

## AT HOME AND ABROAD.

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 26.—With the whole week before them the delegates to the seventh session of the Trans-Mississippi congress gathered slowly. Early came Governor Stone, of Missouri, and not long after him Congressman W. J. Ryan, of Nebraska, who as a silver advocate, will fill the place of T. M. Patterson, of Colorado, detained by illness in his family. Among the others quickly recognized were George Q. Cannon and F. J. Cannon, of Utah; Governor Waite and A. C. Fisk of Colorado; W. L. Mery, of California; F. H. Newell, of the United States geological survey; ex-Governor Prince, of New Mexico; Senator Allen, of Nebraska.

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 26.—The afternoon session of the Transmississippi Congress convened at 3 o'clock. Immediately the selections of different committees were announced, and the members thereof retired to prepare their reports.

The attendance at the evening session, at which irrigation was the set subject for discussion, was rather light. At President Whitmore's request, Geo. Q. Cannon of Utah took the chair and introduced the subject of discussion with a brief review of his own experience in the past forty-seven years with the growing of crops by artificial overflowing of otherwise desert lands.

The opening paper of the evening was upon "The water supply of the Rocky Mountain region," and read by F. H. Newell of the U. S. geological survey. The paper was a general review of the subject, presenting more especially that the area of lightest rainfall is coincident with lands still held in government ownership.

Hon. Elwood Meade, state engineer of Wyoming, next read a paper upon reclamation of arid lands, discussing more especially the lack of concert of action between the authorities in control of the water and those in control of the land.

"Irrigation as a living national issue," was the subject of a paper by Editor W. E. Smythe of the *Irrigation Age*. The tenor of his remarks was that no issue, be it irrigation or otherwise, which affects ever so small a portion of the country, can, if it tend to the good of that portion, be a local issue.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Nov. 27.—Hon. George Q. Cannon was elected president by acclamation, for one year, of the Transmississippi Congress. The election was unanimous.

The committee on permanent organization presented its report, naming Geo. Q. Cannon, of Utah, for permanent presiding officer, with one vice-president from each state, to be named by its delegation.

The present secretary, M. G. Butterfield, of Oregon, was requested to continue through this congress, the executive committee being instructed to name his successors, when the next place shall be chosen, he to reside therein. The report was adopted and President Cannon escorted to the chair.

After brief speeches of congratulation and thanks to Retiring Officer

Whitmore, congress adjourned for dinner.

BOSTON, Nov. 26.—Further information as to the massacre of the Armenians near Bitlas, Turkey, has been received by Secretary Guilson of the United Friends of Armenia. One letter dated Bitlas, September 25, 1894, gives the information that news has been received from the region back of Moosh that forty-eight villages are said to have been wholly blotted out. Another dated Bitlas, Oct. 3, 1894, states that the day previous a letter from Moosh had been received, which told of the outbreak of a virulent form of cholera which was killing from twenty-five to thirty-five persons daily. It is caused, it is said, by the stench of caravans which has taken place not far back in the mountains. The massacred will reach between 8,000 and 10,000. The government tried to get the people here to sign a petition to the sovereign, expressing satisfaction with his rule, and disclaiming sympathy with the Armenians, who have "stirred matters up."

The people have refused to sign the address. Another letter dated Constantinople, October 31, 1894, states that some information received from Bitlas that twenty villages have been annihilated in Sasoum, and 6,000 men, women and children have been massacred by the troops and Kurds. The massacre was the result of an affray between some Kurds and Armenian villagers, from whom the Kurds had stolen their flocks. The sultan ordered infantry and cavalry to this place to put down the Armenian rebellion.

MADRID, Nov. 27.—A decree abolishing public executions has been issued.

ARDMORE, Ind., Nov. 27.—Sera Martin, a half-breed Indian, was shot and killed by Willis Lewis, a boy eight or ten years old last evening, in a clear joint. The Indian had been drinking and the boy, who was running the joint, asked him to get down off the counter. He would not and the boy shot, breaking his neck.

ROME, Nov. 27.—A violent undulatory and vertical earthquake shock was felt at Brexia, sixty miles from Milan, at 6:10 a.m. today. A similar though less severe shock was experienced at Bologna at 6:09 and at Verona at 6:04. At the latter place a second shock was felt at 6:06.

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 27.—At the opening of the afternoon session, which was delayed until nearly 3 o'clock, there being nothing before the convention having special precedence, Congressman-elect Shafroth, of Colorado, was invited to address the delegates on the silver question.

At the close of Mr. Shafroth's remarks a new series of resolutions were introduced and referred to the committee on resolutions without debate. Among them were these: Opposing (by the Seattle chamber of commerce) the adoption by the congress of any resolution demanding the free coinage of silver; favoring the early construction of the Nicaragua canal; opposing

the so-called Olney plan with regard to the Pacific railroad debts and favoring the foreclosure of the government mortgage, with the restoration to the people of the granted lands; favoring the taking away from Congress its coinage power and its return to the people under the system of initiative and referendum; favoring the withdrawal of all existing circulation mediums and the substitution thereof of an issue of full legal tender treasury notes to the amount of \$50 per capita; favoring the creation of a cabinet office to be known as the department of trade and commerce, and numerous others of a minor character.

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 28.—At the morning session of the Transmississippi congress, the California delegation, under a special order allotting two hours to the discussion of staple agriculture, opened the debate upon a proposition in favor of a bounty upon exported agricultural products, which cannot be aided by a protective tariff so long as the manufacturers receive such protection. The proposition was in the form of a minority report from the committee on resolutions, the majority having voted to refuse to place such recommendation in the report to be made by the committee.

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 28.—Joanaquin Garcia Icabalceta, the noted Mexican bibliographer, and a man of letters, died suddenly last Monday night. He was director of the academy of Mexican language and corresponding director of the Royal academy of Spain, where his literary attainments in ancient Mexican works were greatly admired. Icabalceta was engaged in preparing a dictionary of the Mexican language.

WASHINGTON, 28.—China has succumbed to the inevitable and has sued for peace. And her proposal will be presented to Japan through the United States ministers at Peking and Tokio, thus promising a termination of the war as result, in part at least, of the exercise of the good offices of the United States.

It is not possible at this time to learn the terms of China's proposition, as handed to Minister Denby, but it is probable it provides for but two concessions—a money indemnity and a relinquishment of sovereignty over Corea.

SOUTHBRIDGE, Mass., Nov. 29.—This place was the scene of an awful calamity today resulting in the death of three men, fatally injuring one and seriously injuring twelve others. The Southbridge football eleven was scheduled to play a game with the eleven of the Worcester Polytechnic Institution, and was passing across the tracks of the New York & New England Road in a large barge when the vehicle was struck by a passenger engine. The wagon was completely demolished and its occupants scattered in every direction, three members of the eleven being killed outright. Some were thrown into the air a distance of a dozen feet away, while others went under the wheels and were ground into a mangled mass of flesh, with but slight resemblance to human forms. The train was not brought to a standstill until it had proceeded nearly a quarter of a mile down the track.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 29.—The Jas. Lick monument was unveiled today