



NATIONAL.

Secretary Hay has refused an unusual order of The Hague Tribunal of Arbitration, in connection with the recent Venezuelan arbitration. By the decision of the Tribunal, the "peace powers," including the United States, were to pay the costs of the arbitration. The Hague Court attached to its verdict a direction that the United States should collect the costs of arbitration and turn them over to the Court. Secretary Hay decided that the United States was not the bailiff of the Hague Court; that there was no good reason why the Court should pick out the United States for such a duty, and he therefore has sent a declination to perform it.

The first civil tribunal of the Seine has decided the case of the republic of Colombia against the Panama Canal Company in favor of the defendants. The decision holds that the complaint of Colombia is not receivable, and condemns the plaintiffs to pay the costs of the action. This decision has the effect of removing the legal obstacles in the way of the transfer of the canal concession from the company to the United States.

It has been announced at the Navy Department that the South Atlantic Squadron will sail from Culebra about May 15 for South African waters, going by way of Cape Verde Islands. The squadron will visit Cape Town, and may cruise up the coast to Madagascar. The squadron will comprise the *Brooklyn*, *Marietta*, *Castine*, and *Atlanta*. The ships will return to South American waters about August.

FOREIGN.

A minor engagement has taken place between the Japanese and the Russians at Chong-ju on the Ping-Yang — Wiju road, showing that the Japanese advance toward the Yalu is steady, if slow. The Russians were defeated and forced back. Russia has formally announced that she includes New Chuang in the theatre of war. The Russian gunboat at Shanghai, the *Mandjur*, has finally been disarmed, to the satisfaction of the Japanese consul there, and the Japanese cruiser which was watching her has sailed away.

Right Honorable Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, who has held many high positions in the government, the last having been the post of chancellor of the exchequer, announces that he will retire from the House of Commons at the end of the present Parliament.

GENERAL.

An interesting collection of invitations to and from Benjamin Franklin during his visit to England has been placed in the University of Pennsylvania library. As was the fashion at the time, all of the invitations were in writing, with the exception of those issued by Franklin; these were printed blanks in bold-face type, in the centre of a large, cheap-looking sheet.

In the Indoor Meet at Dartmouth the high jump was won by Smith, with Bullock second; height, 5 feet 7 inches. The pole vault was won by Hazen; height, 10 feet. The shot-put was won by Brown; distance, 36 feet 10 inches. These events are about the same for distance as were done at our Indoor Meet, so our Dual Meet should be very exciting.

The United States Supreme Court has decided that the Interstate Commerce Commission has the right to secure information for itself and for the public in dealing with trusts. This decision grew out of a suit introduced by W. R.