

which their position as strangers in a strange land can reasonably demand, till they can get a start, so that they will feel that, so far as the people are concerned, they are not among strangers but are with brethren and sisters in the Gospel cause. We know how many of those now here had to "rustle" when they came; but we also know the brotherly feeling that was generally exhibited, and which should not be allowed to diminish as it has been doing in too many instances of recent years. Immigrants are not so numerous now as formerly, in comparison with the population here, and it would be a labor to be well rewarded of heaven to extend to those who do come the kindly assistance necessary to cheer, comfort and encourage them until they have been started sufficiently to continue the journey by the display of a fair degree of energy, persistence and faith. There is room among the people of Utah to gain a still higher reputation for hospitality, based upon further kindnesses toward those who desire to cast their lot with us in the cause of the Gospel.

THE VENEZUELAN DISPUTE.

The Venezuelan question is apparently approaching a crisis. England refuses to submit it to arbitration and Venezuela declines to submit to the demands of Great Britain. Secretary Olney, it is said, has notified Lord Salisbury that any attempt to extend British territory on this hemisphere will be regarded as an unfriendly act toward the United States, and following this note comes England's ultimatum demanding compensation of Venezuela for the arrest of an English sergeant. In Paris the situation is regarded as "prejudicial" to the peace of the world, while the diplomats in Washington no longer make a secret of the fact that they look upon it as the most serious since our country intervened in behalf of Mexico. It is even talked of as a possibility that the President may feel justified in convening Congress in extraordinary session.

Least excitement seems to prevail in London. The papers unanimously hold that the Monroe doctrine is not applicable to the case, and they are confident that the United States will not espouse the cause of the South American republic. They point to the dispute with Nicaragua as a precedent. To suppose that our government would assume the burden of a protectorate over all the Spanish-American republics they say is absurd, and volunteer the friendly advice not to send a squadron to Venezuela, as that would tend to render the relations between the countries strained.

In all this it is evident that England assumes the right to extend her territory on this continent, notwithstanding the Monroe doctrine. She would willingly side with the United States, we are told, if any other European country were about to undertake encroachment on the Western Hemisphere; for that would be against the Monroe doctrine, which was framed for the special benefit of the countries leagued together in the holy alliance. But when the same doctrine is made to bear on what England con-

siders her own interests in this part of the world, the matter is different. Then that much-talked-of doctrine has no application.

It may be true that the policy outlined by President Monroe in the first place was intended as a notice to France and Russia that the American continents were closed against their further efforts at colonization, but it is equally true, that out of this principle has grown another doctrine—the Pan-American. Inasmuch as the American countries have common interests, it is natural that they should stand together against encroachments of any kind on the part of foreign nations, whether from Europe or Asia, and the United States being the strongest of all the countries on this side of the globe, her place, naturally, is at the head of this group of nations. For that reason, England, in dealing with Venezuela, must expect to have to take this country into consideration.

It is not likely that our government will be called upon to take up arms in behalf of Venezuela, for the simple reason that neither England nor any other European country, under the existing rivalries and jealousies among themselves, would dare to carry the dispute to that point. But it is quite probable that a fierce diplomatic war is imminent, and the outcome of this may possibly be a victory by which Pan-Americanism will be vindicated, or the United States is a mighty nation. By the powerful handling of commercial interests and her monetary and financial relations, she might inflict injuries to any enemy, no less serious than those that could be caused by her navy and army.

A PUZZLE FOR THE VOTER.

The political situation is sufficiently exciting and complicated in Utah, where there are rumors of factions, splits, traitors, threats and all manner of other disturbing elements. Compared with the reports from New York, however, our politics are a perfect paradise of peace. The starters there in the great race which is to be run on the first Tuesday in November are mixed and heterogeneous crowd, and every voter, however whimsical or capricious, ought to be able to satisfy himself out of the list presented. First in importance in the metropolis itself is of course the Tammany ticket. Then there are the Fusionists, the Stocklers, the Goo Goo's, the Garoos, the Prohibitionists, the Socialists, the Populists, the Empire Stateites, the Democratic Reformers, the State Democracy men, the Milhollandites and "the Independents. The brain buzzes and the head swims when one tries to come to any conclusion as to what most of these conagulations stand for. Some represent deals, some dickers, but the Sun admits that all the virtuous ones are out for the stuff in the shape of office.

This aggregation, be it remembered, represents generally the virtuous wings and elements of Democracy only. There are numerous shades and tints of Republicanism—and through and through the whole composite mass, on each and every side of the party dividing line, there is an unusual amount of hypocrisy, false pretenses, and a

numerous contingent of politically lame, maimed and blind. New York is a great city in a great state; but it is a matter for supreme congratulation that it has so complete a monopoly on the class of politics its campaign this fall presents to the gaze of a suffering nation.

THE DISPUTED TERRITORY.

Venezuela, the country with which England has commenced a dispute that threatens to assume a serious aspect, is one of the earliest settled countries on the American continent. The city of Cumana was founded in the year 1520, ante-dating the settlement at St. Augustine, Fla., forty-five years. It has an area variously estimated at from about 800,000 to over 600,000 square miles, and a population of somewhere near two millions and a half.

The country, it is believed, was discovered by Columbus on his third voyage to the new world, although later travelers have claimed the honor of discovery. At all events, the position of the country situated round the delta of the Orinoco river is one of the most fertile parts of the globe, and it is no wonder that it should be claimed by Great Britain, if there is the slightest foundation for such claim. The Orinoco river is one of the largest in the world and navigable for hundreds of miles. The control of it means much to a nation which believes in the maxim: "Whoever commands the sea commands the trade; whoever commands the trade of the world commands the riches of the world, and consequently, the world itself."

Venezuela remained under Spanish rule till the early part of this century, and after a year's struggle with the mother country, proclaimed its independence. A war followed which lasted ten years, after which the country's autonomy was recognized by Spain, by the treaty of Madrid, 1845. Since then the country has been the scene of many internal struggles, owing to the rivalry of different parties.

England's claim to part of the territory of Venezuela seems to be founded on the fact that among the early explorers were some subjects of the British crown, who undoubtedly visited the disputed domain. Whether later international treaties sustain the claim is the question that has been proposed to submit to arbitration, but which Lord Salisbury refuses to settle in that way.

The dispute is looked upon as of great moment to the United States, because it involves the question how far it will be necessary for our government to maintain the principles of the Monroe doctrine and Pan-Americanism. And interest is added by another fact, that the Venezuelan government recently has granted a large concession of land in the disputed territory to capitalists, citizens of the United States. The company is organized under the laws of the state of Washington and its purpose is to establish colonies and develop the immense resources of the country. More than likely, the activity of this company has caused the present demands for a speedy settlement of the boundary dispute.