also prevent much news from reaching Constantinople.

A dispatch from Tiflis, Russian Transcaucasia, says the Armenian Catholics have received a reply to the communication recently sent to the Russian ambassador here, M. de Nelidoff. It is as follows: "The Armenians of Constantinople city are now reassured they are threatened with no danger. In the provinces, however, there are regrettable conflicts which in most cases are caused by the Armenians, who were instigated by their revolutionary committees. The result was a terrible revenge on the part of the Turks in the shape of horrible massacres of the Christians."

LONDON, Nov. 20 —The correspondent of the Daily News at Rome says that Austria proposes that the combined fleets of Russia and Austria should force the Dardanelles, and that their joint armies should occupy Constantinople, if necessary. To these propositions Russia declined to agree.

The correspondent says it is reported in official circles that, in view of the possible disruption of Turkey, Russia and Great Britain are negotiating an agreement which will give the Czar a free hand for the occupation or annexation of Anatolia, while Great Britain will have the right to establish a permanent protectorate over Egypt.

No news of fresh disturbances in Asia Minor have been received since Saturday, and confidence is apparently being restored. At Aleppo it is hoped the worst is over and it is believed quiet has been re-established in European Turkey.

The death of Rustem Pasha, Turkish ambassador to London, which occurred early this morning, has been anticipated for some time. His demise is generally regretted in official circles, as his upright conduct and generous disposition were appreciated by all. His good qualities were feelingly referred to by the Marquis of Salisbury in an important speech made yesterday at Brighton before the National Union of the Conservative association.

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

Lord Salisbury's Reply to the Sultan's Communication—The Powers Will Act in Concert.

Long Years of Error Will Have to Be Paid for Inexorably.

LONDON, Nov. 19.—Lord Salisbury, the prime minister, in addressing the annual conference of the National Union of Conservative Associations, said among other things: "Allow me to say a few words in answer to a very distinguished distant correspondent, if I may term him so, who requested me to make a statement in a speech to the country. This correspondent is no less a person than the Sultan of Turkey. Nothing would have induced me to read this august message here except the distinct commands of the sender. In that speech at the Guildhall, on the occasion of the Lord Mayor's Day dinner, I expressed the opinion and said that I had confidence that the reforms promised for the Turkish empire would be not carried into execution. The Sultan says that the statement has pained him very much, as the carrying out of the reforms is a matter already decided upon by him, and further, that he is desirous of executing them as soon as possible. He then proceeds as follows:

"I have already told my ministers this, and the only reason why Lord Salisbury should thus throw doubts on my intentions must be due to the intrigues of certain persons here, or else statements must have been made to cause such an opinion." The message then proceeds, after some intermediary observations: "I repeat it I will execute those reforms. I will take the papers containing them and see myself that every article is put into force; this is my earnest determination and I give you my word of honor. I wish Lord Salisbury to know this and I beg and desire that his Lordship having confidence in these declarations will make another speech by virtue of the friendly feeling and disposition he has for me and my country. I shall await the result of this with the greatest anxiety."

Lord Salisbury then continued: "These last words will acquit me of any impropriety in what I acknowledge to be a very unprecedented course, the reading of a communication of that kind at a public meeting. I could not abstain from doing what I have done without discourtesy to that distinguished potentate from which this message issued, but of course, it would not be seemly of me to comment directly upon these words. Great Britain forms part of concerted Europe, which has resolved, so far as it acts, to act with unanimity."

THE HYAMS TRIALS.

TORONTO, Nov. 19 —The last three or four sessions of the Hyams trial have been totally devoid of interest. So far the judge has been called upon to make 29 rulings, most of them exceedingly delicate ones, and in every important instance they have been in favor of the defence. The crown is far from satisfied with the result of some of these rulings, and in the event of a verdict other than conviction, application will be made for a new trial. The crown's case is now almost completed, only the medical evidence remaining to be put in. It is claimed that some sensational developments may be looked for, the crown having intentionally reserved the climax of its case for the last. The crown sprang a surprise on the defence today, when it brought forward evidence to prove that Harry Hyams was a forger. Daniel Ames, of New York, an expert on hand writing, was in court prepared to swear that the endorsations on checks issued by Martha Wells, to several money lenders were in the handwriting of Harry Hyams. Shortly after Martha Wells got possession of the insurance money Hyams secured several thousand dollars from her for the alleged purpose of loaning to parties, the names of whom the crown claims are purely fictitious. The crown claims that it was this trouble which induced him to marry Martha Wells shortly after as the only means of escape. Daniel T. Ames swore that the disputed entry in the pass-book was in the same writing as Hyam's letters to Martha Wells, as were also the endorsations on several checks issued by Martha Wells. Dr. Caven, the first medical expert called, produced Wells' skull and described the bone fractures. The whole head was apparently flat from side to side and protruded upwards. The doctor swore that the force to produce the bone fractures must have come from the right side, the head at the same time resting on something solid. Asked by the crown if one blow would account for all the fractures, the doctor replied that there was direct evidence of a second blow and the line of force would be from before backwards.

OWEN SOUND, Nov. 16.—An order has been given for the exhumation of the body of George Green, a Barnardo boy, in connection with whose death Helen P. Findlay, a masculine looking woman farmer, is charged with murder.

If you once try Carter's Little Liver Pills for sick headache, biliousness or constipation, you will never be without them. They are purely vegetable, small and easy to take. Don't forget this.

CAPITAL NOTES.

Great Britain Will Subsidize the Canadian Fast Atlantic Mail Service.

Pacific Conference—Pleas for Executive Clemency at Present Before His Excellency.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

OTTAWA, Nov. 18.—Sir C. H. Tupper and Hon. Mr. Ouimet as a sub-committee of the Privy council will hear Messrs. Hall Caine and Daly on the copyright question next Friday. Bodies interested may also be represented.

A hundred men of the 43rd battalion, Princess Louise Dragoons, and the field battery left unawares for Lowe township yesterday, armed, and their presence has had a most salutory effect on the recalcitrant residents. This fact, coupled with the intimation that the cost of the military would have to be paid for by them, led the kickers to-day almost to tumble over each other, so great was their anxiety to pay their taxes. They have, moreover, undertaken to organize a township council and given a guarantee of good behaviour in future. The troops will return here on Wednesday.

OTTAWA, Nov. 19.—Cable advices received by the government announce that the Imperial government has decided to support the project of a fast mail service between Great Britain and Canada to the extent of $375,000 annually, for a class of 20 knot vessels, similar to the Teutonic. The Home government requires the Dominion to invite new tenders for the service, so that the different syndicates, who have been asking permission to submit tenders since the matter was placed in Mr. Huddart's hands, will have the opportunity of submitting their offers. Speaking to your correspondent, Sir Mackenzie Bowell said that with this Imperial aid he had no doubt one could be established.

Now that the Imperial government has decided to call a conference on the Pacific cable, it is expected Mr. Sanford Fleming will be one of the Canadian delegates.

His Excellency has had under consideration the petition asking for a new trial for the wife murderer, J. R. Hooper, and finds nothing in the case to warrant granting the application or the commutation of sentence. The department of justice has received all the papers in the Shortis murder case. They make a pile a foot and a half high.

J. A. McGillivray, supreme secretary of the I O.F., was nominated as the Conservative candidate in North Ontario to day. He would not pledge himself to remedial legislation and declined to give any definite statement until the measure was before the House.

SPAIN AND CUBA.

MADRID, Nov. 19.—Premier Senor Canovas del Caseille declares that the persistent rumors regarding peace negotiations between the representatives of the Spanish government and the insurgents are untrue. He also discredits the report that the rear guard of Maximo Gomez' forces were defeated in the province of Santa Clara.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 19.—A dispatch from Kingston, Jamaica, dated to-day, says: "The Danish steamship Horsa, from Philadelphia, landed 40 men and a quantity of ammunition on the island of Cuba on November 15 While the men were being placed on shore they were pursued by a Spanish gunboat. She did not succeed in landing all her ammunition, 43 cases being left aboard when surprised by the gunboat. On the arrival of the Horsa there she was seized for filibustering."

THE TROLLYLESS CAR.

SEATTLE, Nov. 20.—The trolleyless electric car is an accomplished fact, and a company formed to place the invention on the market will establish Pacific Coast offices either in Seattle or San Francisco. The new system has been invented by J. M. Murphy and Rev. Albert F. Pierce, of Danbury, Conn., and the incorporation is known as the International Electric Company. In appearance the car is similar to any other car, except that the trolley is missing. There is no wire or trolley of any sort, but occasional flashes from the wheels and showers of tiny sparks in their wake show the presence of electricity. The wire is completely buried, the car taking its power directly from the rail, only the length of which is charged with electricity while the car is passing. At the end of the rails are little levers which are operated by the wheels and which automatically throw the current into the next section of track.

NORTH ONTARIO.

TORONTO, Nov. 20.—(Special)—Speaking at the North Ontario nominations yesterday, at the evening meeting, Hon. Messrs. Foster and Montague discussed trade and other questions. Speaking of the telegram announcing the Imperial Government's determination to assist Canada in establishing a fast Atlantic steamship service, Mr. Foster said he believed this was the exact truth, and there would soon be a direct line of communication from Australia to Liverpool by way of Canada.

The Toronto World expresses great satisfaction at the outcome of the convention, and predicts a Conservative victory.

Mrs. Ormiston Chant.

Mrs. Laura Ormiston Chant expects to arrive in Boston early in October. She will be accompanied by her daughters, Emmeline and Ethel. Emmeline visited America with Mrs. Chant last year. Ethel is called her mother's "15-year-old double." Mrs. Chant will attend the convention of the National W. C. T. U. in Baltimore Oct. 18, and will doubtless be besieged as usual with applications to lecture. Besides lectures on special subjects, sermons whose topics are limited only by human needs and aspirations, and addresses to workers of all sorts, she has three lectures which have been delighting large audiences in every part of England, "The Coming Woman," "Public Amusements" and "The Battle of the Music Halls." In the controversy last autumn over the suppression of certain obnoxious shows at the London music halls—a controversy which turned England upside down for a time—Mrs. Chant acted as barrister for the right side, and the right side won. Mrs. Chant's headquarters during her stay in the United States will be at the home of her friend, Mrs. Herbert Sawyer, Chestnut Hill, Mass. —Boston Letter.

THE SILVER QUESTION.

NEW YORK, Nov. 19.—In the course of his speech at the 127th annual banquet of the chamber of commerce of New York, held at Delmonico's on Tuesday evening, Secretary Carlisle said: "Our legal standard of value is as sound as any country in the world, and if we had such a currency system as to guarantee its permanent maintenance, no government would command a larger credit or realize greater benefits from it than ours, but the great investors of the world appreciate the difficulties under which we are laboring, and until these difficulties are removed we cannot reasonably hope to see perfect confidence restored at home or abroad."

"The fundamental vice in our currency system is the legal tender note redeemable in coin by the government and reissuable under the law. There are other defects, but this threatens the stability of the whole volume of our currency. The proposition that a promise of the government to pay money is money, is just as absurd as the proposition that a promise to deliver a horse is a horse, and yet there are eminent men, high in public councils, who believe tha United States promissory note is actual money and that the statute which compels all the people to receive it as actual money is constitutional and ought to be continued in force.

"The agitation for free coinage of legal tender silver is predicated upon the same vicious principle that underlies the legislation making paper promises a legal tender; but there is a practical difference between the two systems. The U. S. note was a forced loan from the people to the government which the government promised to repay in dollars, but the free coinage of legal tender silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 would be a forced loan from the people to the owners of silver mines and silver bullion without a promise of repayment by anybody.

CANADIAN NEWS.

(Special to the COLONIST.)

QUEBEC, Nov. 19.—The Dominion W.C.T.U. in its eighth convention here yesterday elected officers for the ensuing year as follows: President, Mrs. Rutherford, Toronto; vice-president, Dr. Amelia Yeomans, Winnipeg; corresponding secretary, Miss Tilley, Toronto; recording secretary, Mrs. P. W. McLachlan, Montreal; treasurer, Mrs. Tilton, Ottawa.

MONTREAL, Nov. 19.—It is said on pretty certain information that George Olds, general traffic manager of the Canadian Pacific Railway, will retire from active service at the end of the present year.

QUEBEC, Nov. 19 —In the Quebec provincial parliament yesterday a government measure was passed reducing the number of grand jurymen from eighteen to twelve.

MONTREAL, Nov. 19 —John Y. Lloyd, Grand Trunk engineer, shot and killed himself here yesterday.

TORONTO, Nov. 20.—Foul play is suspected in connection with the disappearance of James Brown, of Hastings, East Northumberland. He was seen crossing a bridge at midnight, on October 28. No anxiety was felt for a day or two; but afterwards the neighborhood was searched, fruitlessly, and a mill pond dragged on suspicion of his having been drowned. Yesterday his body was accidentally discovered in the river among some saw logs.

WINNIPEG, Nov. 20.—General Freight Agent Kerr, of the Canadian Pacific, has received instructions from Montreal authorizing him to make a reduced all-rail rate on export grain from Fort William to New York and Boston.

HALIFAX, Nov. 20.—The steamer Albert of Charlottetown, P. E. I., with a cargo of produce for Plocentia, Nfld., is a total wreck on the Newfoundland coast.

RAT PORTAGE, Nov. 20.—The reduction works here were started yesterday and the whole twenty stamps and all the machinery therewith are in perfect condition.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.

The First Congregational church of Victoria was formally recognized by the Council of that denomination Wednesday. The visiting members of the Council were Rev. Samuel Green, Rev. A. J. Bailey and Mrs. Bailey, Mr. E. S. Smith, and Mr. G. H. Lee, Seattle; Rev. H. C. Mason and Mr. Burpee, Vancouver; Rev. T. W. Butler and Mr. J. F. Falconer, Everett; Rev. J. C. Wright, Fairhaven, and Mr. A. R Johnson, Whatcom. The council of ministers met yesterday afternoon in the Temperance hall, and after an examination of the standing of the new church found everything satisfactory and cordially received it.

In the evening the ladies of the new congregation entertained at supper the visiting council, members of the church and friends from other denominations, the tables being spread in the Temperance Hall. Then in the evening the session was called to order by Rev. S. Greene, of Seattle, who announced the decision of the council to recognize the establishment of the new church. Rev. H. C. Mason read the minutes of the council meeting finally admitting the First church of Victoria into the denomination.

Rev. T. W. Butler, of Everett, preached the sermon from Matt. ix, 29, "Faith's Victory," and the prayer of recognition was made by Rev. A. J. Bailey, of Seattle. The right hand of fellowship was extended to the church in the persons of pastor Rev. Jonas Bushell and the deacons, Messrs. D. Spragge, Wm. Scowcroft, John Oliver and Dr. Lewis Hall, by H. C. Mason. Then followed an address to the church by Rev. G. H. Lee, of Seattle, and Rev. R. Trotter of Calvary Baptist church accorded a hearty welcome to the new church, and Mrs. A. J. Bailey, of Seattle, addressed a few words to the ladies of the congregation on mission work.

During the evening a piano duet was rendered by Miss Stoddart and Miss Cartmel. Miss Scowcroft and Miss Stoddart also sang a duet, and Mr. J. G. Brown sang.

After a vote of thanks to the visiting council, Rev. Mr. Bushell pronounced the benediction.

The new congregration will for the present hold their services in Temperance hall.

SHIPS AND SHIPPING.

H. M. S. Royal Arthur left for Vancouver yesterday and will be absent from Esquimalt ten days. The Wild Swan is to leave for Honolulu this morning on a Southern cruise lasting upwards of a year. She will be due at Honolulu December 8; Valparaiso December 14 and Coquimbo December 17.

Bark Ardmore shifted yesterday to the inner harbor from Esquimalt, and is now ready to discharge her Victoria consignments.

The government steamer Quadra, which has been on duty several days in the Gulf, returned to port from Vancouver last evening.

The steam collier Peter Jebsen, laden from Nanaimo mines, passed out for San Francisco yesterday.

SALISBURY'S SPEECH

"The Warning to the Sultan as Unrelenting as the Circumstances Were Cruel."

Responsibility of the Powers to Finally Solve the Terrible Armenian Problem.

LONDON, Nov. 20.—Continuing his speech before the National Union of the Conservative Association on Tuesday night, Lord Salisbury, the British premier, said:—"Some persons seem to imagine that we, the people of Great Britain, can dispose of all the decisions of all the European powers. This is crediting us with more influence than we possess. Whatever is done must be done with unanimity, and we can only speak in behalf of one of the powers which will concur, if the powers do concur, in any action which may be taken. I will not admit that the responsibility of any of the decisions taken rests entirely or mainly on this country. The responsibility is upon us, and upon all the powers in common. All those who have the responsibility must act together, so if there are others who cannot agree to act with the powers those others cannot have their own way. But I am in nowise desirous of intimating that the slightest shade of disagreement up to this moment has arisen between the powers."

Lord Salisbury proceeded to speak in terms of high appreciation of Rustem Pasha, who, he feared, would not recover from his present illness. He spoke specifically of the former administration of Rustem Pasha at Lebanon, and said he was convinced that if men like him had been placed in charge of the districts where all these horrors had occurred, the conscience of Europe would never have been racked by all these tales of suffering and terror. If there had been men around the Sultan like Rustem Pasha, the present conditions would not exist. The present problem could not be solved by the external action of the advising powers. This Lord Salisbury pronounced a clumsy device at least. Continuing, he said the problem should have been solved by the natural operation of the working counselors of an enlightened monarchy acting through efficient and competent instruments. Lord Salisbury added:

"I do not see who the men are who stand as representatives of the Rustem Pasha type of officials at the sublime Porte. I exhort you to consider that terrible Armenian problem as quite as much one of competent men as of adequate laws; that the mere writing of new provisions upon fresh decrees cannot supply the place of governors who know how and, what is equally important, who have the courage and integrity to do their duty. I have no doubt that the powers will do their best, but do not imagine that deep-seated disease in an empire can be cured by the wave of a magician's wand. The results of long years of error will have to be paid for, and by a cruel and inexorable law those will pay who were not originally guilty of the offences. I have taken you for the moment into the unaccustomed field of foreign policy. Nothing but the circumstances which I have explained would have persuaded me to do so, for I maintain that a foreign minister, above all others, is bound to value and cherish the virtues of silence."

Lord Salisbury then turned to domestic affairs, and said the Conservative victory was mainly due to the fact that the magnetic influence of a great statesman, which had been exercised in a sinister spirit, had been removed. In conclusion, he dwelt upon the divisions among the Irishmen, and said if they were left alone they would cut their own throats.

Lord Salisbury added that he had no new bills to announce. The first thing to claim their attention was the matter of naval defence, so for some time to come it might be expected that the Admiralty department would be an importunate claimant at the doors of the national treasury. He hoped that the government would make a sincere effort to mitigate the agricultural distress in various sections of the country, but declined to encourage any romantic dreams of the farmers, concluding this part of his address with the statement: "Protectionist countries are suffering not less than our own."

The Times this morning prints an editorial commenting upon the speech of Lord Salisbury at Brighton, and asserts that the letter written by the Sultan to the Prime Minister was a remarkable tribute to the influence which Lord Salisbury holds in Europe. The Times adds that it may be doubted as to whether the Sultan will be greatly pleased with the result of his appeal, since Lord Salisbury declines to act outside of the concerted powers.

The Standard says that the pathetic sincerity of the letter to Lord Salisbury will gain for the Sultan the sympathy of all Englishmen. The only effect of the Sultan's letter and Lord Salisbury's speech is to confirm the prime minister's judgment as to the chief responsibility for the breakdown of the government of Turkey.

The Morning Post, in an editorial this morning, says that it must be admitted that Lord Salisbury's warning to the Sultan was as unrelenting as the circumstances were cruel. No one can fail to be struck by the pathetic dignity and frank earnestness of the Sultan's reply to Lord Mayor's day dinner address.

The Daily News, commenting upon the letter of the Sultan to Lord Salisbury, says that the incident shows that callous as the Sultan certainly is, he certainly cares for public opinion and for the good wishes of the people of Great Britain.

The Chronicle says that so undignified and childish an act is unprecedented in the history of the diplomatic world, and adds that the Sultan's repentance probably comes too late.

SPAIN'S COMPLAINT.

HAVANA, Nov. 20.—The Diario del Ejercito, the leading army journal, caused a sensation to-day by heading an editorial: "A Great Shame and a Great Misfortune." Among other things this editorial said: "A sorrowful spectable is presented to the eyes of the watching world. After all Spain's sacrifices made to combat the enemy in Cuba, she finds her chief enemy among her own people on the island." The editorial then refers to the reformists raising internal political dissensions, provoking criticism of government acts, whereas they should act in unison to strengthen Spain's hands instead of resorting to private bickerings, and almost challenging the government itself. In conclusion the editorial denounces the practice of appealing to slander and calumny, and condemns the attacks made upon even the highest in power. The paper says it is simply shameful to proceed in such a manner at these times, and insists that the political quarrels should be silenced in time to save the blood of the soldiers and to obviate national dishonor.

FRAUDS ON THE U. S.

AUBURN, N. Y., Nov. 19.—The U. S. district court, Judge Alfred C. Coxe, of Utica, presiding, opened at the Federal building at 10 o'clock this morning, and the first case called bids fair to be one of the most interesting ever tried in this city. It is that in which the defendant is Mary T. McMillan, alias Mary T. Mack, of Hamilton, Ont., who was indicted at Buffalo in September last for the forgery and counterfeiting of U. S. postage stamps of the denomination of two cents to the number of 38,000. The woman was early in court and soon took a seat beside her counsel, Hon. Nathaniel W. Norton, of Buffalo. When a panel satisfactory to both sides had been secured. Nathan Hersag, of Chicago, a cigar and tobacco dealer, and Edward Massoulh, a stamp dealer of Chicago, testified that they ordered stamps from the Novelty Supply Company, of Hamilton, Ont., but refused to accept them because they were counterfeit. George Lawrence and Homer H. Drew, clerks in the office of the Wells, Fargo Express Company at Buffalo, gave damaging evidence against the woman, identifying her as the one who expressed the stamps to Chicago and also the packages sent. Among the other important witnesses to be called are Chief Hazen and Captain Porter, of the secret service, and Sergt. McMahon, of the government police of Hamilton, Ont.

NORTHERN NEWS BUDGET.

Brought by the Steamship "City of Topeka," Which Arrived From Alaska.

Arrangements for Mail Going to the Yukon This Winter—Mining Affairs.

An entire absence of snow between here and Sitka, except on the high mountains, is something unusual at this time of the year; but such is the report made by the Pacific Coast steamship City of Topeka, which last night tied up at the outer wharf. She was only about an hour in port, although she had considerable cargo to land, including among others 100 barrels of herring oil in transit to Europe from Killisnoo. Several passengers disembarked here, there being upwards of 60 others, comprising cannery men, miners and business men. Chief Engineer Samson, of the U.S. man-of-war Pinta, now at Sitka, was a passenger. He is going down the Sound to join the flagship Philadelphia, having received the appointment of second engineer. Another passenger was Judge J. C. Eggleston who is returning home to Tennessee after settling the estate of W. F. Reed, the largest transaction of the kind ever effected in Alaska. W. P. Mills, one of Sitka's heaviest merchants, was on board the Topeka on his way South as was also E. O. Sylvester, editor of the Alaska Searchlight, who enjoys the distinction of having at one time and another owned an interest in every paper in Alaska. He is going as far South as Seattle and will shortly return North. He says the Searchlight will be considerably enlarged for the coming year.

A summary of the Alaskan news brought by the Topeka is as follows:

The announcement of the appointment of Hon. A. K. Delaney as judge of the district court is received by all Alaskans with a great deal of enthusiasm. Mr. Delaney was formerly collector of the district under Cleveland's first term.

The great placer mines of the Nowell Gold Mining Co. in Silver Bow Basin are still running full force, and the last month's clean up was the richest of the season.

At Berner's bay the mines will run all winter. The output has been very satisfactory. Willis Nowell, superintendent of the mines, left on the Topeka en route south for electrical supplies.

The Silver Queen mine at Sheep creek basin will run all winter. New engines are being put in to run the Burleigh drills.

The winter promises to be an open one and mining operations will be continued for several weeks longer at least.

Capt. William Moore is on his way to Victoria and reports the outlook for a trail over the White Pass in the near future as being good. Only seven miles of heavy road building on an easy route are opened to the Yukon gold fields.

A large corporation is being formed in the East to open the marble quarries of Chicagoff island next season.

Prof. W. H. Dall's report on the coal fields of Alaska, though not yet made public, is said to be very favorable. He says that the coal of Alaska has a commercial future.

The district court convened at Juneau on Monday last and will be in session probably a month. No cases of great importance are to be heard, save those of the Indian murder.

A little Indian boy is on trial for killing two Indians while drunk at Dyes about three months ago. The little fellow after being set drunk by those whom he murdered got possession of a rifle and accomplished the awful deed of which he is now accused.

The weather at Juneau is the rainiest ever known in the history of the place.

T. Constantine Healy, an employe of the N. A. T. & S. Co., leaves Juneau in December with mail for Forty-Mile, on the Yukon. Last winter Mr. Healy brought out the first locked Canadian mail from Fort Cudahy. Some idea of the trip can be realized when it is stated that 730 miles of the distance between Juneau and Forty-Mile has not the shadow of civilization. Jimmie Jackson (native) leaves Juneau December 1 with mail for the A. C. Co., on the Yukon.

Cooper leaves Yukon January 15, bringing out mail from Circle City—180 miles below Forty-Mile.

THE PACIFIC CABLE.

LONDON, Nov. 19.—In the conference at the colonial office this morning between Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain and the representatives in London of the several British colonies, it was shown that the project of the Pacific cable presented a fair prospect of future remuneration. The suggestion of a commission meets with the colonial secretary's approval, and it was subsequently proposed to constitute one of six, two each representing Great Britain, Canada and Australia. Mr. Chamberlain, during the course of his remarks to the deputation which called upon him regarding the proposed Pacific cable, said that such a project was representative of the British empire. As an Imperialist, he said, he most decidedly favored the laying of the cable, which would be the means of bringing more closely together the several parts of the empire. He believed, moreover, that the project showed a very fair prospect of remuneration from a purely commercial standpoint. Continuing the secretary of state for the colonies expressed his willingness to join in the formation of a joint commission to report upon the matter, the commission to include two Canadian representatives.