

An Anglo-French colonial treaty about to be signed in London deals with matters in Morocco, Egypt and Newfoundland. France, it is believed, will surrender her rights on the shores of Newfoundland and receive an indemnity. The French shore question which has so long troubled the people of the ancient colony will thus be finally settled.

A rather serious question is about to be settled between Chili and Peru. At the close of the war between the two countries, in 1883, Chili was left in possession of the Peruvian provinces Tacna and Arica, with the understanding that at the end of ten years, a vote of the people of the two provinces should decide whether they would remain Chilian or be returned to Peru. Twenty years have passed, and the vote has not been taken. The possibility of a peaceful adjustment of the matter seems very slight.

There is a renewal of the story of a United States movement for the acquisition of St. Pierre and Miquelon, by which they could control the entrance to the St. Lawrence and threaten the whole Atlantic coast of Canada. It is more probable that if the islands pass from French control they will become British. They have a united area of ninety-three square miles, and a population of less than five thousand; and their only importance at present is as a base for the French fisheries, and as the last remaining vestige of the French dominions in North America.

Chili, Brazil and Argentina have formed an alliance and agreed to refer to arbitration any question that may arise between them in the future. Ecuador and Bolivia are expected to join the alliance. A dread of the growing power of the United States, and the fear that in case of any local uprising that aggressive nation might do as she did in the Panama affair, acknowledge the independence of the insurgents and send troops to maintain it, is believed to be the immediate cause of the movement. The project of a political union of all the Spanish American states is beginning to be discussed in the press of these republics.

Though there has been no important engagement as yet between the Russian and Japanese forces, Japan seems to be in possession of the whole of Korea, which was the first object of her campaign, and to have full control of the Yellow Sea, which enables her to land troops at any point along the coast. Before the advance guard of the Japanese army, the Russian forces seem to have retreated to the west side of the Yalu, the boundary between Manchuria and Korea. The Japanese now occupy Wiju, an important town at the mouth of the river on the Korean side; the Russians are strongly posted at Antung, on the opposite bank, where it is expected a great battle will take place if the Japanese attempt to cross.

The British expedition to Thibet has met with armed resistance. The Thibetans attacked the advancing column and were repulsed with considerable loss. Among the killed was one of the Thibetans

who was in command, and to whose influence and violent hostility it is thought the existing difficulties were very largely due. Possibly his death may lead to peaceful negotiations with the Lhasa government. It is reported, however, that a Chinese general from Lhasa has met the approaching British force and requested the mission to withdraw. This, if true, might mean that China claims authority over Thibet as a tributary state; but British negotiations with the Thibetan government have been going on for fifteen years independent of the Chinese government at Pekin or its representative at Lhasa. The British troops, coming from the warm plains of India, suffered greatly on the march through the mountain passes. The changes in temperature were extreme at the greatest elevations, the men being in danger of sunstroke during the day and numbed with cold at night.

A very alarming state of affairs prevails in German Southwest Africa. Native troops, now in revolt, have torn up railways and killed many settlers. Windhoek, the seat of government, is besieged by the natives; and practically every native tribe between that place and the borders of Cape Colony is in revolt. The Hereros are the most powerful and warlike, and were the first to rebel, oppression and cruelty on the part of German officers and troops being the alleged cause. The German possessions in southwestern Africa cover a tract about half as large again as the German Empire in Europe. It stretches for nearly a thousand miles along the coast, from Cape Colony on the south to the Portuguese colony on the north. The land along the coast is barren for some miles inland. Then comes a wide plain, and beyond that a high tableland of several hundreds of miles in width, valuable by reason of its agricultural and mineral resources. The Germans first took possession of a part of the coast about twenty years ago.

One of the most beneficial features of our modern educational work is that of the school gardens. Through pleasant outdoor occupation it brings the children into delightful contact with nature. It gives them something interesting to do and to think about. It improves them mentally, morally and physically, and is one of the most potent of instruments for expanding their minds and their souls by casting the light of understanding upon some of the mysteries of life and growth. This work has been made a regular feature in some of our Boston public schools, and has been so extraordinarily successful that it should be introduced as a part of the course in all.—*Boston Herald.*

A gentleman riding with an Irishman came within sight of an old gallows, and to display his wit said:

"Pat, do you see that?"

"To be sure Oi do," replied Pat.

"And where would you be today if the gallows had its due?"

"Oi'd be riding alone," replied Pat.