

grant of 10,000 Marks should be made to the sufferers from the eruption of Vesuvius, and entered in this year's municipal accounts.

#### THE HAMBURG LABOUR DISPUTES.

Hamburg, May 8.

The central lock-out committee of the dockyard employers has addressed a letter to the General Director, Herr Ballin, asking the intentions of the employers as to allowing the men to resume work on May 11th. The Hamburg Ship Owners Union speaking in its own name and in that of the Brokers and Agents Union, and of the Hamburg-Altona Union of Stevedores of 1886, replied that they have no objection, on principle, to reinstating on May 11th workmen who were locked out in consequence of their participation in the May demonstrations, provided only that this does not apply to workmen who, by leaving work, broke the contract made by them to give notice to the employers. In the meantime a large number of berths have been filled by the employment of other workmen. The engagement of wharfingers in future will only take place through a labour bureau; details concerning the organisation of the bureau will be given to the workmen shortly.

A largely attended meeting of the sailors of Hamburg and Altona who are out on strike was held today; the President of the Seaman's Union made a speech closing with an urgent request to the men not to give in. Another meeting is to take place on Thursday to which only strikers will be admitted. The committee conducting the strike will then present a report on the situation and the strikers will decide on their future action.

#### THE HEALTH OF PRINCE BÜLOW.

Berlin, May 8.

At the close of today's sitting of the Reichstag, the President, Count Ballestrem announced that he had that day been invited to visit the Imperial Chancellor, Prince Bülow and that he stayed half an hour. Prince Bülow had expressed his thanks to the Reichstag for their sympathy with him in his illness. Count Ballestrem said that the Prince was perfectly well bodily and mentally and that he had found him not at all altered. (Applause.)

#### TURKEY ANNOYS GERMANY NOW.

Frankfurt, May 8.

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* publishes a telegram from Constantinople dated May 7th. The Turkish authorities have committed an act which is a breach of international law, against a German sailing ship. The ship in question, the *Odyseus*, arrived on Sunday in the Bosphorus from the Black Sea with 1,000 cases of benzine. After examination by the custom authorities the ship was about to proceed, in order to land half the cargo which had been ordered by a German firm in Constantinople, and half on the island of Thrasos. But hardly had the anchor been weighed, when several Turkish officials arrived on board and declared, in spite of the fact that all the ship's papers were in perfect order, that the ship could not be allowed to proceed. The captain of the ship made most energetic protests and was about to hoist the German flag, which had not been done as it was before sunrise, but the Turkish officials prevented his doing so. The ship was then taken in tow by a Turkish tug in readiness, and brought to a position immediately under the battlements of the Bosphorus fort, Anatolie Kawk, and a military guard was placed on board. The necessary steps were at once taken by the German Ambassador to make strong representation to the Porte against the unwarrantable action of the Turkish officials and to demand the release of the *Odyseus*. As the Porte did not comply, the German Ambassador forwarded a note of protest, in which he advised the Porte that if the *Odyseus* was not allowed to proceed by the afternoon, the necessary steps would be taken by Germany to secure its release.

Later intelligence from Constantinople says that the *Odyseus* was allowed to leave at 9.32 a.m.

#### TURKEY AND PERSIA.

Constantinople, May 8.

The Persian Ambassador here has informed the Porte that his Government is willing to accept the Turkish proposals. The Persian Commission is leaving Teheran today. The President of the Commission will be Mahmud Khan, Persian Ambassador in Berlin, who is at the present time in Teheran on leave.

#### NEWS FROM RUSSIA.

##### THE DUMA.

St. Petersburg, May 8.

The first sitting of the Imperial Duma is to take place today, Thursday at 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

Odessa, May 8.

The Town Council has decided, in honour of the opening of the Imperial Duma today, Thursday, to hold thanksgiving services in all the churches, to decorate the buildings with flags, to stop all work in the factories, to give the school children 3 days holiday, and to give one of the streets the name "April 27th". On the opening day a telegram of congratulation will be sent to the Duma.

St. Petersburg, May 8.

The order of ceremony to be observed at the projected reception by the Czar at the Winter Palace, on the occasion of the first meeting of the Imperial Council and the Duma, has been published today. Solemn Te Deums are to be sung in all the churches of the two Capitals from 10 a.m. onwards. The members of the Council and Duma, the Ministers, the high officers of State, and all who are to take part in the reception, are to arrive at the Winter Palace at about 1 p.m. The Czar, the Czarina, the Empress Dowager and the members of the Imperial Family, are to proceed in solemn procession, preceded by the Master of Ceremonies, and the High Court officials, to the throne room of St. George, as soon as the arrival of the members of the Imperial Council and Duma has been announced. In the throne room the insignia of Imperial Sovereignty, i.e. the Sword of State, the Imperial Standard, the Orb, the Sceptre and the Crown will be carried before the Czar.

The Czar will be received by the Metropolitan of St. Petersburg with the Cross and Holy water. After the singing of a Te Deum, the members of the Imperial Family will take up their position to the right of the throne, while on the third step of the throne will be stationed the Court Minister and Adjutant in waiting. The Imperial suite will be placed at the foot of the throne, on the left. The Czar will ascend the throne, take his seat and deliver the speech from the throne. He will then leave the throne room, followed by both Emperesses and the whole Imperial Family.

#### THE AGRARIAN PARTY.

St. Petersburg, May 8.

Before the close of the Constitutional-Democrat Congress, a resolution touching the agrarian question was outvoted and the transference of land ownership to the workers was accepted as a guiding principle of the party.

The general principles of the Bill which was proposed by the Agrarian Commission were accepted subject to the alterations proposed by the agrarian portion of the Congress. The Congress entrusted the Commission with the duty of carrying out all suggestions and proposals made by individual members of the Congress, and to hand over the whole material at their disposal together with the conclusions arising from it, to the parliamentary section of the party.

#### COUNT IGNATIEFF.

London, May 8.

*Reuter* announces from Kieff that Count Ignatieff has been murdered; but a later telegram from St. Petersburg announces that the statement is an absolute fabrication.

#### FLOODS IN CHINA.

Washington, May 8.

The States Department has received a despatch from the American consul in Hankau, announcing that terrible floods have taken place in the province of Huan, and many lives have been lost. The losses caused by the inundation are said to be considerable. All the foreigners are safe.

#### THE FRANCHISE IN SWEDEN.

Stockholm, May 8.

The Committee of the Government has today given its decision in the matter of the franchise question. The majority of the committee which was composed of 10 members of the First and 10 of the Second Chamber, declares for universal franchise for the Second Chamber, but that only, if joined to proportional franchise for both Chambers. The minority of the Committee supports the Government proposals. The Committee suggests further that the Government should be asked to conduct an enquiry dealing with the political right to vote of married and single women.

#### THE MURDER PLOT IN SAN DOMINGO.

San Domingo, May 8.

As a result of the discovery of the plot to murder Sig. Caceres, Vice-president of the Republic, a large number of arrests have been made. As the Vice-president was leaving the theatre on Sunday, shots were exchanged between the police and some men, who are supposed to be revolutionaries.

#### A MOTOR MISHAP.

Prince Otto von Windischgrätz and his wife Elisabeth, niece of the Emperor, were driving in a motor in Vienna Neustadt, when they were struck with a whip by the driver of a cart, who refused to get out of the way of the motor car. The man was arrested.

#### BUILDERS BOYCOTTED IN VIENNA.

Vienna, May 8.

At an extraordinary General meeting of authorised builders held today it was decided that, if the boycott against certain buildings, started by the workmen yesterday, is not raised by Thursday all the workmen will be dismissed on Saturday. A local correspondent announces that any idea of the workmen giving way is not to be entertained for a moment; a general lock-out of 40,000 workmen is therefore certain to ensue.

#### THE GUADELOUPE ELECTIONS.

New York, May 8.

The *New York Herald* announces from Point-a-Pitre, with reference to the disturbances which occurred last Sunday, that the socialists, who had the authorities on their side, established a reign of terror in the town. The consulates were guarded by troops. Many houses were plundered. The cruiser "Touche" has landed troops but they have not entered the town.

#### THE MOROCCAN REBELLION.

Port Said, May 8.

A desperate engagement took place yesterday between the Sultan's troops and those of the Pretender on the left bank of the Mulua river. The Sultan's troops were attempting to cross the river when they were fired on and repulsed with a loss of 30 killed and wounded.

#### Latest Telegrams on page 4.

#### BABYLONIA.

By W. St. Chad Boseawen.

As long ago as 1877, the late M. de Sarzec, French Consul at Bassorah, while excavating in the mounds of Tel-Lo, on the Shah-el-Hie, in the marsh district of the Afadz, in the extreme south of Babylonia, discovered two remarkable inscribed records. These were two large clay, barrel-shaped cylinders, closely covered with archaic writing. The larger of the pair contains thirty columns of text and over six hundred of writing, and the smaller about a hundred less. Although these important records have been nearly thirty years among treasures of the Louvre, no complete translation of their contents has been made. This delay was due to two circumstances. First, the very archaic character of the writing, which was a reduced form of that usually employed on the bricks and stone monuments of the oldest Kings of Chaldea; and in a second case to their being in the ancient Sumerian language, the speech of the Pre-Semitic population of Chaldea, of which scholars had but little knowledge until recent years. Both these difficulties have now been overcome, the text having been copied by Dr. Ira Price, an American Assyriologist, and the difficult task of translation has now been most successfully completed by Professor F. Thureau-Dangin.

The work was very difficult, for the records are very ancient, being memorials of the great Chaldean priest King Gudea, who ruled in Lagas or Surpuna, the ancient city whose ruins are marked by the mounds at Tel-Lo, and who reigned about B.C. 2700. They have a very much higher literary merit than any of the old Chaldean inscriptions previously discovered. They contain prayers and hymns of great beauty, as well as descriptions of ceremonies and customs of great interest to the student of anthropology. Such literature would require an extensive vocabulary, and much research would be required to ascertain the true meaning of the words. A short account of one of the cylinders, that containing the dream of Gudea, had already appeared, but now that the full translation of the two documents is before us, we gain the most wonderful insight into the life, manners, customs, and religion of the people of Babylonia, of four thousand years ago possibly. The story of the origin of these cylinders is clearly set before us; and it is one of curious interest. A drought had visited the land, and there was no water for irrigation—"the increase grew not up; the rising waters sparkled not nor rose in their splendour." Naturally the priest, king, or viceroy saw in this visitation the hand of the city god, Nin-girsu, and turns to him with prayer and sacrifice. "All kinds of rich things he offered in sacrifice." He is troubled chiefly about his dream which is interpreted for him by the goddess Nina, who tells him that it is the god Nin-girsu who has appeared to him in the form of a colossal divinity, crowned with the "divine storm bird, a deification of the lightning, and riding on a hurricane," and, assisted by other divinities, given him the plan of the temple he is to build. It is to be noticed that it is always a goddess whom the Viceroy consults in his trouble. Thus he says, "To my mother I bring my dream, that the diviner (of the gods) who knows what I desire may reveal to me the meaning." This clearly indicates a belief in the power of wise women or witches to interpret dreams and visions. It appears that the chief oracle of the temple was "the sleeping chamber of the divinity," where, as we are told, was the sacred couch richly decorated, and where the dreamer dreamed his dream, and the goddess appears and explains it.

The inscriptions are interesting for the light they throw on the manners and customs of this city. Gudea always calls himself the viceroy (patesi) of the god, while the divinity is always addressed as King, and it is evident that the government was a theocracy, and Gudea the earthly representative of the God-king. In this relationship we have the key to the long account of the construction of this temple, which is an idealised form of the royal palace in the city. Accordingly we see all the component parts of this building. Before the great gate, guarded by huge serpents, and "dragons"

(Continued on page 4.)

ROY

This

DER R  
great ro

Richard C.  
Hamel  
Berthold  
Hogeherte  
Steneken,  
Bertram I.  
Ethelrus,  
Isfried R.  
Heribert,  
Hunold S.  
Wulf,  
Kesselring  
Regine, B.  
Dorothea,  
Gertrud,  
Margaret  
First  
Second

PLUT.  
town of a  
that a str  
pipe. No  
Burgomaste  
her lover  
people with  
girl. Meet  
he is led  
Ethelrus,  
not win a  
his pipe a  
Gertrud, b  
Gertrud, b  
his cellar.  
but promise  
All are as  
moves Rag  
as a sorcer  
Gertrud dr  
his pipe w  
the town f  
to see all  
they never  
Compos  
(See the  
Carl Titm

RO

This e

Werle, G.  
besitzer  
Gegens,  
Der alte  
Hjalmar  
tograph  
Gina, H.  
Hedwig,  
Frau S.  
Kelling,  
Molvic, g  
Gräberg,  
Petersen  
Jensen, I.  
Ein belei  
Ein Heri  
Ein kurz  
Ein Heri

The g  
the Inf  
about 1