

from Inglefield Gulf, above Baffin Bay, goes across Greenland to Independence Bay, on the northeast coast, where the party will divide. When Lieutenant Peary returns home, he hopes to have all the shore-line of the world's largest island surveyed and mapped. An expedition to meet Peary on his return to his winter headquarters will leave New York at the end of June. The high northing and the discoveries already made by this explorer induce the belief that the year's results will be no less brilliant. Across Smith Sound from Inglefield Gulf lies Ellesmere Land, the field for the expedition of Mr. Robert Stein, a scientist who for nine years has been connected with the United States Geological Survey. This enterprise is such an especially promising one that its possible postponement to next year is much to be regretted, for it is not known how far to the west Ellesmere Land extends, nor whether Hayes Sound keeps on actually separating it from Grinnell Land to the north, as is averred by the natives. In the rude huts of those natives, the Swedes Björling and Källstenius may have found shelter and food, but would gladly welcome Mr. Stein's mission, which is one of rescue as well as of research. The explorer's plans cover a series of years, and lead constantly towards new polar regions. The actual North Pole expeditions are attacking their goal from the Euro-Asiatic side. Dr. Nansen's theory that a current moves northward from the New Siberian Islands across the Pole, and southward in the polar stream which bathes the eastern shore of Greenland, is being put to practical test by the voyage of the *Fram*, which, if it has withstood ice-pressure, may even now be drifting in such a current. The Nansen expedition is provisioned for five years.

Of all routes, however, that by way of Franz Josef Land has for some time seemed the most feasible, and this is the one chosen by Mr. Frederick Jackson, whose party, provisioned for four years, will leave England in July, wintering on Franz Josef Land till the spring, starting northward across Austria Sound to Petermann Land, the most northerly island of this group yet seen, and beyond which the explorer thinks an archipelago may extend to the Pole itself. His most certain service to the world, nevertheless, will be in the mapping out of the Franz Josef Land region. Journalists in general, but American journalists in particular, ought to feel a special interest in the project of Mr. Walter Wellman, which is, in fact, only the old one that Parry tried in 1827 in his attempt to reach the Pole by crossing Spitzbergen and the rough sea-ice north of it. Mr. Wellman has sailed from Tromsø in Norway, and his equipment will be a good one. Collapsible boats and toboggan sledges are certainly an improvement over other days; but the editor-explorer must be supplied as well with much patience to keep from discouragement at southern ice-drifts, which make the northward journey twice as long and tiresome. It is a matter of National pride that three of the above expeditions are from America. In addition, an excursion, not an expedition, is also to start from our shores. The ethnologist of the first Peary Arctic expedition, Dr. Frederick Cook, has chartered the steam sealer *Newfoundland*, accommodating one hundred passengers, for a cruise to Greenland in June next. It may not be generally known that all summer long Greenland is free of perilous ice as far north as Upernavik; that in July occurs the breaking up of the dreaded ice-pack in Melville Bay, making a safe stretch to Cape York and then to Smith Sound. A party will be landed at Hamilton Inlet to explore the Grand Falls of Labrador, three hundred feet high and from two to three hundred feet wide. They rival Niagara in size and beauty. The Newfoundland will

then cross Davis Strait to Greenland, calling at Omenak Fjord, and proceeding northward through Melville Bay as far as Falcon Harbor, the present headquarters of Lieutenant Peary. From here the journey may be extended to the ruins of the Kane, Hayes, and Greely expeditions, but in any event the intention of Dr. Cook is to be in New York again not later than the middle of September. Who knows but that this clever and intelligent popularizing of Arctic regions for tourists, sportsmen, scientists, and artists may result in opening up a new summer resort?

GENERAL NEWS.—The election for delegates to the coming Constitutional Convention in Hawaii took place on May 2, but reports of the result have not reached this country as we go to press.—John Jay, the distinguished lawyer, diplomatist, and writer, who died in New York City on Saturday last, at the age of seventy-seven, was the son of Judge William Jay, known as an author, jurist, and philanthropist, and the grandson of John Jay, the first Chief Justice. Mr. Jay was United States Minister to Austria under President Grant; his services to the anti-slavery cause before and during the war were great.—Governor Flower has vetoed the bill giving the Mayor of New York hereafter to be elected power to remove heads of city departments, and has signed the "Sheriff's salary" and Dock bills.—In Rome the trials of the men accused of complicity in the Banca Romana scandals has begun.—The Antwerp Exposition was opened last week by King Leopold.—The Brazilian Congress opened this week with President-elect Moraes in the chair; President Peixoto, in his speech, said the insurrection had been crushed.—The New York Constitutional Convention opened its sessions at Albany on Tuesday of this week; Mr. Joseph H. Choate, of New York City, was chosen President.—Mr. Richard Croker has intimated that he wishes to divide his responsibility as leader of Tammany and "boss" of New York; there is a reasonable probability that the citizens of New York will relieve Mr. Croker altogether from his self-imposed burdens.—In the General Term of the Court of Common Pleas of this State, Judge Roger A. Pryor has made a decision declaring the Ives Pool Bill to be unconstitutional.—All the seven tourists who were imprisoned in a stalactite cave at Lugloch have been rescued alive.—The New York and New Jersey Bridge Bill has been passed in the House of Representatives by a two-thirds vote under suspension of the rules.

The Greek Prime Minister

Charilaos Tricoupis, the Prime Minister of Greece, whose portrait we print this week, is a great man in a small country, and is therefore, to a certain extent, the victim of his conditions. The variety of his powers and the vigor of his character would give him, in a first-class country, a foremost position among modern statesmen; but Greece is a small country, limited in resources, beset with difficulties, and handicapped by peculiar conditions. In such a narrow area a man of the first order finds himself restricted, and, in a certain sense, baffled; his power is greater than the material with which he deals. Born in 1832, of a distinguished family, the present Prime Minister of Greece is still in the prime of his power. He has, moreover, a physical stamina and vigor which remind one of Mr. Gladstone, whom he resembles in many respects; for, like the great Englishman, the Greek Minister is a many-sided man. He is not only a sagacious politician, but a student

of political philosophy; he is not only a constructive statesman on the side of political measures, but he is also the greatest financier whom Greece has ever produced. Like Mr. Gladstone, he is at home in several departments of knowledge, and as he enters one field after another in the course of his public life he seems easily to familiarize himself, not only with the first principles, but with the details. Physically he seems able to sustain any burden and to endure any test. As an orator he is easily the foremost man in the kingdom. Like Mr. Gladstone, he has unlimited courage, and to jeopardize his political position seems to give him not the slightest concern. When his attention was called to the fact that a certain line of policy was a dangerous one for his political influence, he responded: "We have counted the cost. It is a policy that is sure to defeat us ultimately. Raising taxes, contracting the currency, dismissing officials, can have no other result; but it is worth the cost if we can get the policy so firmly established before we fall that our successors must carry it on after us: then we have won." These are the words of a man who is not afraid of his constituents.

In the very interesting characterization of M. Tricoupis which Mr. J. W. Jenks contributed to the March issue of the "Atlantic Monthly," emphasis is laid on the extraordinary range of the Greek Prime Minister's ability. He had the advantage of a very thorough education, having studied at Athens and at Paris, and served in various capacities on the Greek Legation in London, and acquired a first-hand knowledge of European opinion. His political career began in 1863, when he was elected member of the Boulé, or Chamber of Deputies, and from that time until the present, with the exception of a single year, he has been continuously in public life. His working day often covers twenty hours, and he has great talent for mastering details and dispatching business. His bold speeches, like those of Mr. Gladstone, are notable for lucidity and orderly statement. He is in thorough sympathy with the ambition of Greece to take a leading place in the world, and to bring all the Greeks under its control; but his practical sagacity makes him comprehend clearly the difference between aspiration and accomplishment, and he has held Greece back from disasters into which his chief opponent, Delyannis, would have forced the country. He is capable of swift and radical action, but he counts the cost. For some years past the most difficult question in Greece has been the question of finance. The country is small and poor, but, under right conditions, ought to be able to pay the annual expenses of the Government. To increase the producing power of the country, good roads and railroads are needed, and Tricoupis has been identified with the policy of increasing taxation in order to secure internal improvement. In addition to heavy deficits, Greece suffers from a depreciated paper currency.

M. Tricoupis stands for large expenditures on internal improvements, for conservative foreign action, for a sound currency, and for increased taxation. Within the past twelve years the taxes have been tripled in accordance with this policy, and he has shown the courage of his convictions by refusing to evade financial difficulties, and attempting to solve them by economy on the one hand and increased taxation on the other. He is very arbitrary in his methods, and his enemies say that he is unscrupulous. It is certain that he is prompt, decisive, and sometimes arrogant. His indifference to public opinion shows that he does not truckle to the sentiment of the moment, and that he is not afraid of his popularity. His great service to Greece has been his determined resistance to the spirit of "jingoism" represented by M. Delyannis, which

would probably have brought untold woes upon a country which needs above everything peace and the opportunity to husband and develop its resources. He has also stood, against great temptations, for an honest payment of debts, for the policy of facing financial obligations at once instead of postponing them, for civil service reform, and for internal development. He has more than once gone out of office rather than sacrifice these principles or desert this policy. Such a Minister may have great faults, but his frankness, his courage, his ability, and his sound judgment are qualities of prime importance in the working out of such difficult problems as those which confront Greece. M. Tricoupis is in many ways a man of extraordinary gifts, and seems to combine the qualities of Gladstone and Bismarck; the fact that he is dealing with the politics of a small country is the only thing, apparently, which excludes him from the front rank of contemporary statesmen.



Let the Churches Protest

On Wednesday of last week a debate took place in the United States Senate which ought to be brought to the attention of every church in the United States. At the close of the morning business, Senator Hoar, of Massachusetts, asked unanimous consent for the consideration of the bill reported by the Judiciary Committee prohibiting lotteries in the District of Columbia and the Territories, forbidding the importation of lottery matter and its transportation from State to State, and, finally, directing the Post-Office Department to return all letters addressed to persons advertising themselves to be engaged in the outlawed traffic. Mr. Harris, of Tennessee, who has charge of the tariff debate, reserved the right to object to the consideration of this bill if it led to a debate. No sooner was it before the Senate than Senator Vest, of Missouri, with Senator Gorman, of Maryland, sitting at his side as prompter, reopened hostilities against the measure. One detailed criticism followed another, but Senator Hoar promptly accepted all plausible suggestions and incorporated them into the bill. The acceptance of these changes forced Senator Vest to change his attack from the wording of the measure to the reform it sought to accomplish. Here again, however, he professed sympathy with the main purpose of the bill, the destruction of the enormous business of the Honduras Lottery Company, but based his opposition upon the fact that this measure—like the law in nearly every State in the Union—forbids all lotteries, including those conducted by churches and charitable institutions. Senator Gray, of Maryland, humorously suggested that the bill should be so amended as to exempt church members from its operation. This suggestion, of course, raised a general laugh, but Senator Vest declared in reply that he was "not legislating as to individuals, but legislating as to practices," and he would oppose any bill, he said, which "put raffling at religious and charitable assemblages on the same footing with the Louisiana or Havana Lottery."

At this point Senator Vest gave over the fight to Senator Gorman, who that morning had left word with the door-keeper of the Senate that no cards should be sent to him during the time in which this bill might be taken up. Senator Gorman at once made it clear that his entire anxiety was in behalf of churches and charities. For the Louisiana Lottery Company, which had made itself infamous by contributions to campaign funds, the Maryland manager professed nothing but abhorrence. The present law, he maintained, had practically disposed of that institution.