

month. In any case the loss to shippers will be enormous during the ensuing three months, owing to the necessary stoppage, under the new rule of European emigration to this country.

Whatever may be the consequences of the step financially, the administration is entrusted with the duty of protecting the nation, so far as lies in its power, from one of the most fearful calamities that could befall the people. If rigorous measures were not taken the President would be subjected to severe censure. The situation is one of great gravity, Mr. Harrison fully senses this fact and takes prompt action in the premises.

Complaints are being made to the effect that Canada is manifesting carelessness in the matter of precautions against the introduction of the plague into that country. If this be so and should the Dominion government continue to manifest indifference on this subject, the preventive measures adopted by the United States will be rendered to some extent nugatory, as it would be difficult to prevent the introduction of the dreaded infection by overland avenues.

In the event of the breaking out of the plague in the East, it is not unlikely that there will be a heavy influx of people westward. Many who have means of removal from the centres of attack will be likely to seek for places of safety. Europe, which is plague-infested, affords no safety; Canada may be a good refuge for thieves and scoundrels who break the laws in this country and wish to escape its just penalties, but would give no hope of immunity from cholera.

At the onset of a panic this inter-mountain region would probably be deemed a good place to come to. But these ideas are necessarily conjectural or speculative, and one can but watch the course of events as they occur, fervently hoping that it will be consistent with the divine will to save our country from the terrible visitation, and that God may also be merciful to all the nations.

THE AMERICAN FLAG INSULTED.

VENEZUELA, one of the South American republics, is in the throes of revolution. It appears that the rebels have the country completely in their possession. But an incident occurred on the 26th ult. which is likely to embroil the United States government. Six persons who had taken refuge on board an American vessel were forcibly dragged therefrom by Venezuelan soldiers. They were members of the last Congress and their lawyers, all natives of Venezuela.

The American captain, Woodrick by name, protested against the assault on his ship, and pointed to the Stars and Stripes flying at the mast head. The Venezuelans fought desperately, claiming that they were under American jurisdiction. They were, however, forcibly dragged from the vessel and taken away. The American consul also entered a protest, but it was entirely ignored.

The State Department at Washington, it is thought, will take some action in the matter. That an insult has

been offered to the American flag is admitted almost on all sides, but there is some dispute as to the rights of American ships in foreign waters. The incident may lead to some arrangement whereby a fixed line of policy can be pursued in similar cases in future.

THE BERING SEA HEARD FROM.

A DISPATCH from Victoria, B. C., states that Russian gunboats have seized four sealing vessels, three Canadian and one United States. The particulars so far are meagre, but it is presumed that the seizure was made on what are alleged to be Russian waters. It appears that the Czar has large seal interests also in this region, but heretofore American and Canadian poachers have not had any conflict with Russia. This incident revives the Behring Sea dispute once more and adds to it a new feature.

The modus vivendi entered into last May between the United States and Great Britain, it appears, it being lived up to by both nations with more or less fidelity. There are four revenue cutters, two men-of-war, and several other vessels belonging to our government in and around the disputed waters. England has three large men-of-war there, the "Melpomene," "Nymbe" and "Daphne." No warning need be given to offending vessels. Their mere presence within the waters, provided they are fitted with sealing equipment, is sufficient cause for seizure. Several captures have been made during the summer, but except in one or two cases nothing serious is likely to occur.

A Columbian vessel, the "Coquillan," was seized some time ago by the "Corwin," a United States revenue cutter. The captured vessel posed as a supply boat for the British fleet, but when examined she had a blank manifest showing neither cargo nor passengers, and yet had 6000 seal skins aboard, valued at \$45,000.

The Sealers' Association made quite a noise at the time, as they are making now in regard to Russia. Complaints have been forwarded to the Dominion government and also to the Imperial government in Britain. English statesmen are being seriously exercised over these colonial complaints. Lord Salisbury, a short time ago, said to a deputation of the Imperial Federation League:

"From time to time we have to exercise great vigilance lest we should incur dangers which do not arise from any interests of our own, but arise entirely from the interests of the important communities with which we are linked."

Speaking directly on these colonial issues the London Times says:

"How long is this to go on? How long are we to fight the battles and settle the quarrels of semi-independent states that lend us no helping hand, and treat us in all other respects as a foreign country?"

According to the dispatch referred to, it looks as if complications might arise between England and Russia in the Behring sea region. But future details of the recent seizure may give some satisfactory explanation. The Canadians are expecting, perhaps, too much from the parent country. Their action in regard to canal tolls between

this country and theirs they want England to endorse. Canada has imposed restrictions on British commerce, and treats England in all commercial respects as a foreign country, and yet calls on her for protection when domestic interests are involved.

A FRENZIED POPULACE.

ACCOUNTS are given of a fearful riot in one of the towns of Asiatic Russia, occasioned by excitement because of cholera. The report was rife that Russian doctors were poisoning the patients suffering from the epidemic. The deaths were so frequent that the common people actually believed it. They formed themselves into a mob, attacked the hospitals and Governor's residence. The Governor they stoned to death. The doctors who fell into their hands they treated similarly.

During the excitement, doctors, nurses, and other officials of the hospitals concealed themselves in coffins so as to escape the fury of the mob. Subsequently, the mob found these coffins and their live occupants, and jumped at the conclusion that they were cholera victims to be buried alive. This aggravated the fury of the enraged men. Hospitals were burned, and private residences supposed to be owned or occupied by any of the Russian officials were destroyed.

Troops were hurriedly mustered from neighboring towns and massed in force against the mob. Desperate fighting took place. By the aid of a body of Cossacks the mob was finally vanquished, but at a sacrifice of 100 killed and 300 wounded.

LABOR DAY.

MONDAY will be Labor Day. It is made a legal holiday. Some people and some journals make a great deal of fuss—with their mouths and on paper—about the dignity of labor, the rights of working men, the liberty which the laborer should enjoy, etc. That is all very good as far as it goes. Now how many of those persons and papers will arrange their affairs so that their employes can participate in the ceremonies and pleasures of Labor Day?

We make it a rule to observe the law and give to workmen as far as we can the benefit of the law in relation to holidays. Our subscribers, who favor the cause of labor, we are sure will excuse the non-publication of the DESERET NEWS on Monday evening in consideration of the circumstances. We desire that all hands in this office shall have the opportunity to enjoy Labor Day, and we think this is greater evidence of our recognition of the rights of labor than columns of protestation and pages of rhetoric.

We favor movements to ameliorate the condition of working people, and for a fair division of the results of the products of labor and capital. We do not favor combinations for unlawful purposes, or for the deprivation of any human being of his lawful freedom. Labor has struggled for centuries against oppression; we want it to be free. We also wish to see the interests