

treatment of the slave question, and a refusal longer to recognize the Sultan as the ruler of the islands.

Mr. Cleveland's
Explicit Statement

So many public men have declined to be considered as candidates for high office, in much the fashion in which the small boy at the party declined to take a second piece of cake unless urged, that it is refreshing to read Mr. Cleveland's letter to Mr. St. Clair McKelway, editor of the Brooklyn "Eagle," declining "in any circumstances or upon any consideration" ever again to become the nominee of his party for the Presidency. "My determination not to do so," he adds, "is unalterable and conclusive." The explicitness of this declination recalls General Sherman's famous reply when it was proposed to stampede one of the Republican National Conventions by presenting his name for the Presidency. "I will not," said the old soldier, "accept if nominated, or serve if elected." This downright form of speech confirms the hold of the men who use it upon the admiration of their supporters, and is respectfully suggested for the consideration of Senator Hanna. Mr. Cleveland's characteristic statement, following Mr. Bryan's unqualified declaration that he cannot be suggested for the Democratic nomination next year, makes somewhat easier the still difficult task of restoring Democratic unity.

San Domingo: The Victory
of the Insurgents

The insurgent forces under General Jiménez appear to have been completely triumphant in the desultory warfare which has been going on for several weeks in the much-disturbed island. President Woz y Gil last week surrendered the capital to his opponents, and took refuge on a German war-ship. So far as can be learned at this distance, the fighting was not very severe, but already seven months had elapsed since Woz y Gil's revolution against President Vasquez, and the uneasy and ebullient spirit of the partisan factions seemed to require an outlet. Our United States Minister at San

Domingo, Mr. Powell, is reported to have read the people of San Domingo an instructive lecture on the subject of revolutions. He pointed out that periodical revolutions interrupted commercial relations with other peoples, increased the debt, endangered international peace, and he is reported to have added that the present revolution, if continued, would imperil the sovereignty of San Domingo. The Government at Washington naturally and promptly gave out the semi-official statement that Mr. Powell's remarks were entirely unofficial, and made without direction; but to this official disclaimer was added an intimation that our State Department did not wish to be understood to disagree with the truth of Mr. Powell's assertions. Our Government has recognized the *de facto* administration at the city of San Domingo.

Industrial War
in Montana

Every feature of the industrial war in Montana is extraordinary. Twenty thousand men, or nearly one-fifth of the working population of the State, have suddenly been thrown out of work by the shutting down of the copper-mines, and this shut-down is not due to a war between labor and capital, but to one between rival capitalists. It is as purely a kings' war as any we read of in mediæval history, and the pawns are as pre-eminently the sufferers. A young man of thirty-four is the principal figure in the conflict—F. Augustus Heinze, who graduated from the Columbia School of Mines a few years ago, and took a position at five dollars a day as assistant engineer in the Boston and Montana mine at Butte, soon made himself the master of his work, and gradually bought claims to a vein of copper running between this mine and the Anaconda. Both of these great properties now belong to the Amalgamated Copper Company, which instituted suits to prevent Mr. Heinze from working his claims. Mr. Heinze responded by instituting suits denying the legality of the absorption of the Boston and Montana mine by the Amalgamated Company, won these suits in the lower courts, and finally obtained from Judge Clancey, of the Second Judicial

District in Butte, a permanent injunction restraining the trust from taking further dividends from the Boston and Montana mine. The Amalgamated responded by shutting down all of its mines in the State, and appealed to the Governor of Montana to call the Legislature together to pass a "fair trial law" by which mining cases may be transferred from one court to another, when the judge before whom they are brought has shown prejudice. The officials of the Amalgamated, which is capitalized at \$155,000,000, claim that Judge Clancey has been unduly influenced by Mr. Heinze. Governor Toole has personally opposed the passage of the legislative act which the Amalgamated Company has demanded as a condition precedent to its resumption of work, but, in response to the petitions which have flooded in upon him from all parts of the State, he has consented to call the Legislature together. Naturally, conservative papers find peril in the fact that a great corporation should thus appeal to the legislature to set aside an act of the judiciary. Judge Clancey's decision was subject to appeal to the Supreme Court of Montana, though this appeal could not, probably, have been reached by the higher court for several months. It is too early to say what the outcome of this extraordinary case may be; but it is not too early to say that to permit a rich corporation to call for and get an extra session of a Legislature is to establish a precedent that is both preposterous and dangerous.



**The Colorado
Coal Strike**

Colorado has come to be a storm-center in labor troubles; class lines are now drawn with a more dangerous sharpness in that commonwealth than in any other. The great strike in the metal mines which occasioned so much disorder, and led Governor Peabody to take such vigorous repressive measures, has gradually lost in strength. According to a Colorado correspondent, the metal mines are running almost at their full capacity, and the troops have nearly all been withdrawn. But a coal strike, more serious to the people of the State, is now occasioning a widespread pros-

tration of industry. The union coal miners of Colorado are a part of the labor federation known as the United Mine Workers of America, of whom Mr. John Mitchell is President. A demand was made for a twenty per cent. increase of pay and for an eight-hour day (the present hours being from nine to eleven), and for the employment of union labor. The demands were refused, and a strike was ordered early in November. In the northern part of the State a compromise was proposed by the mine owners shortly after the opening of the strike—ten per cent. increase in wages and an eight-hour day, provided that eight hours should be agreed upon in the southern field; otherwise the number of hours to be fixed at nine. This compromise was voted down by the miners. The vote was so close that it was thought at first to have been accepted. Last week the mine owners of the northern fields offered to grant practically every demand, and Mr. Mitchell urged the union to accept, but the radicals carried the day against him. The strike of the northern miners is now purely sympathetic. The center of the struggle is in the southern part of the State, where the mines are almost without exception the property of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, the owners of the great steel plant in Pueblo. The company has always held to the principles of the "open shop," making no discrimination between union and non-union men. Before the strike, about half of its employees were non-union men, but when it was declared, a large number of non-union men, perhaps two thousand, joined the union. The company has met the issue by closing a part of its steel plant and sending about two thousand of the employees, thus released, to work the mines of the company. Thus far the strike has been orderly and without violence. The union seems to be well supplied with money and is caring for the men. One unusual feature is the fact that the union is paying the fare of striking miners to other fields, such as Texas and Kansas, where there is a shortage of union mining labor. The coal shortage is likely to be serious. Several towns are already short of fuel,