

VENEZUELAN CONTROVERSY.

England Will Have to Revise Her Whole View of the Situation.

Such is the Editorial Comment of the London "Chronicle."

The Assertion of Lord Salisbury Untenable—The Schomburgk Line Worthless as a Basis of Territorial Claim of Boundary Between British Guiana and Venezuela—Hope That Both the United States and England Will See a Way Out of Impending Peril.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—A special representative of the "Daily Chronicle," who is now in Washington, cables to that paper that he has obtained from a source, which he is compelled not to reveal, the official unpublished correspondence by Great Britain and Venezuela between November, 1840, when Sir Robert Schomburgk was appointed to delimitate the frontier of British Guiana, and April, 1842, when England removed the boundary posts set up by Robert Schomburgk. In October, 1841, Senator Fortique, Venezuelan Minister to Great Britain, wrote to Lord Aberdeen, Colonial Secretary of State in the Cabinet of Sir Robert Peel, referring to Venezuela's proposals to conclude a treaty on the boundaries, and protesting that before the proposal was answered a sentry box, carrying a British flag, had been built on the republic's territory.

Senator Fortique again urged that a boundary treaty be entered upon.

Lord Aberdeen replied that he had received Sir Robert Schomburgk's report that he had planted boundary posts at certain points in the country he had surveyed, being fully aware that the demarcation so made was merely a preliminary measure open to future discussion between Great Britain and Venezuela. It did not appear, however, that Sir Robert Schomburgk had left any buildings.

Senator Fortique replied that Sir Robert Schomburgk had planted at the mouth of the Orinoco River several posts, which he had also raised the British flag with much show of force, and performed other acts of dominion in Venezuela. Extreme courtesy alone prevented Venezuela from forcibly expelling him. After some delay Lord Aberdeen replied to Senator Fortique, confirming his previous statement, and adding that much unnecessary inconvenience would result from the removal of the posts, as they would afford the only tangible means by which her majesty's Government could be prepared to discuss the question of boundaries with Venezuela. The posts were erected for that purpose, and not, as Venezuela appeared to apprehend, as indicating dominion.

In the same dispatch Lord Aberdeen expressed pleasure at learning that the Governor of Guiana had assured the Venezuelan emissaries that Great Britain had not occupied Point Barima.

In January, 1842, Senator Fortique again wrote to Reinsist upon the removal of the posts.

The "Chronicle" then quotes from the second note of Lord Salisbury to Secretary Olney the words: "At the earnest entreaty of the Venezuelan Government these two posts were afterwards removed, as stated by Mr. Olney, but this concession was made on the distinct understanding that Great Britain did not in any way abandon her claim to that position."

The "Chronicle" also quotes from the two documents in which the discussion was made. The first document consists of a dispatch sent in March, 1842, by Henry Light, Governor of Guiana, to Daniel O'Leary, British Consul at Caracas, stating that the Colonial Secretary had ordered the Governor to remove the landmarks. The other document is a dispatch from Mr. O'Leary to the Venezuelan Government containing the substance of Governor Light's dispatch.

The "Chronicle" remarks that nothing indicates the condition asserted by Lord Salisbury, and adds: "If the above documents, and their source excludes suspicion, the Schomburgk line is proved worthless as a basis of any territorial claim whatever."

Commenting editorially on the subject, the "Chronicle" says: "We are bound to say, assuming, as we are bound to assume, the accuracy of our representative's statements, that they vitiate Lord Salisbury's second dispatch to Secretary Olney, and render it necessary for us to revise our whole view of the situation. Clearly there can now be no question regarding the Schomburgk line as a ramrod thrust between Great Britain and Venezuela. In a word, England and the United States have a way out. We look to the statesmen on both sides to enlarge upon this information and escape from the utmost peril."

LONDON, Jan. 2.—The "Daily News," commenting on the appointment of the Venezuelan Commission, will tomorrow say that the nominations will command general respect in England, where public opinion will readily recognize a commission which diplomacy must necessarily ignore. Its report cannot fall to be instructive to both sides. During the interval of the inquiry the jingoes of both sides will confer the greatest possible benefit on humanity by not making any noise.

The "Morning Post" will say: "None of the members of the commission, except Justice Brewer and the Hon. Andrew D. White, has any claim to occupy the great position assigned to him, while Frederick R. Coudert, on any principle of fair play or common sense, is disqualified by his public declarations. The position of the gentlemen appointed is in complete harmony with the overbearing language of President Cleveland's message."

The "Standard" will comment in a sarcastic vein. "It would not be right for Englishmen to criticize the gentlemen who have consented to assist the President's study of the inquiry geography. If their names command the approval of the American people, that is all that can be desired or expected."

The "Chronicle" will say: "It must be admitted that President Cleveland has succeeded in forming a body that is calculated to command respect."

The "Times" will say: "Excepting Mr. Coudert, all that can be said for the nominees is that while they are reputa-

ble and may be absolutely fair-minded, they have not such weight as will command for their conclusions any recognition outside of the United States."

THE COMMISSION.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The few members of the House who were about the Capitol to-day showed only the most languid interest in the President's Venezuelan Commission. The principal regret expressed was that the President had not selected men of National reputation, such as ex-Ministers Lincoln and Phelps.

While the commission does not give the satisfaction that was expected, members generally believe that it will perform its duties as well as any other commission that might be named, but the lack of any great name associated with it will, it is felt, weaken the effect of its work across the Atlantic. Such of the Democratic Representatives as were spoken to professed ignorance of the capabilities of the members of the commission. The five men of the commission have not yet formally notified the President of their acceptance, but Mr. Cleveland had received assurances before the appointments were made that the gentlemen were willing to serve.

It is interesting to note that Professor Gilman, in his life of Monroe, takes the ground that the idea embodied in the famous doctrine did not originate with Canning, but was practically suggested many years before his time.

Chief Justice Fuller is largely responsible for the selection of Justice Brewer. The Chief Justice had several talks with the President and Secretary Olney on the subject, and it is not unlikely that his opinion also had weight in the appointment of Justice Alvey.

"I must say I am rather disappointed in the committee to consider the Venezuelan matter," said Senator Cullom of Illinois this morning. "The President has failed to designate men of sufficient international reputation to give the body which they compose that standing among foreign Powers that would make their findings of great weight and value. Had the President seen fit to have selected two out of the trio composed of Senator Edmunds, Mr. Phelps and Mr. Carter, he would have strengthened his commission immeasurably. Still, I am sure all of the men named are honest, capable and patriotic, and will proceed with the great work before them in a spirit that will result in fairness to all parties concerned."

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CANADIAN PARLIAMENT.

Address of Lord Aberdeen at the Opening Session.

OTTAWA (Ont.), Jan. 2.—The sixth session of the seventh Parliament of the Dominion of Canada was opened by Lord Aberdeen, the Governor-General, at 3 o'clock this afternoon. In the course of his speech Lord Aberdeen said:

"My Government has learned with satisfaction that it is the intention of the Secretary of State for the Colonies to appoint a committee to consider the proposed Pacific cable to connect Canada with Australia. You will, I am sure, share in the gratification with which my advisors welcome these announcements."

"Your attention will be asked to measures intended to provide for the better arming of our militia and the strengthening of the Canadian defenses. I am happy to be able to inform you that the commissioners appointed by Great Britain and by the United States for the purpose of delimiting the boundary between Alaska and Canada have concluded their labors, and have signed a joint report for presentation to their respective Governments. This report will be laid before Parliament in due time."

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The statement in Lord Aberdeen's address to the Canadian Parliament at its opening session to-day that the commissioners appointed by Great Britain and the United States for the purpose of locating the boundary line between Alaska and Canada had concluded their labors and signed a joint report for presentation to their respective Governments is liable to misconception without explanation. It must not be assumed that these commissioners have agreed upon a boundary line between Alaska and Canada. They have simply signed a report upon the results of a series of surveys that have been in progress several years past. These surveys were carried on by parties from the United States and Canada, under direction of a commissioner from each country, appointed pursuant to the provisions of a convention concluded in Washington July 22, 1892, for the purpose of determining, if possible, the boundary line of Southeast Alaska.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The President gave his first State dinner of the season to-night, thus inaugurating the social gaieties of the winter. The dinner in its official sense was a dinner to the members of the Cabinet, but the guests included several others well known in official and social circles.

Following is a full list of those present at this state function: President and Mrs. Cleveland, Vice-President Stevenson, Secretary of State and Mrs. Olney, Secretary of the Treasury and Mrs. Carlisle, Secretary of War and Mrs. Lamont, Attorney-General and Mrs. Harmon, Postmaster-General and Mrs. Wilson, Secretary of the Navy and Miss Herbert, Secretary of the Interior Smith, Secretary of Agriculture and Mrs. Morton, Speaker Reed, Senator and Mrs. Palmer, Senator and Mrs. Brice, Representative and Mrs. Catledge, Mrs. Charles S. Fairchild, Edward R. Bacon, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Stewart, Frank Thompson and Miss Thompson, Mr. and Mrs. John S. Kennedy, Mrs. Minot, Miss Boardman, Miss Frances Walker, Mr. and Mrs. John D. Henderson and Mrs. Micoout.

The parlors and stateroom of the Executive Mansion were as usual resplendent with elaborate floral decorations, and the electric light display formed no small part of the pleasing spectacle.

Santa Fe Earnings.

CHICAGO, Jan. 2.—The estimated gross earnings of the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific Railroad for December are \$1,277,843, an increase of \$76,092, as compared with the estimated gross earnings for December, 1894. The gross earnings of the Santa Fe system (all lines) for the month of November are \$1,709,629, a decrease of \$150,529 from the same month last year.

For five months, from July 1st to November 30th, the gross earnings were \$17,048,028, an increase for the same period last year of \$904,279.

THE NEW BOND BILL.

Little Progress Made on the Measure by the Senate Finance Committee.

Silver Men in the Majority and Exercising Their Power.

Heated Discussion Over the Question of Retiring Greenbacks—The Democratic Members, Together With Senator Jones of Nevada, Afterward Hold a Conference and Discuss a Bill Which They Will Offer as a Substitute for the House Bill.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—But little progress was made in the Senate Committee on Finance to-day toward an agreement with the House bond bill. No vote of any kind was taken nor did the silver men, who are in the majority on the committee, submit any definite proposition. There was a great deal of informal discussion, during which the absolute fact was demonstrated that the silver men know their power, and proposed to exercise it.

The discussion was quite heated, especially when Mr. Sherman was accused by some of his silver colleagues with seeking to retire the greenbacks, although he had, they said, up to the day he introduced his resolution in the Senate, been strongly in favor of keeping those tales in constant circulation. Sherman denied that he was in favor of cancellation of the greenbacks, and asserted that such Senators as understood his position in that light evidently did not understand the purport of the resolution he had introduced.

Recess until to-morrow morning was taken. Immediately after adjournment the Democrats, together with Jones (Pop.) of Nevada, held a conference and discussed the terms of a bill which they offered as a substitute. The Secretary of the Treasury was appointed as substitute committee to draw the bill and present it to the silver men before the meeting of the committee to-morrow morning.

This substitute, it is believed, provides for legislation that will open the United States Mints to the free and unlimited coinage of both gold and silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, and the issue of certificates thereon in the manner now provided by law, withdrawal from circulation all national bank notes of denominations of less than \$10, and the substitution thereof of notes of \$10 or more; directing the Secretary of the Treasury to coin the bullion in the treasury purchased under the Sherman Act into standard silver dollars, and redeem the treasury notes issued for the purchase of this bullion in such silver dollars; directing the Secretary of the Treasury to redeem greenbacks in either silver or gold, or both, as the conditions of the treasury may require, and when so redeemed, requiring them to be reissued.

PUBLIC DEBT.

Statement Issued for the Month of December.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 2.—The debt statement issued this afternoon shows a net decrease in the public debt, less cash in the treasury, during December of \$1,179,349.80. The interest-bearing debt is unchanged. The non-interest-bearing debt decreased \$568,535.50, and cash in the treasury increased \$620,814.290.

The balance of the several classes of debt at the close of business December 31st were: Interest-bearing debt, \$747,361,960; debt on which interest has ceased since maturity, \$1,673,510.22; debt bearing no interest, \$376,288,992.14; total, \$1,125,325,462.40.

The certificates and treasury notes offset by an equal amount of cash in the treasury outstanding at the end of the month were \$568,023,673, a decrease of \$14,364,000. The total cash in the treasury was \$787,578,447.62. The gold reserve was \$83,232,268. Net cash balance, \$114,764,932.92.

In the month there was a decrease in gold coin and bars of \$16,369,237.05, the total at the close being \$113,198,707.67. Of silver there was a decrease of \$704,186.95. Of the surplus there was in national bank depositories \$14,271,280.23, against \$14,418,308.53 at the end of the preceding month.

The treasury official statement of receipts and expenditures were issued to-day. The receipts for December were \$26,288,957, and the expenditures \$25,814,317, showing a surplus for the month of \$474,620. For the first six months of the fiscal year the receipts were \$167,568,053, and the expenditures \$182,962,760, making the deficit \$15,394,707. As compared with the last fiscal year at the same period, customs receipts show an increase of \$13,000,000. Expenditures show a decrease for the same period of \$4,000,000, of which \$1,000,000 is in pensions and \$3,000,000 in year establishment. The war expenditures have increased \$1,000,000, and the interest account nearly \$3,000,000, while the civil expenditures have decreased \$5,000,000. Other items show slight changes making up the difference.

MURDERER HANGED.

Woodley Executed at Pittsburgh for the Killing of Mrs. Buchanan.

PITTSBURGH, Jan. 2.—Albert W. Woodley was hanged at 10:49 o'clock this morning in the County Jail for the murder of Mrs. Jennie Buchanan.

At 10:45 o'clock the invited spectators, not more than fifty in number, were admitted to the jail yard. As soon as the farewells were concluded at the cell door, Woodley was pinioned by Deputy Sheriff German, and the march to the scaffold was taken up.

One minute after leaving the cell Woodley stood upon the trap, and an instant later he dropped through the opening. As the black cap was adjusted, he exclaimed: "I am not guilty."

Woodley killed Mrs. Buchanan at her home, 45 Sturgeon street, Allegheny City, in May, 1894. He was engaged to be married to the woman. The life of the two, so far as is known, had been felicitous, and the cause of the murder was never known. Woodley claimed that he was drunk when he did the shooting. Immediately after Woodley had killed his fiancée he shot himself, but the wound inflicted was not serious. July 12, 1894, Woodley was con-

victed, and on October 27th of that year was sentenced to be hanged.

MEXICAN GULF ROAD.

It May Become the Property of the Southern Pacific System.

SAN ANTONIO (Tex.), Jan. 2.—President Huntington and other officials of the Southern Pacific Railroad, accompanied by Manager Monom of the Monterey and Mexican Gulf Railroad, passed through this city yesterday on an inspection of the latter road, with a view to its lease or purchase by the Southern Pacific. It is known that negotiations have been in progress for some time, the Southern Pacific being desirous of acquiring another Mexican line in connection with the International, which it already owns. President Trezev of the Gulf line is now in Belgium, and it is said he has authorized Mr. Monom to close the deal on behalf of the Belgian bondholders. A Southern Pacific agent, who was recently sent from New York to inspect the Mexican line, made a favorable report to President Huntington.

OVERLAND TRAVEL.

Improvement Made in the Service to the Coast.

OMAHA, Jan. 2.—The improvement in the overland limited service inaugurated was the occasion for a large gathering of local railroad men this morning when the California flyer, via the Union Pacific and Northwestern, arrived at the Union depot at 8:10 o'clock. Several hundred people inspected the new palace combination cars. It was the first transcontinental passenger train which ever left Omaha without a separate baggage-car and smoker. The elegant appointments of the new cars are expected to contribute largely to the comforts of the overland limited. The business of the overland flyer has improved 70 per cent. since the service was inaugurated.

JAIL-BREAK AT LEAVENWORTH.

Three Federal Indian Prisoners Make Their Escape.

LEAVENWORTH (Kan.), Jan. 2.—Three Federal Indian prisoners made good their escape this afternoon, and up to a late hour to-night had not been recaptured, though it is believed they will be landed within the next twenty-four hours.

The prisoners were employed on the bottom farm of the prison at the edge of the woods, and all three made a dash for liberty together, running like racehorses. The guard, fired after them, but did not hit either of them so far as known. The alarm was given at once, and every available man sent out mounted in pursuit, but up to a late hour they had not been caught.

CONSULS TO MEDIATE.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—A dispatch from Constantinople says that the Porte has consented to accept the offer of the foreign representatives at Constantinople that the Consuls at Aleppo mediate between the Turks who are besieging Zeitoun and the Armenians who hold the town, for the surrender of the latter.

LABOR TROUBLES.

Philadelphia to Have Another Street Railway Strike.

The Contest Bids Fair to be Bitter and Long Prolonged—To Go Into Effect This Morning.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 3.—Philadelphia labor have another car strike, and, from the demeanor of both sides, the contest bids fair to be a bitter and prolonged struggle.

At 1 o'clock this (Friday) morning, after a stormy meeting, in which President Mahone of the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees, came near being assaulted for counseling moderation, the employees of the Union Traction Company decided to strike, and the order is effective at 4 o'clock this morning.

The Union Traction Company controls every line of street railway in the city except two, and before daylight Philadelphia will find themselves face to face with a strike similar to that which was ended ten days before Christmas. Mayor Warwick was advised of the situation early this morning, and held a long conference with the Chief of Police.

All efforts to effect a compromise failed. At 11 o'clock last night the men held a mass-meeting, and as the vote taken showed a large majority in favor of striking, the result of the mass-meeting was a foregone conclusion.

Yesterday, when another strike seemed a probability, the Toynebe Society, the Universal Peace Union and a number of gentlemen who are interested in the welfare of the city, visited and wrote to the headquarters of the Amalgamated Association, counseling moderation, and advising the men against another strike, but these efforts were thrown away.

The men demand of the company that it arbitrate the clause in its latest agreement submitted to them that in the future all new men who are taken on the road shall be in no way affiliated or connected with, directly or indirectly, any labor organization, and in case the company firmly declined to eliminate.

After the poll of the road yesterday afternoon was known, another committee of men called on General Manager Beeten last night to make a last appeal to him to eliminate the objectionable clause. For over two hours Mr. Beeten and the committee discussed the matter. The discussion was conducted amicably, but both sides remained firm. At the conclusion of the meeting Mr. Beeten stated to the men that the company would not discharge any of the men for belonging to the union, and that it would deal entirely with them, but that it was unalterably determined not to allow its employees to dictate to it in the matter under discussion.

The company believes that it will have no trouble in getting men to fill the strikers' places, and Mr. Beeten told the committee that within the past three days the company had refused applications for situations from 500 men.

PRINTERS ON A STRIKE.

RACINE (Wis.), Jan. 2.—All the union printers in the newspaper and job offices here went on a strike to-day for an increase in wages of about 35 per cent. Printers from Chicago and Milwaukee have been found to take their places.

FATALITIES THE RESULT.

A Series of Terrible Explosions Occur in the City of St. Louis,

Laying Waste Property and Causing Loss of Life.

Five Dead Bodies Taken From the Ruins—A Great Number of People Injured, While a Large Number Are Missing, Though It is Hoped That the Unaccounted-For Are Safe With Friends.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 2.—Just at 1 o'clock this afternoon a series of terrible explosions laid waste the vicinity of Second and Vine streets, where printing houses and allied trades are numerous.

Just after the clock struck a boiler in George E. Merritt's printing office basement, No. 308 North Third street, just across the alley from the storage and commission house of H. B. Grubb, exploded. In the rear of the Grubb establishment a large quantity of fireworks was stored, and a second explosion occurred, followed immediately by a third that lifted the Grubb building and dropped it in a mass of wreckage.

The explosion caused general consternation, and every window of three buildings was broken. A large plate glass window in the Merchants' Exchange, four blocks away, was shattered, and the traders stampeded.

Nineteen persons were seriously injured, and at 6 p. m., five dead were found. In addition to the list of injured given thirty-five others were more or less hurt.

The E. Grubb Commission Company occupied the ground floor of 309 North Second street, and the Anchor Peanut Company the second and third floors. Adjoining the wrecked building on the south is the Levison & Blythe Printing Company, where most of the injured were employed. The north walls and two floors went down. On the north is the Excelsior Wire Company's building, also partly wrecked.

Within half a minute the three buildings were wrapped in flames. Firemen and policemen began the work of rescue. There were less than a dozen people in the wrecked building, which accounts for the small death list.

Following is a roll of the killed and injured, corrected at 6 o'clock this evening:

The dead: Joseph Kovarick, boy, employed by Levison & Blythe; Frank Niehaus, boy, employed by Levison & Blythe; Charles Claybrook, colored porter for Anchor Peanut Company. Two corpses were also taken from the basement of the Excelsior Wire Company.

The missing: Chris Kerger, shipping clerk, Excelsior Company; Thomas Ley, shipping clerk, Excelsior Company; Al McMiller, employe, Excelsior Company; Charles Erickson, employe Excelsior Company.

The injured: Albert Steinhmeyer, boy, employed by Levison & Blythe; legs crushed and probably fatally hurt; Will Brondwider, porter, cuts on head, face and body; Christ Kraft, deep cut over right eye; Horace Diort, pressman, face smashed; L. D. Platt, pressman, cuts on head and face; John Corcoran, clerk, severely injured about head; Edgar Vance, bookbinder, cut about head; Ben Taylor, shipping clerk, fatally hurt; Joseph Brandewiler, pressman, back strained; William Herner, printer, blinded by glass; William Couleshaw, printer, neck and breast pierced by glass, fatally injured; Hugh Allen, printer, right arm broken; Joe Corcoran, an expressman, severely cut in back; Albert Schmeitz, fatally burned; Henry Stack, driver, legs broken; Richard Couleshaw, foreman Frey Printing Company, hurt internally; John Carter, press boy, eyes cut; Joe Barker, printer, shoulder broken; Charles Amos, letter carrier, blown from second story window, badly injured.

The full list of all the employees of the four firms is not obtainable, and probably the list of dead will be increased when the ruins are overhauled. E. P. Lass, proprietor of the Excelsior Wire Company, says he is quite sure five of his employees did not escape from the building. The work of examining the ruins is going on to-night.

The total loss will exceed \$100,000; all insured.

Later, the police have made as complete a canvass as possible to-night of the city to ascertain the number of missing, and the result is disheartening. The list has grown to nineteen, though it is hoped some of these are temporarily housed with friends.

The scene of the wreck is the center of anxious inquiry from the kindred of the missing ones. They stand in the falling cold and watch with fearful eyes the work of the wreckers. Little work can be done to-night, but it will be continued till the debris is thoroughly searched.

The explosion was heard as far west as Twenty-third street, and also in East St. Louis, across the river. It is now believed that many buildings in the vicinity have been rendered unsafe. A cessation of business about the wreck will be had until thorough inspection is made.

Some of the escapes from death seem miraculous. James Kennedy, a printer, perched for twenty minutes on the frame of a third-story window, which fell just as the ladder men reached him. John Marlowe was on the street in front of Grubb's building, and was hurled across the street against a horse that had been killed against the opposite wall.

These stories of escape are almost innumerable.

"The remarkable thing in this disaster," said Fire Chief Swingley, "is that the death roll is not fifty at least. Here are three buildings in wreck, and within those buildings at least 300 people were at work."

At 7 o'clock the body of Albert McMiller, aged 18, was taken from the cellar of the Excelsior Works' building. It is badly burned. As late as 8 o'clock groans were heard in the wreck, and the police had difficulty in restraining the anxious relatives of the missing.

The City Dispensary was turned into a temporary hospital, and fully thirty slightly injured persons, besides the list given, were treated there. There are four bodies at the Morgue, one not yet identified.

A Banker Assigns.

PEORIA (Ill.), Jan. 2.—Peter Schurtz,

banker and lumber merchant at Metamora, who was also in the grain business there, at Low Point and Cazenovia, made an assignment to-day. His liabilities are \$100,000 and assets \$130,000.

FREE-SILVER LEAGUE.

An Address Issued to the Voters of Nebraska.

LINCOLN (Neb.), Jan. 2.—The Executive Committee of the Nebraska Free Silver League, a non-partisan organization of which Governor Holcomb and ex-Congressman Bryan are leading spirits, to-day issued an extended address to the voters of the State. It says the purpose is to unite all friends of silver in one grand organization, and continues:

"Gold standard advocates are already organized for the purpose of propagating the gold standard idea. We cannot hope to make a successful resistance to them unless there is some channel through which literature on the subject may be conveyed directly to the voters, and there is no reason why differences of opinion upon other political issues should prevent co-operation in educational work among those who believe in the restoration of the gold and silver coinage of the Constitution.

"The unconditional repeal of the Sherman law, the veto of the seigniorage bill, the refusal of the treasury department to coin the silver bullion now on hand, the repeated attempts to retire the greenbacks and treasury notes in the interest of national bank currency, the issue of interest-bearing bonds in general and the execution of the Rothschild contract in particular—all parts of one comprehensive scheme to fasten the monometallic system upon the people of the United States, and make gold the only legal tender money—have made it certain that the money question will for the time being, at least, be one of the most prominent issues before the people.

"We have no fund with which to employ organizers, and must appeal to the common people to make the silver cause the only contribution within their power, namely, friendly interest and a helping hand. This is not a secret organization, but an open warfare in opposition to the financial policy which Mr. Carlisle once called an international conspiracy against the welfare of mankind, and which Mr. Blaine once declared would prove 'distressing to millions and utterly disastrous to tens of thousands.'"

The address is signed by G. L. Laws, Silas A. Holcomb, W. J. Bryan and H. J. Hardy.

IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Report of Fighting Between the Boers and Jameson's Forces.

CAPE TOWN, Jan. 2.—The Capetown "Times" has a dispatch from Pretoria, dated yesterday, saying that the latest news from Krugersdorp was to the effect that there had been fighting between the Boers and the force led by Dr. Jameson, and that the latter had suffered heavily.

A later dispatch from Pretoria says that Dr. Jameson was surrounded by a large force of Boers near Krugersdorp and was obliged to surrender.

The Right Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, Secretary of State for the Colonies, has sent a dispatch to Governor Robinson, saying: "I regret that Dr. Jameson's disobedience has led to a deplorable loss of life. Do your best to secure generous treatment of the prisoners and wounded."

LONDON, Jan. 2.—The following dispatch was received late this evening from Sir Henry Robinson, Governor of Cape Colony:

"Capetown, Jan. 2.—8:15 p. m.—A messenger overtook Dr. Jameson three miles the other side of the Elans River. The messenger brought back a verbal message that the dispatch received by Dr. Jameson would be attended to. The force was adding up and at once proceeded eastward. Dr. Jameson thus received and disregarded both my messages."

A dispatch has reached the Colonial office stating that Dr. Jameson has had a battle with the Boers before Johannesburg, resulting in his surrender. A number of his followers were killed and wounded. No details are given.

LONDON, Jan. 2.—A dispatch from Johannesburg, South Africa, dated December 30th, says the people there are greatly excited. Numbers of Boers are to be seen riding through the streets which adds greatly to the public excitement. A performance of "Othello" was given on December 30th at the Standard Theater in Johannesburg, which was crowded with people of all classes. The orchestra played the "Volkslied," the national air of Transvaal, whereat the audience drowned the music with groans and hisses. The orchestra then played "God Save the Queen," when the people rose and cheered.

A mass meeting of Australian residents of Johannesburg has been held, at which the Chairman proposed that infantry and mounted companies be raised to resist the Boers.

Destructive Fire in Florida.

WEST PALM BEACH (Fla.), Jan. 2.—Fire this afternoon destroyed over half the business portion of the town. The fire started at 1:30 o'clock in Hewlett's saloon and restaurant building on Banyan street, and before it could be checked the entire block, including the Seminole Hotel, valued at \$25,000, was burned. Several persons were badly injured by the explosion of dynamite to save other buildings. The loss is estimated at about \$250,000.

Fire at Chicago.

CHICAGO, Jan. 3.—The big five-story-flat building, occupying a half-block at the corner of Sixty-second and Lexington avenue, was almost totally destroyed by fire early this morning. The loss will be about \$75,000. The building was owned by W. G. Press, the Board of Trade and real estate man, and was just about completed. A strong northwest wind fanned the flames vigorously, and the firemen had a difficult task in overcoming them.

Chess Tournament.

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