

Socialists impeaching M. Briand for his "dictatorial crushing down of wage-earners" should be rejected by an overwhelming majority, and that the Chamber, at the Prime Minister's demand, should give him not only one but several votes of confidence, also by overwhelming majorities; for throughout the Chamber there was the conviction that the assaults of discredited monarchist pretenders upon the Republic had been trifles compared with the peril of a widespread system of revolt among French railway employees. On the day following the announcement of the votes of confidence came the news that the Premier had presented the resignation of his Ministry to President Fallières. This dramatic action showed that the Ministry, though a solidity during the strike, was not unanimous regarding measures necessary to prevent a recurrence of the recent danger. Rather than reconstruct his Cabinet M. Briand preferred to resign, strong in the confidence that the votes in the Chamber would compel the President to ask him to form another Ministry. The President did as was expected, and M. Briand has now formed his new Ministry, in which five only of the former Cabinet are members. The week's history has provided all France with abundant material for vivacious conversation, and has elevated the Prime Minister into the greatest prominence.

**HENRI DUNANT** Last week, at the health resort of Heiden, above the Lake of Constance, Switzerland, Henri Dunant, founder of the Red Cross, died. In 1859, the year of the Battle of Solferino, Dunant, then a rich pleasure-seeker, thirty-one years old, was traveling in Italy and came to the battlefield where the thousands of wounded and dead lay. As aid was terribly lacking, the heart of the young Swiss was touched, and he improvised an ambulance and nurse service. Under the influence of this experience he wrote the "Souvenir of Solferino," a publication which stirred the world to pity. But Dunant did not stop there. He resolved to make sanitary conditions better in future wars. To this end he traveled all over Europe, interviewed sovereigns and ministers of state and converted them to

the recognition of the principle which had now become the aim of his life, namely, that the wounded must be regarded as neutrals. Having, first of all, secured the countenance of his own home Government, through its co-operation an international conference was held at Geneva in 1863. This was followed by the Geneva Convention of 1864, a body of articles "for the amelioration of the conditions of wounded in armies in the field." The number of the original signatory powers has now been increased to forty. With this triumph Dunant may be justly held to be the author of one of the most efficacious works in the world for the prevention and alleviation of human suffering. The outward sign and symbol of this work is a flag consisting of a red cross on a white ground. It was adopted as a compliment to Switzerland, whose national flag is the reverse. It was agreed that each country should have its own national Red Cross. The first President of the American Red Cross was Clara Barton, and the executive head is now President Taft. Though the work of the Red Cross has advanced from triumph to triumph, its founder has become gradually forgotten by an ungrateful world. Dunant had spent his fortune for his ideal, and for five years prior to 1902 lived in an old men's home near Geneva. Fortunately, in that year the philanthropic munificence of the late Alfred Nobel sought him out as a fitting recipient of the annual peace prize, the income from which enabled him to spend his last days in comfort.

**SCIENTIST, TEACHER  
AND EXPLORER**

Professor William Henry Brewer, who died in New Haven last week, had been an instructor in the Sheffield Scientific School of Yale for forty years, and it would be hard to name another teacher in the University who was more widely liked by students, by graduates, by associate teachers, and by the larger world outside of the University circles. He was burly in frame, direct in speech, kindly of heart. One of his associates at Yale is quoted as saying of him: "It's hard to label Brewer. He is everything. He is an eminent geologist, an expert mining engineer, an Arctic explorer, an art

critic, an author, and a charming companion." The older graduates of Yale will always think of Professor Brewer in connection with other distinguished Yale scientists, such as Silliman, Dana, Marsh, Brush, Loomis, and Newton, a group of whom he may be considered the last survivor. He was himself a graduate of the Sheffield Scientific School, and, together with Professor Brush, was a member of its very first class. He taught in other institutions for a few years after graduation, but in 1864 accepted a call from the Sheffield School as Professor of Agriculture and held that position until 1903, when he was made Professor Emeritus. In his early days he made extensive expeditions with Clarence King and others in the Sierra region, and one great peak there is named, after its discoverer, Mount Brewer. Throughout his whole active career he utilized vacations in research, travel, and exploration, into all of which he entered with extraordinary zest and enjoyment. He was a member of a party which visited the Arctic region in 1894, and with the others was in serious danger after their ship, the *Miranda*, went down, but Professor Brewer always looked back at the hardships and dangers as being merely the accompaniments of an unusual opportunity "to do a little exploring near the Arctic Circle." The expedition resulted in the formation of the Arctic Club, to which only those who were on the trip were eligible at first, but which afterwards expanded into a society with a large membership of adventurers and travelers who had had Arctic experience. Professor Brewer wrote much on scientific topics, had several titles from famous societies abroad and at home, and took an active part in geological and other scientific Governmental surveys.

#### FOR IN THE HALL OF FAME

Ten years ago New York University received a gift of \$100,000, which was afterwards increased to \$250,000, from a donor whose name was withheld, to be used in the erection of a building to be called the Hall of Fame for Great Americans; and in fulfillment of this plan a colonnade four hundred feet long, with spaces for one hundred and fifty panels, which are to bear the names

of famous Americans, in the form of a semicircle, connects the university Hall of Philosophy with the Hall of Languages on University Heights. Only persons who have been dead ten or more years are eligible. Fifty names were inscribed on the tablets at the beginning, and five additional names are to be added every fifth year until the year 2000, when the one hundred and fifty inscriptions will be complete. Four years later an additional structure in the form of a *loggia*, joining the colonnade on the north, with thirty panels for foreign-born Americans, and beyond this a Hall of Fame for women, with places for sixty tablets, were announced. There are one hundred and one electors. Eleven new names were recently added. Of these eleven, seven are the names of writers—Mrs. Stowe, Dr. Holmes, Poe, Cooper, Bryant, Bancroft, and Motley; Phillips Brooks and Roger Williams represent the field of religious leadership and life; Miss Willard that of social and moral reform, while Andrew Jackson stands for public life. There will now be fifty-one names inscribed in the Hall of Fame. Among those who received a large number of votes, but failed of election, were: Samuel Adams, Daniel Boone, Francis Parkman, Mark Hopkins, Patrick Henry, and three women—Lucretia Mott, Charlotte Cushman, and Martha Washington. The vote for Mrs. Stowe was larger than any vote for any person at any previous election, except the votes for Washington, Lincoln, Grant, Emerson, Longfellow, and Agassiz. So far these elections represent authorship more generously than any other form of activity. The absence of military heroes is noticeable, although Jackson's fame in connection with the battle of New Orleans may be counted as an important element in his popularity. The criticism of the electors for failing to inscribe Poe's name with those of other distinguished American writers has now happily been brought to a close. The omission of a name which belongs with the first three or four in American literature was irritating; but a good deal of the criticism of the electors was wide of the mark. It is perfectly safe to say that sectional feeling has had nothing to do with the postponement of the election of