

by colored labor. The same efforts have been made to oust white workers by the squatters and big sheep owners, and other classes of employers."

The report then goes on to state how Sir Henry Parks supplanted white labor in the printing trade with Cingalese typographers; and how during a strike he had all the white printers sent to jail for breach of the Masters and Servants act.

It appears that the Australians have on hand a labor problem more formidable even than our own. All the vessels trading with China and Japan are manned by colored crews. Organized white labor is making a bitter fight to have Australian vessels served with Caucasian seamen.

For some time a hard struggle has been going on in the Queensland "bush" or ranch regions. The squatters or planters favor colored labor because of its cheapness. The "bush" hands opposed the introduction of colored labor. A strike ensued, and the military were called out. Many of the leaders of the bushmen were arrested and convicted of conspiracy under an old law. The repeal of this law is now demanded, and in New South Wales it has been already repealed, but strong efforts are being made by capitalists to have something equivalent to it substituted.

Dullness in the labor market is the rule in Australia at present, but in Queensland it is worse than in any of the other colonies. For the past years the ranks of the unemployed have steadily increased, and yet the State still aids immigration. This condition of things makes labor disaffected, and it is thought that serious disturbances will soon occur.

#### RECIPROCITY WITH SALVADOR.

THE Blaine reciprocity clause of the McKinley bill is becoming so much the object of public and congressional attention, that it looks as if the clause would soon overtop the rest of the bill. On February 1st next the reciprocity treaty recently concluded with San Salvador goes into effect. The list of articles to be admitted by that republic free of customs duties, municipal or other kinds of taxes, is a long one. It includes animals for breeding purposes, cereals of every character, machinery both for agricultural and manufacturing purposes, books, paper, and various other commodities. The treaty contains the usual provisions relating to certain particulars, and is similar to those already existing with several of the American republics.

San Salvador is the smallest of the

Central American republics. Its area is about 7000 English square miles, with a population about 700,000. It extends along the Pacific about 170 miles, and in general breadth it averages about 43 miles. It formed, until 1853, a federative union with Honduras and Nicaragua. Its principal exports are coffee, sugar, indigo, rice, hides, tobacco and balsam of Peru.

The people are said to be more industrious than any of the other adjoining republics. They depend largely on agriculture, though mines are extensively worked. The country is subject to earthquakes.

The treaty with Guatemala is also concluded, but official information has not yet been made public. The agreement must be approved by the Guatemalan Congress before its terms and provisions can be published. Its acceptance is assured, but the formality of ratification must be adhered to, and immediately after this President Harrison will issue his proclamation relating to it, as in the case of Salvador and other countries.

The State Department at Washington has notified the diplomatic representatives of Columbia, Hayti, Nicaragua, Honduras, Venezuela and Spain, on the part of the Philippine Islands, that, because of their obduracy in not entering into reciprocity treaties, after March 15 next their products will not be admitted free of duty into the United States. The recalcitrant clause of the McKinley bill empowers the President to impose a duty of 10 cents a pound on tea, 3 cents on coffee, 1½ cents on sugar and on hides, and 4 cents a gallon on molasses, when these articles are imported from American countries which refuse to enter into mutual free trade. The President contemplated enforcing this feature of the law at the opening of the new year, but, acting under the advice of the Attorney-general, he withheld the proclamation relating to it until March 15, so as to give importers and traders reasonable notice of the intended action of the executive.

This action on the part of the President is occasioning considerable discussion in the present House of Representatives. The matter there takes a partisan issue, and party newspapers are handling it entirely from that standpoint.

#### AN ACCOMPLISHED CRIMINAL.

ABOUT a week ago in the city of London, England, a man was sentenced to twelve years penal servitude, the history of whose life reads more like a chapter of criminal romance than of real biography.

In the early part of 1890 the arrival in New York of a distinguished British officer named Lieut. Neville Barton, V. C. R. E., was duly chronicled by Gotham newspapers. The gentleman had letters of introduction to leaders of the four hundred. He was cordially received and lived a flashy life for several weeks. By some accident one of his introductory letters was discovered to be bogus. An investigation proved that all his letters were forgeries. He then disappeared, and was not heard of for some months.

In 1891 he turned up in Brooklyn, where by means of forged letters he introduced himself into a few quiet family circles. Among these was a Mrs. Miller and her daughter. Barton got along so well that he married Miss Miller and procured control of her fortune. He talked unceasingly about his aristocratic relatives at Tunbridge Wells near London, in England. His wife and mother-in-law importuned him to make a trip across the Atlantic. He finally consented, and they willingly furnished the money.

Arriving at Tunbridge Wells, Barton rented a pretty villa, not far from Mary Anderson's cottage. Almost simultaneously with Barton's arrival began a series of daring burglaries. Suspicion fell on his villa, after some time. Scotland Yard was consulted, and Barton was fully identified as an old burglar and convicted felon.

He was born in 1858 at Tunbridge Wells. His name was George Frederick Barton. He was arraigned at the police court at the age of seven. At twelve he was sent to the Red Hill Reformatory for five years, but absconded after a year or two. He next traveled into Yorkshire where he was imprisoned two or more times. In 1876 he visited his old home, and robbed a clergyman of \$80,000 worth of securities. For this he was sentenced to ten years' penal servitude. In 1880 he left prison on a free pardon obtained from the Home Secretary by fraud. After committing several burglaries he enlisted as a soldier. But even then he persisted in his old occupation. He was again arrested, convicted and sentenced to ten years. In 1889 he left prison and came direct to the United States. It was on his arrival in New York that he conceived the idea of entering the Four Hundred, and did so as above related.

His recent burglaries at Tunbridge Wells were fully proved. Some of the stolen property was found in his villa. He was convicted and on the 9th inst. sentenced to twelve years' imprisonment. Mrs. Miller and her daughter are on their way back to America, sadder, poorer, but wiser women. They will in future avoid alleged aristocrats and soldiers from abroad.