

in favor of the establishment of an international arbitration treaty, says:—"There is talk of a permanent arbitration treaty between the United States and England. The project is a reasonable one, and discussion may lead to its adoption. If the Government of the United States were willing and were in any way to signify its willingness to become a party to such a treaty, there is a force of good men with us to induce our Government to consent. If this be done it will be a grand step forward in the world's march, and be followed in some not distant time by other nations willing to escape the social burden of military armaments. Two hundred members of the House of Commons sign the arbitration memorial, but far more than this number will be ready to urge the acceptance of the treaty upon our Government. If the action taken at Washington be favorable to the success of the scheme, England and the United States will still remain two nations, but I would have them always regard themselves as one people. An arbitration treaty, honestly made and adhered to, would tend much to bring about this blessed result."

THE more that is heard of the claims made by the Americans in Behring Sea, the more unreasonable and the more indefensible do they appear. Vessels are there seized eighty or ninety miles from land which have not been even in sight of an American port. The United States Government, it appears, claims exclusive jurisdiction over all the waters of Behring Sea east of a line drawn from the extreme Western Aleutian island, to and through Behring Strait. How American citizens can attempt to enforce such a claim as that,—one which they themselves refused to acknowledge when it was set up by the Russian Government,—when they unwillingly recognize the three mile limit on this side of the continent, it is impossible to understand. Here they raise the head-line question and contend that they have a right to fish three miles off the Canadian shore, following the sinuosities of the coast; there they claim the right to exclude foreigners from an open sea and send cutters to seize their vessels if they presume to fish or to hunt seals a hundred miles from land. Such inconsistency is simply incomprehensible.

ANOTHER theatre horror has taken place in Exeter, England. In the struggle to get out of the burning building over one hundred and thirty persons were killed outright and many more were seriously injured.

THE London *Times* of the 24th of last month contains an article on the Manitoba

difficulty. The question is discussed intelligently, and in the best spirit. The *Times* sympathises to a certain extent with the people of Manitoba in their desire to have better communication with the United States, but it holds that the authority of the Federal Government must be upheld.

It is said that the action of the Supreme Court in confirming the death sentence of the Chicago anarchists has made their fellow-anarchists fearfully angry, and that they are holding secret meetings to concoct measures of retaliation. In doing this they are not wise. If they do anything to exasperate the law-abiding, peaceable citizens of the United States, they will find themselves in a most unenviable position. They will make for themselves millions of enemies; for every well-disposed citizen in the Republic will consider it his duty to extirpate the whole brood of anarchists, root and branch.

THE great "through Siberian" railway is to be commenced at last, and in five years, if all goes well, a traveller will be able to go from St. Petersburg to Vladivostock, the naval port on the Pacific, in fifteen days. The *Times* recently had a very interesting and instructive article on this subject, in which it says that Siberia, so far from being an inhospitable wilderness of frost and snow, is a huge territory abounding in every kind of potential riches. It was unknown, and practically a wilderness, because it was devoid of roads. Inquiry has demonstrated that it is a region of extraordinary fertility for a great part of its surface, and full of mineral wealth everywhere. Its climate, which was fabled to be horrible and deadly, has been proved by experience to be generally endurable, and at some points delightful.

THE Anti-poverty Crusade led on by Henry George, Father McGlynn, Rev. Hugh O. Pentecost, &c., is a sincere effort of reform, and is not to be despised. It simply asks to *free honest industry* from taxation, and to *tax monopolies only*, whether in land or necessities. Its platform declares:—"What we propose is not the disturbing of any man in his property or title, but by abolishing all taxes on industry, or its products, to leave to the producer the full fruit of his exertions, and by the taxation of land values, exclusive of improvements, to devote to the common use and benefit these values, which (arising not from the exertion of the individual, but from the growth of society) belong to the community as a whole. This increased taxation of land, not according to its area, but according to its value, while relieving the working farmer and