

queen regent has laid stress chiefly upon the question of Spain's relations with the U. S. and the best means of averting the loss of Cuba through prolongation of the war and consequent American intervention, thereby imperiling the stability of her son's throne, let alone playing into the hands of the republicans and Carlists, who have been especially troublesome of late. The queen also insisted strongly upon discussing whether Spanish rule in the West Indies would not be jeopardized by a too extended grant of autonomy, thus enabling the separatists and autonomists to prepare gradually and legally their revolution toward independence. She earnestly asked the statesmen if they really believe a liberal government would be strong enough to make the majority of the Spaniards accept extended home rule, involving a sacrifice of Spanish material interests in the colonial market, and heavy burden for the Spanish treasury if saddled with a part of the Cuban debt. The queen questioned whether Sagasta would be able to restrain public opinion, the press and the opposition parties if he made concessions to the colonies under the pressure of American diplomacy.

The queen cannot believe success would crown so complete a reversal of the policy which has been followed for the last two years and a half, but it seems that some, if not all of her loyal advisers had the courage to tell the queen regent that the alternative lies between the sincere trial of a new policy embracing an understanding with the United States and the greater peril of a conflict with America probably entailing the loss of the colonies.

Havana, Oct. 2.—El Pais, the organ of the autonomist party, commenting editorially on the Spanish cabinet crisis, says:

There are powerful reasons why we advise the continuance of the conservatives in control of the government so as to avoid the prejudice and danger which might be occasioned by a violent transition in the abnormal circumstances of the present political and military problem in Cuba. The negotiations with the United States have arrived at a stage which does not admit of a violent interruption or a radical reversal.

La. Lucha says: The liberals during the last political campaign went further than prudence advised and compromised more than they thought. The demands for the recall of Captain General Weyler place Senor Sagasta in a difficult situation, when the captain general has asked for two years' time to put down the revolution. Now, after what has happened, will they still ask for his recall? The general-in-chief cannot resign in war. Weyler will be able to prove that in the provinces of Havana, Matanzas and Pinar del Rio the rebellion is under control. So that it would be because of political circumstances for which he is entirely irresponsible that he might feel obliged to ask his recall, not considering himself backed up at home with the moral force necessary to continue the command of the army in Cuba. The advantage or disadvantage of such a course will lie exclusively at the door of the liberal party. This is the question of the hour, and perhaps for the first time Senor Sagasta has made a mistake and given a chance to his adversary to rout him by making it impossible for him to form a durable cabinet.

New York, Oct. 2.—A New York merchant who has extensive business interests in Cuba, and is kept informed of the progress of the insurrection by trustworthy correspondents in different parts of the island, has

received word that Col. Baldemero Acosta of the insurgent army has safely landed in Vera Cruz. He is seriously wounded. His wife is with him. According to the merchant's correspondent, the insurgent colonel was enabled to escape with the connivance of Spanish officers. The correspondent concludes by saying that the insurgents were never stronger than they are today from the extreme east to the extreme west. This point. Rowman, before leaving Leadville, gave his address to the Herald-Democrat reporter, and by this means the two brothers were placed in communication with each other.

London, Oct. 2.—(Correspondence of the Associated Press).—Gen. Nelson A. Miles, Mrs. Miles and aide-de-camp Capt. Maus sail for the United States on the American liner St. Louis on Oct. 2. The commander of the army has been in Europe since May on his tour of military observation and has inspected everything of military interest from the armies of the great powers in field of action down to "balloon and bicycles," as he remarked. He has looked over fortifications, barracks, camps, ordnance works of all classes and in the intervals of this work has written three reports to the government covering different features of European militarism. Upon his return, he will, with the assistance of Capt. Maus, prepare another and more complete report, in which will be embodied recommendations for the improvement of the United States army.

Incidentally, Gen. Miles has met most of the officials of Europe, including Queen Victoria, the czar of Russia, the emperor of Germany, the sultan of Turkey and the president of France. The president of the French republic he considers to be in every characteristic the peer of the royalties of Europe.

"President Faure is one of the most courtly, dignified and accomplished men I have met in Europe," he said, and added that the French republic need have entertained no misgivings as to how its chief magistrate would comport himself during his recent visit of state to the czar, a question which at one time deeply agitated the press of France.

Gen. Miles talked interestingly to a representative of the Associated Press of his tour and although he declined to give any opinions upon certain questions, as to the relative strength of the French and German armies, his comments upon the characteristics of those two organizations as they impressed him while on exhibition in the field maneuvers at Hamburg and San Quentin were decidedly significant. Concerning changes which may be made in the organization and equipment of the American army, as results of his observations, General Miles would not speak. Certain charges might be made by executive action, others would have to be authorized by Congress. Those matters were dealt with in his reports and whether they would be made known to the public depended upon the secretary of war, to whom the reports were made.

"When I left Washington the war between Turkey and Greece had assumed such proportions that it looked as if the neighboring provinces would be drawn into it, and possibly one or two of the great powers of Europe," Gen. Miles began.

"No one realized at that time that Greece had assumed hostilities when she was wholly unprepared for war; nor did any one anticipate that Turkey would, in forty-five days, mobilize a great army of six hundred thousand men. When I arrived at Constantinople an armistice had been declared and war was practically over,

although the armies have remained in hostile attitudes and it has taken three months to agree upon the conditions of peace for a war that had been fought in five weeks.

"But as my mission only partially concerned that war, and as the president and secretary of war had authorized me to visit such countries as I might think advisable for the purpose of military observation, I continued my journey, looking over all the principal armies of Europe, many of the most important military factories and foundries where the material of war is constructed from the most minute small caliber projectiles to the heaviest armor plate.

"I have seen all the great armies of Europe, except the Spanish army, and if Spain should declare war against the United States, I may possibly have an opportunity of seeing that. Of something over three million under arms I have seen nearly four hundred thousand, in barrack and in garrisons and in field maneuvers, besides nearly one hundred thousand men engaged in the construction of war material."

Bombay, Oct. 2.—Advices received here from Gulistan say the Orakzais are again gathering in force in the Kulkani valley prepared to resist the advance of the British troops, while bands of Mamozais have arrived five miles west of Khangarboor. In addition the Afridis are moving on the Khyber Pass and the telegraph wires from there to Hangu have once more been cut. The Chamkanis are also raiding. They attacked a cavalry patrol near Sadda, but decamped as soon as reinforcements arrived. A heavy fall of snow has made the Koh range safe.

The Ameer of Afghanistan has issued a proclamation forbidding his subjects to leave Afghanistan to join the holy war, under penalty of five thousand rupees.

IDAHO WEATHER AND CROPS.

Monthly report for August, 1897. D. P. McCallum, Section director, Idaho Falls, Idaho. The weather of the month was generally warm and dry with an abundance of sunshine and frequent high winds. The nights during the latter part were very cool and on several dates the temperature fell almost low enough to cause frost. The precipitation for the month was very deficient, consisting mainly of light scattered showers which were not sufficient to be of lasting benefit to crops.

The conditions were very favorable for grain, which ripened well in all parts of the state and by the end of the month harvesting was well under way, with part of the crop threshed in the northern and western sections. Late sown grain was generally dried up and in indifferent condition. When sufficient moisture had been received potatoes and garden truck were in excellent condition and doing well. Hay-making progressed fairly well with only a few slight interruptions and the crop was generally saved without difficulty. Stock did fairly well though in some places showing effects of scarcity of water.

Weather of the week ending Monday, September 27, 1897, was warm and pleasant though a few of the nights were rather cool. The precipitation was very light and confined to a few scattered showers. The weather has been very favorable for harvesting and threshing which are well advanced and in many cases completed. Potatoes are maturing and being gathered and stored. The hay crop with few exceptions has been cut and stored in good condition.

Icebergs sometimes last 200 years before they entirely melt away.