

proceeded to try, convict, and sentence the man to death at the embassy, having him hanged from one of the windows of his palace. It is also recorded by the Tribune writer that when Sully was French ambassador in London and one of the members of his staff killed an Englishman, with whom he had become involved in a quarrel at an inn, he assembled a jury of Frenchmen at the embassy, and on the strength of their verdict condemned the man to death, turning him over to the London public executioner for punishment as a matter of convenience. King James, who was then on the throne, heard of the affair and pardoned the man, whereupon Sully protested against this act of clemency, declaring that as the Frenchman having been convicted and sentenced to death by a tribunal of his own countrymen the English king had no right or competence to interfere in the matter. There is also the case of M. de Thou, who, while French envoy, at The Hague, kept a member of his staff in prison for no less than four years in the cellars of the legation as a punishment for some breach of French law that the man had committed.

RECENTLY THE UNITED STATES AND the republic of Chile entered into a treaty "for the mutual extradition of fugitives from justice." According to newspaper dispatches the signing of this treaty was the signal for the disappearance from the city of Santiago as if by magic of a colony of fugitives from the United States. Until the new treaty was signed there was no provision made for the extradition of such persons. This treaty simply lessens by one, however, the number of places of refuge to which the violator of United States law may go feeling entirely secure.

THAT THERE ARE ODD CORNERS ALL over the world where fugitives from justice may live in peace and security is a fact shown in an interesting way by a writer in the Chicago Tribune. According to this writer, the extradition treaties with Canada (made through England, of course) and with Mexico are flimsy and ineffectual. This was shown in the case of the latter agreement but a few months ago, when J. K. Murrell, the St. Louis hoodler, sought refuge across the Mexican line. He was tracked and found by a St. Louis newspaper man, Frank R. O'Neill, but even after his hiding place was revealed, and his alias was torn away, it was impossible to secure his return to St. Louis until O'Neill induced him to make the journey voluntarily. The United States has been always chary of making hard and fast treaties with South and Central American republics, because of the fact that the latter, when treaties exist, are continually making efforts to secure the return of political offenders.

IT IS ALSO SHOWN BY THE SAME AUTHORITY that there are scores of little nations with which the United States has no treaties at all. Abyssinia is one, and were an American fugitive to reach Addis Ababa he might remain there the rest of his life without fear of molestation. In the West Indies are two republics in which the American evil doer is almost as securely safe. One is Hayti and the other is Santo Domingo. Both are usually so torn by revolutions that the existing government is almost unrecognizable. In consequence both are favorite resorts for American adventurers and fugitives of the more enterprising sort. One American, who left New Orleans inconspicuously because of a little difference with the law, rose to high rank in the Haytian army, and was eventually killed in a fight with revolutionists on the Dominican border. The little republic of San Marino, in the south of Europe, is another secure stronghold for American fugitives. But it is so small that the average evil doer does not seek it out for fear that he may toss in his sleep and roll over its frontier into Spain. And far to the eastward there is Sarawak, in the East Indies, where an Englishman holds forth as absolute monarch, and every stray soldier of fortune is welcome.

IN MANY OF THE QUEER NATIONS OF CENTRAL Asia an American fugitive might find safety at least from American justice, but in the opinion of this writer it is more than likely that the natives would soon finish him. There are, however, others where the fugitive could go with greater hopes of security and these are described in this way: In Afghanistan the ameer would be glad to see him, and in Beloochistan the rulers of the state would treat him as a distinguished visitor. In Thibet proper, he would be under

the eye of the Chinese authorities, but outwardly Thibet is not Chinese territory, and the treaties with China do not affect it. High upon the central Asian tableland are perched Kafistan and Turkestan, neither of which recognizes even the existence of the United States. Southeast of Arabia is the independent kingdom of Oman, and toward the north are Bokhara and Khiva, vassals of Russia, but still not affected by Russian treaties. And in Africa there is the vast expanse of the Congo Free States—unhealthy, maybe, but still safe. In the west are Borum and Waday, independent kingdoms, and Kanem and Bogirmi, no man's lands.

THE DISPUTE BETWEEN THE UNITED States and Russia relating to the claims of American sealers for the seizure of their vessels by the Russian government in 1892 has recently been settled at The Hague by Professor Asser, the Dutch jurist who acted as arbitrator. The decision of the award was in favor of the United States. According to newspaper dispatches Professor Asser appraises the damages in the case of the American schooner C. H. White at \$32,444; in the case of the James Hamilton Lewis at \$28,558, the Kate and Anna at \$1,488, and the Cape Horn Pigeon, \$38,750. Professor Asser delivered his judgment in the arbitration court in the presence of the representatives of the United States and of Russia and others, including the foreign minister of the Netherlands, Doctor Van Lyndenau. In giving his reasons for the award Professor Asser held that the schooner C. H. White was seized outside Russian territorial waters and that the Russian contention that a warship of one nation was entitled to pursue beyond the boundaries of its territorial seas a vessel guilty of illegal action within these waters was untenable.

IN THIS CASE PROFESSOR ASSER HELD that the jurisdiction of the state could not extend beyond its territorial waters except by special treaty. The seizure and confiscation of the C. H. White and the imprisonment of her crew was therefore illegal, and Russia was condemned to pay the C. H. White \$32,444, with interest at 6 per cent. The case of the James Hamilton Lewis is governed by the same decision, while in the case of the Cape Horn Pigeon, Professor Asser, in fixing the damages at \$38,750 and the interest at 6 per cent, held that the general principle that damages should include the prospective profits of which the victim had been deprived applied equally to international litigation. In the case of the Kate and Anna the arbitrator decided that the captain could have continued seal hunting, and that therefore Russia was not responsible for the prospective profits. Both the James Hamilton Lewis and Kate and Anna receive 6 per cent interest on the amount awarded. The basis on which the damages were awarded was the average annual catch. This was the contention first made by Herbert H. D. Pierce, who represented the United States government.

AN INTERESTING REVIEW OF THE opening chapters of the story of Standard Oil, written by Ida M. Tarbell, is provided by a writer in the Des Moines Register and Leader: In 1870, when the Standard Oil company was organized, five years after Mr. Rockefeller had become actively identified with oil refining, there were many prosperous refineries in Cleveland. For a few years they attributed the phenomenal growth of the Standard to exceptional business management. But when as their profits shrank smaller and smaller they saw its prosperity continue unabated, they began to suspect something, and then learned that the railroads had been returning 15 of every 40 cents paid in freight to the Rockefeller company. The protests of the other refineries finally secured an agreement from the railroads that they could have the same rebate if they shipped the same amount of oil with the same regularity. But this meant ruin to the small companies. Their restlessness and the uncertainties of the situation suggested the next step, the consolidation of enough interests to control the output of oil. Thus the larger Standard Oil company has evolved and with it one of the most astonishing shipping contracts in the history of railroading—a contract signed by W. H. Vanderbilt, W. H. Clark, Jay Gould, Gen. George B. McClellan and Tom Scott in behalf of the great railway systems tapping the oil regions. By the terms of this contract the Standard Oil company got a rebate in cash of \$1.06 on every \$2.56 paid in freight, and also a cash bonus of \$1.06 on every \$2.56 paid by its competitors, and as an evidence

of good faith the railroads turned over all shipping bills for oil, thereby keeping the Standard company informed of how much its competitors were shipping and to what customers.

MANY OF THESE FACTS HAVE BEEN presented to the American people before, although not in so attractive a way as they are presented in Ida M. Tarbell's story. Commenting upon this tale, the Register and Leader reviewer says: "This is not the story of the upbuilding of a legitimate industry. Neither is it the story of competition distanced by superior talent, methods or organization. It is the story of a conspiracy of great railway managers, formed in violation of state laws and without regard to public rights, a conspiracy planned and executed under directions from the presiding genius of the oil business of the United States, John D. Rockefeller. If the history of the other great monopolies which have flourished as the Standard Oil company has, were written, in ninety-nine out of every hundred cases it would be found that their supremacy has been gained through the same connivance of railway managers and the same abuse of shipping privileges. Railway discriminations has had more to do with the success of trusts and monopolies in the United States than all other causes put together."

NEWSPAPER MEN IN AMERICA MAY BE persuaded to believe that their lot is indeed a happy one when they learn of the embarrassments under which the Austrian press labors. A writer in the London Globe describes the situation in this way: "Few people in England have any idea of the disabilities under which the press in Austria suffers. They accept the abuse of England which too many Austrian papers have poured out during the war as the outcome of the real feelings of the people for us, ignoring the fact that the continental press being, as a rule, the slave of the police, is only too glad to be able to divert to a neutral object the diatribes which it longs to inflict on its own government. In Vienna a paper can be summoned, punished, and even suppressed on the slightest excuse. A paper is obliged to insert without comment all official contradictions of facts, and even if it can prove that its statements were absolutely correct, it is not allowed to do so. Moreover, a Viennese paper cannot be sold in the streets, and so its readers are limited to its subscription list. But apparently this state of things is beginning to disgust even the ministerial circles for Herr Koerber has just brought in a bill to give the press a little more liberty and greater facilities for distribution. It is proposed to allow papers to be sold in the streets, the writers and not only the paper will be held responsible for signed articles, and the editor will be allowed to comment on official contradictions in the very number of the paper in which these contradictions appear. The Viennese press will thus be somewhat emancipated from the slavery in which it has hitherto been, which is something to the good."

THE ST. PETERSBURG CORRESPONDENT of the New York Times describes the formation of a new sect in the government of the Zarizyn in Russia. This sect is founded on the veneration of the peasants for Father John of Cronstadt, whom they declare to be the reincarnation of the Prophet Elijah. This sect prophesies the speedy destruction of the world and the Times correspondent says: "As signs of universal calamity they adduce all the latter-day manifestations such as railways, telegraphs, and telephones. The agents of the anti-Christ imprint their seal upon men, though not upon the body, but upon a paper which they must carry with them, and which is called their pass. Finally, the Enochites teach that the prophet Enoch is already upon the earth, though as yet he has not been seen by anybody. As soon as he has appeared to his disciples the world will be destroyed. So far as the Enochites are able to see, but two years yet remain before the destruction of the world. In order to check the pernicious activity of the sect, the government has dispatched forty Russian traveling priests to the government of Zarizyn."

THE KING OF SWEDEN HAS BEEN SUMMONED to appear before a court in Stockholm. According to a recent Stockholm cablegram, King Oscar is the defendant in proceedings brought by the heirs of the late Helga de la Brache. Helga, who was the daughter of the dethroned King Gustavus Adolphus IV., died some years ago. Her legatee now demands the delivery of papers received by King Oscar's father from Helga. These papers are understood to be of an interesting historical character.