

in view, it is intimated that she has sent several vessels out to meet Admiral Walker and blew his fleet into smithereens with torpedoes. Following directly upon the heels of this exciting declaration is an assertion to the effect that Chile is ready and evidently anxious to apologize to the United States. Then come various statements about the vigorous preparations on foot in this country for war with the little South American speck. As to which class of statements to believe, the warlike or pacific, the public who patronize the newspapers are left about in the predicament of the youngsters who asked the proprietor of a menagerie which was the lion and which the tiger. The showman said: "My little dears, you pays your money and you takes your choice." The forthcoming message of President Harrison to Congress on the subject is looked forward to with a great deal of interest.

#### GENERAL MCCLERNAND ON CHILE.

GEN. JOHN A. MCCLERNAND, of the Utah Commission, is a gentleman who has had considerable experience in both the civil and military departments of the Government, and by reason of this and his disposition to take a broad and comprehensive view of every question with which the nation has to do, his opinion on the Chilean situation is worth recording. Tersely stated, he thinks Chile presumes on her littleness and goes to unwarrantable lengths because she realizes that the United States cannot afford to go to war with her without the greatest provocation. The people of that "shoestring" nation are impetuous, presumptuous and vain, and to tolerate an act of audacity or impertinence is simply to encourage them in that direction. Unless something in the way of a satisfactory solution is reached without further delay, the General thinks an unequivocal and unconditional apology should be demanded, and unless this immediately follows the delivery of the demand, let us proceed with as little delay and ceremony as possible to raise the necessary force on land and sea, one to co-operate with the other, and, after giving the Chileans and others ample time to take their families out of the reach of danger, turn loose on Valparaiso and keep at it till there is nothing left of the city but splinters and cinders. This of itself would settle the matter and he thinks it is doubtful if anything else would. He argues in this way: The authorities of that nation must be thoroughly convinced that we

are in earnest, and as things have gone and are going it is doubtful if anything else will so convince them. Besides having a salutary effect elsewhere, it would produce a better feeling at home, in that a brush with a foreign power would tend to diminish the partisan acerbity now prevailing and to unify the people generally. The General is confident that all the troops needed could be raised in this part of the country; and something of the old military ardor that used to animate him seemed for the time rekindled as he spoke, showing that he wouldn't mind being called upon himself. However, we have not changed our views upon this subject.

#### "MORON" SETTLERS IN MEXICO AID THE GOVERNMENT.

It may not be known to most of our readers that the town of Assencion, Mexico, where a revolutionary tragedy recently occurred, the newly-elected Governor, his secretary and two other men having been murdered, and a number of others injured, is only five miles distant from Diaz, one of the settlements of the Latter-day Saints. The brethren of Diaz were called upon to go over to Assencion after the outbreak and protect the town and the government. A correspondent, writing under date of January 8, states that the settlers of the little village readily responded and twenty men proceeded to the scene of the trouble on the 7th, and on the day after (the 8th) others followed, among them being Brother George Teasdale. The object of the call was to hold the town where the difficulty existed until the arrival of the government troops. This they evidently did, as the revolutionists, according to the dispatches, tamely capitulated directly after the arrival of the military.

#### A TERRIBLE SCOURGE.

The grip is evidently causing a kind of reign of terror in Europe. Both public and private business is being affected by it. Like the "grim monster" with whom it has formed a close alliance, it loves "a shining mark." The number of distinguished people who have fallen victims to its ravages makes a formidable array, even during the brief period comprised between the opening of the new year and the present date.

This modern malady must be making tremendous inroads in London, seeing that the idea of a military and official parade at the funeral of the late Duke of Clarence and Avondale had to be abandoned on account of its prevalence.

It was deemed inadvisable to expose the soldiery and aged officials to the risk that would be incurred in the street display customary on such occasions. The order of the Prince of Wales to abandon the intention of having the usual pageantry at the funeral was founded on good sense. In order to show respect for the dead it is not necessary to expose the living to the risk of being compelled to speedily follow them into the future life.

When the effects of the grip or, as it is designated in England, the influenza, are taken into consideration, it cannot be viewed otherwise than as a terrible scourge. This is not only by reason of the swelling of the death roll by its ravages, but the results in other respects. Those who survive its enervating attacks suffer, as a rule, for a long time afterwards, from physical prostration. Its action upon the brain is particularly striking. It requires a considerable time, after an attack of that organ, to regain its normal vigor, especially if the person who has been subject to disease is compelled to enter upon mental work which strains the nervous force before complete recovery.

#### THE CZAR AND RUSSIAN PEOPLE.

IN the current number of the *Review of Reviews*, Mr. Stead, the well known English editor, has an article on "The Czar and Russia of today." This very perplexing subject is handled in such a manner that the most intense Russia-phobes must admit that the writer tries, at least, to be philosophical and fair-minded.

Mr. Stead refers to George Kennan's book on Siberia, and its revelations relating to the horrors of the Russian convict system. But this reference is not made in a disparaging manner, nor are the statements questioned. On the contrary, Mr. Kennan is given credit for doing a great and meritorious work, but he has not presented the Russian question in comprehensive shape. As well might the traveler in England several decades ago aver that the Australian convict system represented that country in its entirety. As well might the journalist of today assert that the convict system of Tennessee, and the anarchy and riot resulting therefrom, represent the true spirit of American institutions. As well might it be stated that because we had last year 6,000 murders and only 123 legal executions, that life in the United States is not considered worth protecting, or that we had no laws providing for the punishment of murderers. It is useless to assail the Czar because representative government is not recognized in