

have been elected—notwithstanding that he had received but 25 per cent. of the votes—on the theory that Mataafa was disqualified under the treaty. What the basis for this theory may have been is unknown. Mataafa is not disqualified by the terms of the treaty; and the probability is that the chief justice spelled out a disqualification under the treaty from the fact of Mataafa's subsequent rebellion. Upon the announcement of Judge Chambers's decision, Mataafa gave battle to Malietoa Tanus and conquered him. In this he appears to have had the support of the German representatives; and when the chief justice sought safety on a British warship the German president of the Apia municipality, Dr. Raffel, assumed the functions of the supreme court, which, however, he soon relinquished. These events gave rise to diplomatic complications between the United States and Great Britain on the one hand and Germany on the other. After numerous conferences and the exchange of many notes, a satisfactory agreement between the treaty powers was reached on the 13th. Dr. Wilhelm Wolf has been nominated by Germany, and recognized by the United States and Great Britain, as president of the municipal council of Apia, in place of Dr. Raffel, whose actions caused the international misunderstanding. Prior to this adjustment the German government had instructed its consul at Apia to recognize the authority of Chief Justice Chambers. It may be concluded, therefore, that the three powers have agreed upon regarding Malietoa Tanus as king. He is a boy of only 15. The vice king, elected with him, is Tamasese, who occupied the throne when in 1889 the treaty powers restored the late King Malietoa.

Passing on to China, we find that the actual seizure of San Mun bay, by Italy, reported last week, is officially denied. It was reported from Peking on the 11th, however, that the Italian minister had on the 10th made a request for the cession of the territory in question, which was in the nature of an ultimatum. This was confirmed two days later; but with the additional information that Italy had disavowed the ultimatum by recalling her minister. She has temporarily confided her Chinese interests to the British ambassador.

The quarrel of England and Russia, regarding their Chinese interests,

has been put at rest for a time at least. An outline of this quarrel was given in Nos. 19 and 20, at pages 10 and 9 respectively. It grew out of the New-Chwang and Tient-sin railway loan. The Russians claimed that the Chinese foreign office had pledged itself to grant to no other power the contract of any railway in Manchuria, the province in which New-Chwang lies. Regardless of this pledge, if it existed, the Chinese gave to British capitalists a lien on the railway mentioned, to secure a large loan. Russia accordingly disputed the validity of the lien at first, and England refused to abandon it. At last, however, Russia has yielded. On the 10th the czar's government advised the Chinese foreign office that as a result of negotiations between Russia and Great Britain, Russia would withdraw her protest. Negotiations between Russia and England are said to be now in progress for the amicable adjustment between themselves of all their interests in China.

Besides settling her Chinese quarrel with England, Russia has this week arranged for the czar's peace congress. It is to be held at the Hague on May 18. The plans involve an exchange of views with reference, first, to seeking means for putting a stop to the progressive increase of military and naval armaments; and, second, to the preparation of the way for a discussion of the questions relating to the possibility of preventing armed conflicts by the pacific means at the disposal of international diplomacy. Should this preliminary interchange of views prove satisfactory the congress is then to proceed to the arrangement of an understanding—

1. Not to increase for a fixed period the present effective of the armed military and naval forces, and at the same time not to increase the budgets pertaining thereto.
2. To prohibit the use in the armies and fleets of any new kind of firearms whatever and of new explosives, or any powders more powerful than those now in use, either for rifles or cannon.
3. To restrict the use in military warfare of the formidable explosives already existing, and to prohibit the throwing of projectiles or explosives of any kind from balloons or by similar means.
4. To prohibit the use in naval warfare of submarine torpedo boats or plungers or other similar engines of destruction; to give an understanding not to construct vessels with rams in the future.

5. To apply to naval warfare the stipulations of the Geneva convention of 1864 on the basis of the articles added to the convention of 1868.

6. To neutralize ships and boats employed in saving those overboard during or after an engagement.

7. To revise the declaration concerning the laws and customs of war elaborated in 1874 by the conference of Brussels, which has remained unratified to the present day.

8. To accept in principle the employment of the good offices of mediation and facultative arbitration in cases lending themselves thereto, with the object of preventing armed conflicts between nations; an understanding with respect to applying these good offices, and the establishment of a uniform practice in using them.

American politics yields no news of national concern except the failure of the Delaware legislature to elect a senator. That body has adjourned without day with the senatorial deadlock still on. Upon the 15th and final ballot the vote stood: Addicks, 21; Gray, 4; Hardy, 5; Salisbury, 3; Dupont, 9; Biggs, 6; Higgins, 2. The senatorial deadlocks still hold in Pennsylvania, Utah and California.

Altgeld's mayoralty campaign in Chicago gains force every day. His meetings are packed, and people are turned away for want of room. Even his Wednesday noon-day meetings in the central business district overflow. A full city ticket is being nominated by petitions now in circulation. While Altgeld's subjects of discussion relate to national politics and to honest local administration, the great strength of his position lies in his demand for municipal ownership of public utilities. How strong Chicago sentiment upon that subject has become may be inferred from the fact that a resolution memorializing the state government to enact legislation allowing the city to own and control gas and electric works was adopted by the Chicago council on the 13th by a vote of 50 to 2.

NEWS NOTES.

—The heaviest snowstorm in the history of Michigan occurred on the 12th.

—Prof. Herron's Sunday night and Monday noon lectures continue at Central Music hall, Chicago.

—President McKinley left Washington on the 13th for a ten-days vacation with Senator Hanna at Thomasville, Ga.

—The net profit of the municipal gas works at Baden, reported for the fiscal