

The resident commissioner from Porto Rico has been given additional authority by the House, making him equal in all essential respects to the delegate of a territory. Commissioner Degetan, taking advantage of his enlarged powers, introduced a bill expressly declaring the citizens of Porto Rico citizens of the United States.

A resolution was adopted in the House declaring that John A. Keliher was elected as a member from the Ninth Congressional District of Massachusetts, and was entitled to a seat, and that Joseph A. Conry was not elected a member from that district.

Governor Peabody of Colorado has revoked his order of Dec. 5 last, proclaiming martial law in Teller County, and all the prisoners have been delivered to the civil authorities.

A great fire broke out in Baltimore Feb. 7, in the heart of the city, and the wholesale dry goods, produce, lumber, shipping, railroad, and financial districts were destroyed. No accurate estimate of the financial loss can be made, but it is probably well over \$100,000,000.

#### FOREIGN.

War is now practically declared between Japan and Russia. Several weeks ago Japan sent to Russia a note setting forth her demands, and since that time the Russian reply has been anxiously awaited. Since Russia was evidently using the delay to push forward her military preparations, and since her reply to Japan had been delayed beyond all decency, Japan has recalled her envoy and hostilities may come at any time.

On Jan. 13 the United States and China, through their ministers, exchanged signed treaties providing for the opening of the Manchurian ports of Moukden and Antung to the world's commerce.

In San Domingo it is said that the Morales government is in control, the Jiminez revolt having been stamped out. If more capacity for

restoring peace is not shown the United States may be forced to interfere.

Mutinous Turkish troops have been terrorizing Beirut, Syria, demanding the payment of about \$80,000 in arrears, and threatening otherwise to sack the town.

Col. Arthur Lynch, who commanded the Irish brigade against the British forces during the war in South Africa, and who was afterwards convicted of treason and sentenced to imprisonment for life, has been liberated "on license." Since he has not received the royal pardon he is disqualified from sitting in Parliament and from holding any public office, but enjoys personal liberty and is free to leave the country.

#### GENERAL.

The coroner's jury on the Iroquois Theatre fire has returned a verdict by which Mayor Carter H. Harrison of Chicago is bound over to the grand jury for incompetency. Other prominent men held are the chief of the fire department, the manager of the theatre, and the building commissioner of Chicago, besides others of less prominence.

Whitaker Wright, the promoter of the London & Globe and other financial companies, who has been on trial for fraud, died suddenly after he had been found guilty by a jury and sentenced to seven years penal servitude. An examination showed that he committed suicide by taking potassium cyanide. The British public lost \$40,000,000 through his schemes.

Dr. William E. Huntington, Dean of Boston University since 1882, has been elected president of the Institution by the trustees. The choice was made on the second ballot, which was unanimous.

The department of economics and sociology of the Carnegie Institute is to prepare an economic history of the United States. The work will embrace eleven subjects, which are assigned to leading authorities. Money and Banking