

of the earth and that is the pyramid at Ghizeh. That stupendous structure stands at night shrouded in almost impenetrable darkness, except for star light and moon light. Its position is unique, being 30 degrees east longitude and 30 degrees north latitude and corresponds to the Syrtis Major, a most conspicuous object on Mars.

Mr. Norton therefore proposes that permission should be obtained from the khedive, or rather from the English government, to illuminate the pyramid by means of the most powerful electric plant that could be obtained. Incandescent lights should be run up each angle from the base to the top. Astronomers would be on the spot to take observations.

Arrangements for such an experiment would have to be made without delay. The planet is rapidly nearing the earth and on October 20 it will be in its most favorable position.

A reasonable objection to the plan would be, that the pyramid is too small an object to be seen millions of miles away, even if illuminated in the manner proposed. The triangles of the light thus formed would only be somewhat over 750 feet on each side, and unless the Martians are in possession of telescopes far surpassing in power anything known on earth, they would hardly be able to recognize the flashlight as a signal. However, the suggestion is grand. It probably indicates the correct course to pursue in an effort to solve a deep mystery, and, likely enough, some day, human intelligence, always thirsting for knowledge, will be able to soar in the spheres above to a degree at present not even imaginable.

TO BE REMODELED.

The great locks which are being constructed by the government in the Columbia river at Cascade, Oregon, and of which City Engineer Young, of this city, had supervision during an important period of the work, have withstood the terrible strain placed upon them during the recent floods, but the experience gained the past month has been such as to cause a change in the original plan of the works which will cost almost as much as the first contract price. The Cascade locks have been in course of construction about eighteen years, and were to be completed in March next. By the floods about \$200,000 damage has been done and the completion has been delayed several years.

It was only by a close margin that this great public improvement escaped total destruction. Its unfinished state prevented it being swept out of the river by the mad waters which tore new channels where before it was thought impossible for the stream ever to come. Along the main channel the water rushed at a greater speed than a horse could travel, and waves from ten to twelve feet high rose at intervals along the rapids for a distance of two miles. At the locks the stream ran through the lower end of the protection wall for a distance of 600 feet, and about 100 feet of this wall was demolished. The masonry of the canal was flooded to a depth of 50 feet, and the locks were saved only by the

most heroic efforts of a force of 350 men and the engines which were kept running day and night. Boulders eight and ten tons in weight, which were lowered by derricks in an effort to build jetties, were swept out of the way by the flood.

Now that there have been considerable changes made in the river, such as the sweeping away of islands and the making of new channels, a great alteration in the plan of the locks must be made. They were intended to be 139 feet above sea level, but the post commander there says that under the remodeling they will be projected on a basis of 150 feet. The contract price for the works was \$3,000,000, and about two-thirds of this amount had been already expended. The change decided upon will bring the total cost up to more than five millions, so that the expense to the government by the great flood at the Cascades will not fall short of \$2,500,000, and this amount may be increased by further ascertainment of the work of the wild waters. The remodeling of the locks makes the time of their completion very indefinite, but when they are finished they will be the greatest in the world. Whether as an aid to navigation they ever will pay for the outlay is a matter on which there is a difference of opinion, but having spent so much on them, the government is not likely to stop at the additional expense required.

CHINA FINDS A WAY.

The treaty between Mexico and China, which, according to recent dispatches, is about to be ratified, is of peculiar interest on account of the great trouble experienced by the United States lately in trying to exclude that class of foreigners from our shores. The treaty gives the Chinese the right not only to reside in the Mexican states but also to become citizens on the same terms as other foreigners. A Chinese minister is to take up his residence in the Mexican capital and steamship communication is to be established between the two countries. In exchange for these courtesies China grants Mexican citizens the same privileges as those accorded to the Celestials in Mexico.

The advantage of this treaty is beyond doubt all on the part of the Mongolians. No Mexicans would be likely to aspire to "citizenship" in the Chinese empire already overpopulated. Indeed the feeling toward strangers among the people of China, at least in the interior, is such that even under treaty guarantees, their lives would not be quite safe, as was evidenced not long ago by the cruel murder of two missionaries who ventured a little too far beyond the influence of the protecting foreign consulates. The Chinese, on the other hand, have every reason to swarm out of the overcrowded country in order to find the means of subsistence, and the privileges granted to them by Mexico are all that even the most sanguine of them could desire.

The question will now be in order, what effect this treaty is likely to have in relation to the exclusion law recently enacted by the United States. If a Mongolian has acquired citi-

zenship in Mexico, can he under existing treaties be excluded from this country because of his birth-place? Or will it be necessary for our government to enter into new agreements with our neighbor in the south in order to keep the Geary law in force? On the face of it, it looks as if it would be difficult to make a satisfactory arrangement with Mexico whereby part of her citizens are prohibited from entering upon United States soil, and unless some such understanding can be had, it is clear that the Mexican treaty with China is simply a side-door through which any number of Mongolians can overrun this country in spite of all exclusion laws hitherto framed. The suspicion is very near too, that that is the real object of the treaty. The Chinese government is known not to favor emigration and certainly not to encourage the alienation of its subjects in foreign lands. What can then the purpose be of asking for such rights in a country bordering on ours, if not to obtain ingress to this country, denied by law? It seems as if Chinese diplomacy had once more made a move on the international chessboard, which will give our statesmen an opportunity to display all their skill before it is effectually counteracted. The United States being an interested party, our representative in Mexico ought to be heard before that treaty is finally ratified.

HE IS OUT.

Apropos of the proposed resignation of a former resident of this city who was elected to the position of city councilman at the municipal election last November, it may not be out of the way to suggest that the gentleman has left it too late to perform that graceful act. In order to hold the position of councilman in Salt Lake City, it is necessary for a person to be "a freeholder within the city, a qualified elector, and reside within the ward for which he is elected." A failure in either of these requisites disqualifies a person for the office, and if he has held it, a vacancy exists upon his becoming ineligible.

When, therefore, a member of the City Council who was elected from the second municipal ward removed his home, not only beyond the boundaries of the ward for which he was elected, but outside the city and the Territory, he vacated that office; and while a resignation at the time of removal would have been an appropriate and courteous act, its delay beyond that time rendered it no longer a necessity. A resident of Pocatello, Idaho, cannot be at the same time a resident of the second municipal ward of Salt Lake nor a qualified elector in the city. With the change of residence a vacancy in the office was created, and any tender of a resignation thereafter would be ridiculous. The man from Pocatello, Idaho, does not hold a seat in the Council of Salt Lake City, Utah, and is not entitled to any of the privileges and emoluments connected therewith. For him to engage in the deliberations of the Council is an assumption of a prerogative to which he has no right, and to draw a salary therefor is contrary to law.