

ported at Santiago that Gen. Garcia had given his army a furlough of 30 days.

In the military department of Santiago, created by the president last week, as reported in our last issue, and to the command of which Gen. Henry W. Lawton was appointed, Brig. Gen. Wood retains his position as governor of the city of Santiago and Gen. Ewers becomes governor of the city of Guantánamo. Santiago city is being cleaned, and the sick rate and the death rate are falling. During the week following the surrender the deaths in Santiago city averaged 190 a day; on the 15th they had fallen to 30. Among the troops the total number of sick has fallen from 2,830 at our last report, to 1,516 on the 16th, and of fever cases from 2,043 to 1,139. The deaths for the same period increased from 61 to 94.

Late last week returning troops from Santiago began to arrive at Montauk Point, the eastern extremity of Long Island, which, as stated in our last issue, has been selected for their home encampment. Among the first to arrive were Roosevelt's rough riders. They landed on the 15th, accompanied by Gen. Wheeler. On the transport Grande Duchesse, which arrived on the 16th, a fifth of the troops had fallen sick, two of them with yellow fever. Gen. Wheeler is in command of the Montauk encampment.

All fears, whether real or feigned, that the Cubans may not acquiesce in the peace arrangements were put at rest on the 13th by an announcement from the war department that T. Estrada Palma, the head of the Cuban Junta in the United States, had, in the name of the Cuban provincial government, accepted the armistice. Estrada and Assistant Secretary of State Meiklejohn, were in conference on that day upon the subject of the relation of the Cubans to the president's proclamation of peace, when Estrada gave his assurance of satisfaction. He cabled the president of the Cuban republic accordingly as follows:

Bartolome Maso, President Cuban Republic, Santiago, Cuba: I have this 13th day of August, 1898, accepted, in the name of the Cuban provisional government, the armistice proclaimed by the United States. You should give immediate orders to the army throughout Cuba suspending all hostilities. Preliminary terms of peace, signed by representatives of Spain and the United States, provide that Spain will re-

linquish all claim over and title to Cuba.

In the Orient, the relations of Great Britain and Russia appear to be more tense than last week. The British press makes an impression, at any rate, that a colossal war is imminent. It is not easy for the American reader, unlearned in the intricacies of European diplomacy, to grasp the situation from the disjointed cable news which falls under his eye. About all that is evident to him, and that only in a general way, is that Russia is elbowing England out of China, and that England proposes to fight rather than get out. We endeavored last week to explain the difficulty, though without tracing it to its origin. This controversy relates back to the treaty of Tient-sin, which Lord Elgin in behalf of England, and Baron Gros in behalf of France, negotiated with China in 1858. That treaty guarantees to British subjects equal rights with the subjects of all other nations, throughout the Chinese empire, and affords the foundation for the now familiar policy of the "open door." Pursuant to this policy England claims the right for her subjects, which she accords to all other nations, of engaging in commerce upon an equal footing throughout the whole of China. Opposed to that policy is the policy of marking out "spheres of influence" in different parts of China, placing one region within the sphere of one nation's influence, another within that of another, and so on. In effect, the latter policy is one of partition. It would end in parcelling out China among the European powers. These two conflicting policies, that of the "open door," and that of "spheres of influence," appear to have become confounded in the English mind, which probably accounts for the confusion that the cable reports of the Anglo-Russian situation induce in the American mind. At one time we find English sentiment aroused over some Russian trespass upon English preserves, and at another it is aflame for the principle of the "open door." But the policy of the "open door" and that of the "sphere of influence" are quite inconsistent, and when their antipodal character is grasped and clung to, the cable reports become more humorous.

Understanding that the policy of the "open door" is in irreconcilable conflict with that of acquiring "spheres of influence," of parcelling out China, it is easy to interpret the

purpose of the present ministry as declared by Lord Salisbury in the house of lords on the 1st. Intimating that the government would not engage in the railroad business in China, he said it was "prepared to defend to the utmost every contractual right that English subjects might acquire." This means simply that the ministry do not intend to go to war to protect any supposed sphere of British influence in China, any parcelling out of territory, for railroad building or what not, but that they do intend to go to war, if need be, to protect the contracts of Englishmen made anywhere in China, under the general concession of equal rights conferred by the treaty of Tient-sin. In other words, it is proposed to fight not for "spheres of influence," but for free trading throughout the Chinese empire—for the "open door."

The immediate cause of the Anglo-Russian difficulty relates, as we explained last week, to a proposed railroad from Tient-sin to New Chwang, on the north shore of the Gulf of Leaton. Capital for the construction of this railroad was to be provided under contract with the Hongkong and Shanghai bank, an English institution. This brought on interference by Russia, the proposed railroad being within what she has marked out for her "sphere of influence." Through secret diplomacy with the Chinese foreign office, she called for conditions which would prevent the road's ever falling under British control, by means of mortgage foreclosure or otherwise, conditions which made a British loan impossible and in effect abrogated the contract for the loan already contracted for with the Hongkong and Shanghai bank. Last week we were able to report that it was rumored that the Chinese foreign office had assented to Russia's demands. The rumor is now confirmed. On the 11th, the London Times published a dispatch from its Peking correspondent announcing that the Chinese foreign office had given formal assent to all the conditions demanded by the Russian charge d'affaires, M. Pavloff, regarding the contract for the New Chwang railroad extension loan, those conditions being in direct conflict with the terms of the signed contract for the British loan. Mr. Balfour, the first lord of the British treasury and government leader in the house of commons, being questioned on the same day in the house as to the correctness of the Times dis-

patch, admitted that its statements were substantially true. He added that the matter was "engaging the serious attention of the government," a remark which is accepted as an intimation of warlike preparations. This confirmation of the rumor that China had at the instigation of Russia abrogated a contract for the British loan to the New Chwang railroad, was quickly succeeded by another London Times dispatch from Peking stating that under like influence the Chinese government had sanctioned a Belgian loan for a railway line from Peking to Hankow, notwithstanding the opposition of the British minister and without giving him the benefit of a further conference on the subject, which had been promised.

To throw further light upon the action of China described above, it now transpires, upon the authority of the Shanghai correspondent of the London Daily Mail, that a secret treaty has for some years existed between Russia and China, which amounts to nothing less than an offensive alliance between the two countries. In this treaty China undertakes to regard Russia as having a preponderating influence in all questions of commercial and internal policy, and that Russia is to support China against demands for an "open door" policy. Russia finances China in internal developments; China permits Russia preferential rates in certain areas; and all railways in the joint interests of the two countries are to be under the practical control of Russia. Russia assists China in the development of her land and naval forces, and China cooperates as an ally.

In the midst of the excitement over the state of affairs in China, parliament was prorogued. This took place on the 12th. The queen's speech at the prorogation expressed her sorrow over the war between Spain and the United States, spoke of the leasing of Wei-Hai-Wei and certain positions adjacent to Hongkong, referred to the adoption of penny postage between the United Kingdom and the colonies, mentioned the continuance of the plague in India, and expressed her gratification at the enactment of the county councils measure for Ireland, but said nothing about the Russian complications. The session of parliament thus ended on the 12th of August, had begun on the 8th of February.

At the recent parliamentary elections in New South Wales, the ministry were very nearly defeated. The new parliament stands 63 for the ministry, including about 20 labor members, and 62 in opposition. Mr. Reid, the premier, went into power several years ago as a free trader, and has made New South Wales more nearly a free trade country than any other on the globe. He has been twice endorsed by popular vote upon this issue with strong working majorities in parliament. His bare majority of 1 at the late elections is referable not to his free trade policy, but to the attitude of his ministry regarding the federation of the Australian colonies. The federal constitution was defeated at the polls by the vote of New South Wales, the ministry opposing it. This opposition was not to the idea of federation, however, but to certain features of the proposed federal constitution.

The difficulties between Italy and the Republic of Colombia, of which we have recently given fragmentary reports from time to time, are at last adjusted. When the Italian fleet entered Colombian waters and demanded immediate payment of the award which President Cleveland, as arbitrator, had given against her upon the claim of the Italian citizen Cerruti, Colombia appealed to the United States. Intercession was thereupon made by the United States, and on the 11th the Italian ambassador at Washington informed the United States that Italy would give Colombia from five to eight months, within which time to settle all the claims of Cerruti's creditors—within the limits of the award—which should be duly proved, but required an immediate and categorical answer. This proposition was at once transmitted by the United States to the Republic of Colombia, and on the 16th the latter promised a satisfactory settlement within eight months, depositing \$500,000 by way of guarantee. The Italian fleet was thereupon ordered out of Colombian waters.

Indications of revolutionary disturbances in Spain leak out, though the censorship is so strict that no definite or entirely reliable news from that quarter is available. A dispatch of the 13th from Madrid told of a Carlist uprising in the Province of Castillon de la Plana, regarded at first as unimportant, but which appeared then to be more serious than the gov-

ernment was disposed to admit. Troops were pouring into the district, and the censorship was tightened. Several newspapers had been compelled to abandon publication, the censor striking out nearly every line of news from their columns. None of the official organs of either the Carlists or the republicans were then being published. On the following day, the 14th, it was reported that a perfect reign of terror prevailed in Madrid. The press censor examined whole newspapers before publication, in consequence of which some appeared with many columns blank, and others had suspended publication altogether. Several republican editors had been thrown into prison and others had fled. Foreign correspondents were prevented, under penalty of expulsion, from telegraphing the truth. A Carlist revolution was believed to be inevitable.

An extraordinarily exciting political convention gathered in Milwaukee on the 17th. It was the republican convention of the state of Wisconsin, the delegates to which had been chosen after a hard anti-monopoly fight throughout the republican party in the state. The railroad interests had concentrated upon Gov. Scofield for gubernatorial candidate, while the anti-monopolists supported R. M. La Follette. These were the candidates over whose naming the party campaign before the people had been fought. Scofield, the monopoly candidate, was nominated by 620½ votes to 436½ for La Follette. The anti-monopolists secured concessions in the platform to the extent of a demand for a law against transportation passes for public officials, and for another to enforce equal taxation against all persons, corporations as well as individuals. But they had made their hardest fight at the primaries upon a demand for a platform plank establishing a system of party government which should require republican nominations to be made directly by the voters of the party instead of at caucuses and conventions. The convention defeated them on this point also, merely demanding in vague terms that the defects of the present caucus system be removed by "such legislation as will secure to every citizen the freest expression of his choice in the selection of his candidate."

NEWS NOTES.

—The receipts at the Omaha exposition were sufficient to pay off \$50,000 of