

which the sections that receive immediate benefits shall pay the expense it will be much the better way. The Council is authorized to divide the city into districts for sewerage and other like purposes, to provide a system of "doing any or all work in and upon streets," and to determine the form and mode of local assessments to pay therefor. It also has the authority to collect local assessments to repair streets and "supply the city or the inhabitants thereof with water." These powers are sufficient for the purpose. If the inhabitants of a district want water supplied by means of sprinkling during part of the year, or desire to avail themselves of the repairing of otherwise dusty and cut up streets that come through that method, it is their business, and the expense can be legally met by local assessment. Districts could be created for this purpose, a special tax levied on a fair basis, and nobody would want to quarrel in the courts. Thus the whole matter would be amicably and permanently settled, because it would rest upon the just demands of the districts met by an equitable requirement upon the taxpayers.

THE ASIATIC WAR.

The interest in the conflict which seems to be in progress between China and Japan, whether or not there has been a formal declaration of war, is not so much as to how those two nations will fare in the struggle, as it is to whether or not the European powers will be drawn into "the great war" which has been predicted so often, and which was looked for to commence on the banks of the Danube. If Russia is backing Japan in the present movement, as circumstances indicate with a reasonable degree of certainty, then a general conflagration is probable, with the great powers of Europe instead of the two oriental nations as the chief factors.

It is suggested in the latest dispatches that China, being unable to cope with Japan at sea, will rely upon crowding large forces into the Korean peninsula by land, and thus by force of numbers drive her more agile enemy from the field. This plan of campaign would seem to offer a solution to the difficulty so far as the two nations are concerned, and make Chinese victory certain. But the fact that Li Hung Chang, the able and astute Chinese viceroy, is trying to get his forces into Corea by sea indicates that there is something unsatisfactory about the land project. That is exactly where the trouble lies, so far as its disadvantage relates to China. Not only has there been a rebellion in Corea, but China has had to cope with insurrection which is far from being suppressed. In fact there has been a cessation of hostilities only because the viceroy has not sent in sufficient force to overawe the rebels. There have complete control of the province of Manchuria, in northeastern China. Manchuria covers the whole land connection between China and Corea, and since the former's army has not been able to put down the rebellion up to the present, it is not likely to get through the rebel province for active operations in Corea.

Again, Manchuria borders upon Russia as well as Corea on its northeastern side; and the rebellion there is said to be instigated by Russian influence. Therefore if China has to combat the czar's active work with both Japan and Manchuria, the chances for the Japanese being overrun by her enemy through northern Corea are exceedingly limited, and the transportation of troops by sea is the only hope of success for China. Since this cannot be accomplished without British or German aid, and a leased British steamer already has been sunk in the effort, there is a lively prospect for interference in that direction.

Japan is often referred to in the dispatches as the aggressive party. There are, however, two sides to that question. Japan recognizes Corea as an independent kingdom, as do also the United States and other powers. China claims suzerainty over Corea and exacts an annual tribute of 100 pieces of red silk, 200 pieces of linen, and other trivial articles; she requires the Koreans to use the Chinese calendar, and that the king, before ascending the throne, must obtain the consent of the emperor of China. Since this consent has been voluntarily offered on each succession for generations, and the Chinese calendar is used as a matter of choice by Koreans, the nominal tribute paid is all that represents the actual Chinese claim. When the rebellion in Corea began, China sent troops to protect her interests there, as did also Japan, who has some 10,000 people doing business in the peninsula. This sending of Japanese troops, and the consequent recognition, according to Japan's policy for two centuries, of Corea as an independent power, is what has caused the trouble—each party considering that the other has exceeded its legitimate sphere.

That the war would be hailed with satisfaction in some quarters of Europe, notwithstanding its terrible results, is a fact, regrettable though it be from a humanitarian point of view. It is not long since a member of a leading English business house publicly expressed the hope that a European war would break out; "for," said he, "there are too many men, and if there was a big war it would make business better and make it easier for the rest of us to live." The sentiment may be regarded as cold-blooded and brutal; but it illustrates a feeling that permeates European powers to a large extent, and if they fancy they see an opportunity for financial gain in war, then the fight will go on. The whole game is one in which a desire for aggrandizement is the ruling motive—and which renders imminent a most disastrous conflict.

DON'T BLAME UTAH.

An esteemed lady correspondent favors the NEWS with a poetic complaint against Utah ("Shame on Utah!" is the heading she employs) because, the boon of statehood now having been granted,

"Thy sons now walk as lords of Earth
With citizenship's honors crowned;
But, Cinderellas by the hearth,
Thy daughters still are weeping found."

Our correspondent's grief and indig-

nation seem to us to be just a trifle premature—at any rate Utah herself is not in any way to blame in the matter. It will be remembered that this Territory by its Legislature and Governor once gave the suffrage to Utah's daughters, making them as much the "ladies of the Earth" as the men were its "lords;" but the national Congress took this action into its own august consideration and reversed it. Now, while Congress can pass upon and nullify laws passed by territorial legislatures, it does not assume to do this with state laws; neither does it take unto itself the business of framing constitutions for new states, or making amendments for old ones. The people of this Territory, by their representatives in convention assembled, will proceed next March to prepare a constitution for the State of Utah. There is no obligation upon them to refuse the right of suffrage, or office-holding, or anything else, to the dear daughters of the land; on the contrary, we think it more than likely that these particular rights and privileges may be granted them on an entire equality with the sons; and if the state constitution shall thus provide, we imagine that the President's proclamation admitting the state will be in no degree delayed or defeated thereby.

Finally, therefore, instead of sitting weeping by the hearth, these Cinderella sisters of ours should step into their glass slippers and dance out upon a career of conquest of the men who are going to frame that constitution, and also of the men who in November next are going to vote for those men.

TWO CLASSES OF ANARCHISTS.

In the debate in the French Chamber of Deputies on the anti-anarchist law, a proposition by M. Jaures to include in the term "anarchist," ministers, senators and deputies accepting bribes, caused an immense sensation. Some of the features of the Panama scandal were brought into remembrance and ex-Minister Ruvier, who felt his "honor" attacked challenged the originator of the proposition to a duel—one way French gentlemen have of vindicating their honor. The proposition was, of course, lost, although it received a surprisingly large support, 222 out of a total of 486 votes cast.

At first sight it may appear that an amendment like that is absurd, for one is not accustomed to look for anarchists in high places. They are generally regarded as the products of the slums, as natural to the lowly strata of society as toadstools to marshy ground. But only a little reflection is needed to perceive that anarchism—as far as this means disregard for law and government—at the present time is flourishing at the top of society as well as below, and that it is not less dangerous because it appears covered with silk and decked with jewels. Individuals or corporations that break the laws with impunity because they can bribe courts and juries, or that can frame laws for the robbing their fellowmen, because they are able to buy legislators, are really anarchists but little better than those deluded fanatics who plot in dark