

mikado, therefore, while they were hailed with delight at first as a long step towards popular government, were not broad enough to satisfy the people very long. With a measure of governmental power in their hands, politics became an intense passion, as shown by the scenes of violence attending the elections last March. The progressive party has been gradually increasing its demands for further concessions and reforms, and once it tried to dissolve the privy council. This effort was not successful because the house of peers was a body of aristocrats and would not heed the demands of the popular house of the diet. The latter still keeps up its fight, claiming that the ministry must be subject to it as expressive of the will of the people. As a result of this agitation, the lower house has been dissolved three times by the emperor, and it is now the fourth successive house of representatives, and the second elected this year, that is convened in the city of Hiroshima. The progressivists still retain the ascendancy in point of numbers in the diet, hence the proposed addition of a new cabinet minister to pacify them so that the government financial requirements will be acceded to.

The parliamentary struggle thus outlined is full of meaning for the future of the nation. People have had their attention called to the great changes anticipated in China as a result of the war, in providing a more liberal administration of governmental affairs there. Equally as great changes are impending in Japan. There is in the latter country a strong trend of events leading to the establishment of more popular government, perhaps in the near future a limited monarchy. At least the days of the actual empire are gone by; and indeed it would be no great surprise if Japan were to come out within a couple of decades as a full fledged republic.

FALL WORK FOR TEAMS.

A gentleman who is in a good position to know whereof he speaks tells the News that there is a daily average number of one hundred teams from this city and county engaged in hauling coal by wagon from the mines at and near Coalville into this valley. He estimates that these teams carry from 2,500 to 3,500 pounds each, probably an average of 3,000 pounds. This makes one hundred and fifty tons per day on which the railroad is losing the freight, and that amount on which the local coal companies are losing the profit. But neither of those phases of the incident is as important as is the fact that by this employment of horse and man power, some five or six hundred dollars a day in cash is retained in the pockets of team-owners, farmers, etc., in this county.

As to the question whether the teamsters can make money, or even wages, at the business under present conditions, it will be a sufficient answer to say that the owner of horses must feed them anyway, and that this item of expense is but little affected whether the animals are idle or at work; furthermore, that farm and other team labor for the season being well-nigh ended, drivers for the teams have

little else to do; and finally, that many a family that owns a wagon and span of horses has not the cash to buy its winter coal at \$5.25 per ton in this city, but can scrape up enough to buy it at \$1.25 or \$1.50 per ton at Coalville. It is a case of accomplishing a desired end in a perhaps roundabout way, but it is eminently commendable and is a sure sign of thrift, industry and resource.

To all its readers who may be in a position to take the advice, the News says, "Gothou and do likewise." To our esteemed friends the railroads, who know as well as we do that the price of coal in this market is absurdly and unreasonably high, we commend the incident in all its bearings as something well calculated "to point a moral and adorn a tale."

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE TREATY.

The revision of the treaties between England and Japan, following the announcement of the victories achieved by the latter power over China, is considered an event of the utmost importance. The United States and other countries will undoubtedly follow the example of Great Britain, and the Empire of the Rising Sun will soon have a place among the members of the treaty powers of the world, where its interests must be considered and its diplomats heard. The extreme Orient will join hands with the Occident on terms of perfect independence and equality.

The readers of the News are already familiar with the fact that one clause of the treaty gives the legal authorities of Japan jurisdiction over British subjects, hitherto exercised by the consuls, as in all semi-barbarous countries. Other paragraphs deal with questions of liberty to travel, trade and reside in the country on equal terms with the natives.

Hitherto strangers have been permitted to travel in the interior of Japan only "for the sake of health" or "for scientific research," and one of these two reasons had to be assigned on the passport. The government generally closed its eyes to the many evidently false passports held by tourists, merchants and missionaries, but the common people revolted against the evasions of the law, and internal disturbances were often threatened serious enough to bring about international complications.

Further, under the old treaties no foreigner could legally own a house or a piece of ground except in the narrow concessions. To obtain residence elsewhere foreigners had to borrow the name of some friendly native who was legal owner. Merchants and missionaries built their houses in this way. Finally the anti-foreign sentiment among the people became so strong that a demand was made by the legislature that the government enforce the laws against the foreigners. Twice the diet was dissolved, charged with weakness and cowardice in its foreign policy. The war with China diverted the attention of the people from all questions of internal dissension for the time being, and the revision of the treaties with England, when similar measures shall have been taken by other countries, permanently settles

the vexed question of "foreign invasion."

According to the treaty with England, the subjects of each of the contracting parties shall have full liberty to enter, travel or reside in any part of the dominions and possessions of the other, and shall enjoy full and perfect protection for their persons and property. They shall enjoy entire liberty of conscience, and, subject to law, ordinances and regulations, have the right of public and private worship and of burying their countrymen according to their religious customs.

Another article stipulates that they may trade in any part of the dominions and possessions of the other. They may own or hire and occupy houses, manufactories, warehouses and may lease land for residential and commercial purposes like native subjects.

It will be observed that the benefits gained are perfectly reciprocal. What Japan concedes to foreigners she demands for her own subjects. When the old treaties were entered into, the Japanese obtained no rights in Europe or America, but were simply compelled to make concessions. This will now be entirely changed, whether for better or for worse.

The development of affairs in eastern Asia fully justifies the expectation that the end of the century will be fraught with stirring events.

TO GROW CANAIGRE.

It may be interesting to Utah people who have said and heard so much about the growth of canaigre root, but who are seeing little actual work accomplished, to learn that a company of eastern capitalists is now negotiating with the Southern Pacific railway for 5,000 acres of land on which to cultivate the plant. The land is located in the San Joaquin valley, California. A party of investigators has been looking the scheme up for some time, their expert being Prof. F. A. Gulley, of the government experiment station at Tucson, Arizona. The purpose of the capitalists engaged in the affair is to erect works for extracting the tannic acid from the canaigre root and to place it on the market as a tanning agent.

Experiments made in this Territory last spring with the tannic acid from the canaigre root were most gratifying in their results. It was shown that the plant contained nearly 30 per cent of the acid, and that for the tanning of certain classes of leather used here it was particularly adapted, and probably could be used in all classes of tanning. These experiments were conducted under unfavorable circumstances, yet they demonstrated beyond question the value of the root in producing a leather-making substance. Since that time little or nothing has been done for the cultivation of a plant which would utilize and thrive best on otherwise unproductive areas in this Territory; and it is not improbable now that the development of the canaigre root industry will be effected in some other locality. The very suggestion, however, does not speak well for the ability of people here to conceive plans for the work in the regions where it should receive its first impetus.