The murder of the Empress of Austria is not likely to escape the just retribution of his cowardly deed. Although under the laws of Switzerland the death penalty could not be imposed upon him, there is reason to believe that sufficient grounds exist for his extradition, and that his trial will take place on Austrian soil; in that event there is little doubt of the infliction of prompt punishment.

The indignation which has aroused aught to be sufficient notice to destructive anarchists that society will neither make terms with them nor be intimidated by them. The social order requires sacrifices, it is evident that the victims will not shrink; however may be the failings of monarchs, perjury has rarely been among them. The same has excited special indignation in Switzerland, because that little republic has consistently held its door open to political fugitives of every kind. Surrounded as it is by powerful neighbors, it has successfully maintained the right of asylum. There was something peculiarly base, therefore, in violating the hospitality of Switzerland by taking advantage of the presence of the Empress on Swiss soil to commit so atrocious and cowardly a murder. But Switzerland, although an asylum for political refugees in every kind, is not an asylum for assassins; and the crime of the Italian Anarchist Luc-Martin is likely to receive greater watchfulness on the part of the Swiss authorities over those who seek in that country shelter from the persecutions of their own governments.

It is reported that the European governments are considering the policy of expelling the anarchists, the purpose being, apparently, to keep beyond the boundaries all persons who profess Anarchistic sentiments. Aside from the obvious and necessary distinction which exists between opinions and deeds, of which must be taken into account in any attempt to deal by law with the opponents of the present social order, there is serious question as to the practicability of such a policy. If all the European countries agree upon a policy of expulsion, this country will be the only refuge of this class of Anarchists, and it is very doubtful whether this country will accept such a position.

The Dreyfus Case

The French Government has taken the first step toward recovering the confidence and respect which it has forfeited by its conduct of the Dreyfus case. At a Cabinet council held on Saturday last it was voted to submit the documentary evidence in the case to a commission, to be selected by the Minister of Justice, M. Sarrien, who are to report back to the Cabinet their opinion as to the revision of the entire case. This action of the Ministry was promptly followed by the resignation of the Minister of War, General Zurlinden, and also of the Minister of Public Works. If the committee report that the case ought to be reopened, there is apparently no doubt that the Government will at once proceed to that re-examination of the Dreyfus mystery which is essential to the re-establishment of confidence in its integrity and courage. It is interesting to note the progressive disturbance which this case has introduced into the inner ranks of the French official life. M. Cavaignac, the War Minister, who ordered the re-examination of the papers which brought out Colonel Henry's forgery, resigned; Colonel Henry committed suicide; General Gonse has been put on the retired list; Major Esterhazy, who is very likely the central villain in this mysterious drama, has disappeared, and is now reported to be living in disguise in London, and even to have confessed that the mass of the written evidence in the case was forged. The French Gov-
France in Africa

Just now the storm-center in Africa is at Fashoda, on the White Nile, some distance south of the site of Khartoum. There is little doubt of the correctness of the reports which state that Fashoda has been occupied by the French expedition under Major Marchand, accompanied by a few French soldiers and a large number of Abyssinians. Hardly had Omdurman been captured by General Kitchener when this news was brought to him from the south. Instantly he organized an expedition, including several machine guns, a troop or two of cavalry, and about 1,200 of the Soudanese soldiers. This force has been placed on steamers and sent up the Nile. What will happen when the British force meets the French expedition now at Fashoda is an interesting question. There is no doubt that General Kitchener will demand the right of hoisting the British and Egyptian flags there at once, and will make a claim to the region as Egyptian territory. The British commander has shown himself to be a man of judgment and sagacity as well as a fine soldier, and it is not probable that he will act precipitately, or bring on a clash of arms. But such an occurrence is within the limits of possibility, and, if it actually happens, it would put France and England into a position of direct hostility. If no such clash comes—and, as we have said, it seems improbable that it should—there is no reason to believe that France and England cannot settle the matter in dispute amicably. There is involved a somewhat fine point of territorial and international law. The real issue is whether or not Fashoda, and the country about it, belonged to the Equatorial Provinces, which were before the time of the Mahdi under the command of Emin Pasha, and were undoubtedly a part of Egyptian territory. If so, England, acting for Egypt (for Sir Herbert Kitchener is Sirdar, or Commander-in-Chief, of the Egyptian forces), has, beyond question, the right of possession in this district of the White Nile. If not, then the country might reasonably be considered open to occupation by the first comer, as other regions in Africa have been occupied; and in this view the French have now, of course, acquired a right by pre-emption. The argument for either theory is intricate, and the question is thus pre-eminently one for diplomacy or for arbitration. It is not impossible that if the French make a strong claim, and support it with strong arguments, Great Britain will be inclined to make some sort of a bargain with France. The territory in question is of much more importance to England than to France, because it forms part of the line of prospective advance between Cairo and the Cape, of which we hear so much of late.

In Crete

The situation in Crete remains critical. From the day when British soldiers were killed by a Turkish mob, it has been certain that Great Britain would inflict punishment, and would demand security for the keeping of the peace in the future. Admiral Noel has made two demands upon the Turkish Government; one for the handing over to him of the ringleaders of the mob, the other for the disarmament of the Bashi-Bazouks in Crete. Beyond this it is quite probable that, in view of the special injury to England and defiance of its military power, England will ask of the Powers that she be placed in control of Cretan affairs, at least for the present. To the first of Admiral Noel's demands the Military Governor of Crete has responded by giving up some forty men as the leading spirits in the recent attack; it is supposed, however, by those conversant with Turkish methods, that the persons given up are by no means those who have real influence with the Turkish population, or who are chiefly responsible for the riots. The second demand of Admiral Noel has caused the Turkish authorities, both in Cardia and Constantinople, great perturbation. The Sultan has exerted every influence to arouse the jealousy of the other Powers, and thus to lead them to interfere in his behalf against Great Britain. The present indications are, however, that matters have changed very