

in the enforcement of penalties for non-performance of work according to contract. The case on which the ruling was made is not made public, but the ruling itself, which is a general application, is as follows: "This is a request for a waiver of penalties on default of contract. The applicants claim that they were unable to fulfill the provisions of the contract, and argue that the government was not injured and the exaction of the penalties would be a hardship. The default is not denied and there is no evidence that the government exacted more than the contract called for. If the penalty worked a hardship, the answer is that it was introduced into the contract for that purpose. If the contractors would escape the penalty, they must avoid the default."

Under date of August 12, a Washington dispatch says: The torpedo boat destroyer Truxton will be delivered by the builders to the Norfolk

navy yard August 14 and will soon after be placed in commission. This is one of the swift new destroyers, which on her speed trial made a little short of twenty-nine knots.

On August 11 it was reported from Washington that the minister at Caracas advised the state department that the Germans intend to land a naval force at Porto Cabello to protect German interests, which are threatened by the uprising now in progress. The minister advised that the United States follow suit. After a conference between the officials of the navy department, instructions were cabled to Commander Nichols of the Topeka to proceed from Laguaira to Porto Cabello and to land a naval force in case of attack. The Topeka has already left for Porto Cabello. The following instructions were cabled to the Topeka: "Be ready to land force in case of attack of port fort for protection of American interests and for protection of foreign property also, if requested. Prevent bombardment without due notice. Darling, Acting Secretary."

As the result of trouble between the Mexican sheep herders and the citizens of Battle, Wyo., the herders attempted to take the town on August 11, but were repulsed with the loss of two of their number. The attack was in retaliation for the slaughter of 5,000 sheep by the towns-people who had ordered the sheepmen to keep away, as this territory is reserved for the cattle men.

It is reported from Hayti that the Firminist troops have completely defeated the army of the provisional government under General Alexis Nord at Limbe, capturing General Nord's cannons and munitions of war. Many of the soldiers under his command were killed and a great many were taken prisoners. In connection herewith a Washington dispatch dated August 9 says: The navy department this morning received the following cablegram from Commander McCrea of the gunboat Machias, dated Cape Haytien, August 9: "Haytien gunboat landed force Cape Haytien on Friday afternoon. An engagement is hourly expected. Will be ready to land."

An Associated press correspondent visited Petit Goave on August 10 and found the town entirely destroyed, and about 4,000 people are homeless and greatly in need of assistance. The Firminists, finding themselves unable to hold the town, set fire to it with the result mentioned.

It is reported that an outbreak of cholera has invaded Japan, and hundreds of deaths are reported. The epidemic spread from Manila and the ports of China to Japan, but is now abating.

A Washington dispatch under date of August 12, says: Minister Bowen has cabled the state department from Caracas that our consul at Barcelona has informed him by wire that Barcelona has been taken by the revolutionists; that they are sacking the town and that in his judgment the protection of a vessel should be immediately afforded him. Mr. Bowen says he has cabled the Cincinnati to return without delay. He notes that the Topeka is at Porto Cabello and the Marietta up the Orinoco river. After a conference between the state and navy department officials in regard to Minister Bowen's dispatch the following instructions were cabled to the commander of the Topeka at Porto Cabello: "Vessel needed immediately at Barcelona. If you sail before the Cincinnati arrives from Curacao leave for her instructions cabled you yesterday." According to this, the commander of the Topeka is given discretion to proceed immediately for Barcelona, and in that case the Cincinnati

will be expected to carry out the instructions sent to the Topeka yesterday to land blue jackets at Porto Cabello, in case of necessity.

Charles Fair, son of the late Senator Fair and one of the heirs to the immense estate, and his wife were killed near the Chateau Buisson Dumal in France on August 14. They were returning to Paris from Trouville when their automobile swerved and crashed into a tree, and both were killed. Their Chauffeur became insane as a consequence of the shock.

Duke de Boris, a nephew of the Czar of Russia, accompanied by three military and two civilian Russian officers, are making an all-world tour, and are now in this country.

A riot occurred at the Warnke washery at Duryea, Pa., on August 14. In a fight which followed the attack by the strikers, three men were wounded, and all the deputies were placed under arrest.

A New York dispatch, dated August 14, says: Santos Dumont, the aeronaut, sailed for France on La Touraine today. His intended departure was known only to a few friends and was explained by the aeronaut himself as due to the failure of certain parties to put up the expected \$25,000 prize for a successful flight in this city. He said he would return to this country in time for the airship contest at the St. Louis exposition.

A cablegram from Paris under date of August 14, says: The cabinet met at the Elysee palace today. The premier, M. Combes, communicated reports on the situation in Finisterre, one of them being from the superior of the congregation of the Holy Ghost, to which the resisting sisters belong. In this report the superior said the sisters had been ordered twice to leave their schools, but these orders had not been obeyed, owing to opposition by the peasantry and by the owners of the properties in which the schools are situated. Continuing, M. Combes declared that official reports showed the agitation over the closing of schools in Finisterre was purely a royalist movement. There had been grave occurrences, said the premier, which came within the penal laws and would result in prosecutions. Instructions for which had been sent to the procurer general.

An Associated press report from Warsaw, Ind., of August 12, says: The National Tithers' convention opened at Winona today. The welcoming address was given by Thomas Kane of Chicago who was chosen to preside during the conference. Rev. F. O. Ballard of Indianapolis, whose signature appeared among twelve others from various parts of the country to the call for the first national gathering of this character, outlined the objects of the meeting. He stated it was an inaugural effort toward getting all churches throughout the country to adopt a Tithing system or Wesleyan chapel movement. If the system is adopted, the speaker said, there would be plenty of money to evangelize the world on a scale far exceeding the dream of the most ardent Christian worker and foreign mission advocate.

The grand lodge meeting of the Elks in session at Salt Lake City, Utah, elected George P. Cronk of Omaha, Neb., to the highest position in their order, that of grand exalted ruler.

A Chicago dispatch of August 12 says: The Illinois auxiliary of the McKinley Memorial association today reported that the fund of \$50,000 asked of the people of Illinois had been raised. The fund consists of over 50,000 subscriptions and, counting the individual school children who sent their pennies in through schools, the con-

tributors in Illinois run into the hundreds of thousands.

A dispatch from Washington, under date of August 12, says: The cruiser Boston, one of the pioneers of the new navy, was put in commission at the Mare Island navy yard yesterday, after having undergone a complete overhauling. She will be attached to the Pacific squadron.

Judge Albert E. Pattison, one of the most prominent jurists of the state of Colorado, died at Denver, that state, on August 12, at the age of 57 years. Judge Pattison was a native of New York, and soon after his removal to Colorado he was appointed a member of the supreme court commission, and served with distinction.

An imperial edict has been issued by the Chinese government seeking to devise a plan for meeting the war indemnity, and accusing the Chinese officials of filling their own pockets with the sums taken from the people. Notice is also served that if plundering of the people continues, the severest penalties will be inflicted. Weapons of all kinds must be turned over to the government at once.

King Edward and many other notables gathered at Portsmouth, England, on August 16, to witness the great naval review. The day is also to be observed in that city as a coronation holiday.

A dispatch from Hong Kong to the London Daily Express, it is reported that there have been terrible floods in Kwang province, in which 1,000 persons were drowned. Several houses collapsed at Hong Kong and twenty persons were drowned in that city.

Another Chinese report gives a description of the turning over of the government of the city of Tien Tsin to the Chinese authorities by the foreign commanders who have held the city.

Official reports from India declare that the famine situation there is becoming more serious, owing to the lack of rains throughout almost the entire country, and especially in the Bombay region. The number of natives applying for relief is greatly increasing.

A special dispatch under date of St. Louis, Mo., August 15, reports that the lower portion of the city of Atalca, Mex., on the Pacific coast, has been completely destroyed by a tidal wave and not less than fifty people are known to have been drowned. It is also reported that several smaller coast towns situated above Atalca were completely washed away by the wave and that the loss of life in these smaller ports is very heavy.

The latest reports from Colombia, S. A., is that the revolutionists have captured the government gunboat Boyaca and three hundred government soldiers, together with important munitions of war and provisions.

An Associated press cablegram from Vienna, under date of August 14, says: Polish papers report that Prince Obolensky, governor of Khorkow, Russia, who was shot and wounded last Monday night at Kharkow, received some time ago a formal sentence of death from the central revolutionary committee and since that time the prince has worn a waist coat of chain armor, which saved his life Monday night.

(Continued on Page 14.)



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