

the accounts published it is a comprehensive and exhaustive document.

Special emphasis has been laid on the condition of Russia in its relation to this country from the Immigration standpoint. It is assumed that if the present attitude of the Czar's government be persisted in towards the unorthodox, 7,000,000 Russian subjects will ultimately be compelled to leave that country. In Italy it was ascertained that steamship companies had been stimulating travel.

In the British Islands it was found that criminals and ex-convicts had been deported to this country with the approval and assistance of the English Government.

This report will, it is thought, form the basis of action on the part of the United States Treasury towards immigrants in the future. That department has now complete control of the entry of immigrants to this country. By the provisions of the act of March 3, 1891, State boards of immigration were abolished. A commissioner of immigration appointed by the Secretary of the Treasury is now stationed at each principal port of entry, assisted by a staff of inspectors. Furthermore this department has the right to say who shall, or shall not under the law enter the United States. Its decision is final and cannot be reviewed by any court in the land.

It is only about three weeks since the Supreme Court of the United States rendered a decision which completely disposes of the question as to the authority of the Treasury. A Japanese woman was prohibited from landing in San Francisco by the Commissioner on the grounds that she was likely to become a public charge, and that she was coming for immoral purposes. The friends of the woman took measures to have the case reviewed in the Federal courts. The government official is held that their action was not subject to review; and in this contention the Supreme Court sustained them.

The court further stated that the United States as a sovereign nation can impose such limitations as it chooses on immigration. The power to do this is vested in the national government, and Congress is the sole arbiter in the matter. That body by its legislation of March, 1891, committed to the Treasury department absolute power to determine the right of immigrant entry to this country.

The commissioner of immigration and his staff of inspectors are responsible to no authority except the Secretary of the Treasury. Of course, in case of a contested immigrant a writ of habeas corpus can be sued out, but the

court has no jurisdiction of the matter beyond ascertaining whether the exclusion was enforced by duly appointed officials acting within the provisions of the immigration law. It is believed that the department will act in a drastic manner during the ensuing year, now that its power is pronounced absolute.

ANCIENT AMERICAN CITIES.

CONSPICUOUS among the many attractive features of the World's Fair in 1893, will be the collection of archaeological curiosities pertaining to the American continent. Laudable efforts are being made to make this department as extensive and interesting as possible.

For many years it has been well known that vast relics—in the way of ruined cities, temples and mansions—exist in Central America. But little attention has been paid to these ruins by the peoples of the countries in which they exist. But a new interest has been awakened in them by our proposed Columbian Exposition. The people of the republics of the South are active in their efforts to secure at that great exhibit, an adequate display of ancient American curiosities.

Last July the Government of Honduras issued a decree turning over all the ruins within its borders to the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at Cambridge, Mass., for a period of ten years. The authorities of that institution immediately took steps to have the country thoroughly explored. A company was formed and an expedition arranged by which the most exhaustive research could be prosecuted. In the latter part of December last the expedition arrived safely in Central America, and proceeded to a place called Copan, where extensive ruins exist. Copan is situated on a river of the same name in that corner of Honduras which adjoins Guatemala on northwest and Salvador on southwest. The ruins are scattered over a large area on the left bank of the river. They are now half-buried by dense vegetation and immense forest trees. The buildings consist of pyramidal structures, terraced edifices, temples, mansions and various other kinds of works. What are supposed to be altars covered with hieroglyphic or symbolic figures abound. The inscriptions in the interior of the buildings appear as well preserved as when first carved. But those on the outside, owing to the contact with and action of the elements, are undecipherable.

Similar ruins exist in Yucatan, Guatemala and Salvador. Many of

them plainly show that large and populous cities at one time flourished in these regions. The celebrated travelers Stevens and Catherwood visited Central America in 1839-40, and made quite extensive researches. The results of their labors they published in several illustrated volumes. Though a great deal of interest was awakened, and other enthusiastic archaeologists visited the countries mentioned, and found the ruins as described, yet nothing systematic or practical was ever attempted until the present expedition was sent out from Harvard University. This one is fully equipped in every particular. It is accompanied by learned men of all professions. A regular plan of excavation and clearing will be carried out. The inscriptions will be closely scanned and carefully handled. All the material that can be moved to this country will be exhibited at the World's Fair. But the work of the expedition will be continued for ten years, and it will be aided by the Honduran and Guatemalan governments, and possibly, now that serious interest is awakened, by the United States Government.

Dispatches state that Senator Stanford is aiding the expedition financially.

SINGULAR SEQUENCES.

THE trial of Carlyle W. Harris, the young medical student who was found guilty of poisoning his wife, Helen Potts, in New York, a few days ago, reveals some curious circumstances. Judging from the reports in circulation respecting this young man, he comes as near total depravity as possible. But the most surprising affair in connection with this case is the fact that Mrs. Harris, the mother of the criminal, is a well known lecturer and authoress. One of the lectures by which she came into prominence was entitled "How to Rear Children." She has occupied the position of National Superintendent of Mothers' Meetings for the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. She was present in court when her son was pronounced guilty of murder by the jury. She would not believe a single charge against him. She says he never disobeyed her in any particular, and in his whole young life she never had occasion to reprove him in any manner.

Another curious circumstance is brought forward by the death of Sir Morrell McKenzie, the distinguished English physician, a few days ago. This man was among the foremost of European authorities