



## THE SECOND DAY'S SESSION OF CONGRESS.

### Senators Hold a Meeting Taking Up Less Than Half an Hour's Time.

### Adjourning Out of Respect to Memory of Ex-Speaker Crisp.

### The House Promptly Gets Down to Business, Four Bills Being Passed During the Three Hours' Session, One Allowing Use of Private Postal Cards, Another to Allow Indemnity for Loss of Registered Matter, Authorizing Appointment of Letter Carriers Where Free Delivery is Not in Vogue and the Pension Appropriation Bill.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The Senate spent less than half an hour in session to-day and then adjourned until tomorrow as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Speaker Crisp. The only business transacted during the half hour was the presentation of communications from several of the departments and answers to petitions from some of them favoring the passage of the Dingley bill. An effort was made by Call (D.) of Florida to get in a resolution on the subject of Cuba, but as that stage of the morning business had not been reached he was forced to wait for another day. Notice was given by Cullom (R.) of Illinois that he would next Thursday submit some remarks on that subject.

The House promptly got down to business to-day, resuming the call of committees where it left off at the close of last session. Under the call the Committee on Postoffices and Postroads occupied nearly three hours of the session in that period, securing the passage of three bills. These were: Authorizing the use of private postal cards, authorizing the Postmaster-General to allow an indemnity not exceeding \$10 in any one case for the loss of registered packages or letters, authorizing the appointment of letter carriers at offices where the free delivery system is not established, the cost thereof to be borne by the patrons. The pension bill was passed without amendment.

### SENATE PROCEEDINGS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—When the Senate reconvened this morning the Vice-President presented a communication from the Secretary of the Treasury giving the number of aliens employed in the Treasury Department, as called for by resolution May 9th last. It states that the number of such aliens at the time of the adoption of the resolution was thirty-five, but since then almost all of them had become naturalized. Various other department communications were received and referred, among them the annual report of the Government Directors of the Union Pacific Company. Petitions from Philadelphia and St. Louis favoring the passage of the Dingley bill were presented by Morrill (R.) and referred to the Finance Committee. Like petitions were presented by other Senators, also several other memorials in relation to Armenian outrages.

Cullom (R.) of Illinois gave notice that he would next Thursday morning submit remarks on the Cuban question.

A message from the House in relation to the death of ex-Speaker Crisp was laid before the Senate, and on motion of Bacon (D.) of Georgia, who stated that he would ask the Senate at a future date to assign a day for eulogies, the Senate at 12:35 p. m. adjourned out of respect to the memory of the ex-Speaker.

### HOUSE PROCEEDINGS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The House, when called to order, plunged into routine business.

Hull (R.) of Iowa offered a resolution referring to the Committee on Military Affairs so much of the report of the Boards of Soldiers' Homes as under the rules should go to that committee.

After some desultory discussion the Speaker stated that he would refer the report to the Appropriation Committee. This was satisfactory, and the resolution was agreed to.

Lead (R.) of California, from the Committee on Postoffices and Postroads, called up the bill authorizing the use of private cards, to be no longer than the official cards, and to be carried by affixing a stamp.

The bill takes effect July 1, 1897. It was passed without objection and without further argument.

Loud also called up the bill authorizing the Postmaster-General to make regulations by which senders of registered letters or packages may be indemnified in a sum not exceeding \$10 in any one case for loss of letter or package in the mail, to be paid out of the postal revenues. Postmasters-General Bissell and Wilson approved the bill.

Quigg (D.) of New York opposed the bill, suggesting an increased fee to meet the cost of insurance to recoup the Government to meet his objections.

Bingham (R.) of Pennsylvania, supporting the bill, replied to Hopkins (R.) of Illinois, stating that the experience of every country which had adopted the indemnity for losses had been that the revenues from increased business was vastly greater than the cost of insurance.

The bill was passed—76 to 13.

Loud also called up the House bill directing the Postmasters at places where there is no free mail delivery, upon the petition of twenty persons receiving mail at one office, to appoint carriers, who shall be paid for their services by the patrons who utilize them.

Sperry (R.) of Connecticut advocated the passage of the bill, and Bingham opposed it because of the increased liability to mail depreation the employment of such a force would incur.

The passage of the bill was advocated by Williams (D.) of Missouri, Smith (R.) of Illinois, Johnson (R.) of California and

Pickler (R.) of South Dakota, and opposed by Loud.

The latter gentleman said that it conformed to the spirit of the bill, and that now exist. Any man or body of men could select a messenger to collect and deliver their mail and pay him for it if they wanted to do so. It was, besides, a dangerous measure.

The bill was passed—101 to 13.

The House then resolved itself into Committee of the Whole and proceeded to consider the general pension appropriation bill. The provisions of the bill were briefly explained by W. A. Stone (R.) of Pennsylvania. It carried a total appropriation of \$141,283,880—less by \$85,000 than the appropriation for the current year and the estimates of the Commissioner. No new legislation was proposed in the bill.

Grow (R.) of Pennsylvania, the venerable Representative and ex-Speaker of the House, took occasion of the liberty allowed under the rules to make a tariff speech. He took for his text the statements in the President's message relating to the Wilson tariff bill: "The only entire fiscal year during which this law has been in force ended on the 30th day of June, 1896. In that year our imports increased over those for the previous year more than \$6,500,000, while the value of the domestic products we exported, and which found markets abroad, was nearly \$70,000,000 more than during the preceding year. Whatever may be its shortcomings as a complete measure of tariff reform, it must be conceded that it has opened the way to a freer and greater exchange of commodities between the United States and other countries, and thus furnished a wider market for our products and manufactures."

"In the two years and five months ended December 1st," Mr. Grow said, "the deficiency in the revenues of the Government amounted to over \$110,000,000; and yet the President made no recommendation to Congress regarding the increase of revenue. He did say, however, that no deficit that had occurred or that was likely to occur need excite or disturb us. Most placid, comfortable frame of mind," said Mr. Grow, "the President evidently thinks the creditors of the nation will not be anxious so long as the engravers and printing presses of the country do not."

Mr. Grow said he would not consider the tariff in any partisan sense, but as a simple business matter affecting the revenues of the Government. If the present law was not good for any year, the first duty of Congress was to provide revenues for the Government. He compared the workings of the McKinley and Wilson laws, and sarcastically referred to the President's assertion that the latter "had opened the way to a freer and greater exchange of commodities." Protection, he concluded, meant employment for American laborers and revenue for the treasury.

The pension bill being read for amendment, those offered by Messrs. Connolly (R.) of Illinois and Curtis (R.) of Kansas, providing respectively that the rating fixed by the local Board of Examining Surgeons shall be conclusive as to the amount of the pension, and apportioning the amount for clerk hire in proportion to the number of pensioners paid at each agency, were ruled out on points of order.

Bingham (R.) of Pennsylvania, recalling President Cleveland's statement in his message to Congress four years ago, that "thousands of neighborhoods have their well-known pension frauds, and that recent developments by the investigations of the bureau and the appalling conspiracies to commit fraud," reviewed the work of the bureau in exposing frauds since that message was published. To investigate these alleged frauds, said Mr. Bingham, more money had been appropriated than the bureau had asked. The result was that in three full fiscal years there had been less than 500 convictions for fraud in connection with a pension roll of nearly 1,000,000.

The committee then rose, and the bill was passed without amendment.

Speaker Reed laid before the House a communication from Clerk McDowell transmitting the documents in the contest of Thomas E. Watson against J. C. C. Black for a seat in the Fifty-fourth Congress from the Tenth District of Georgia. It was referred to the Committee on Elections No. 1.

The House then adjourned until tomorrow.

### STRANGLED TO DEATH.

#### A Thirteen-Year-Old Boy Commits Suicide at Omaha.

OMAHA, Dec. 8.—Bernon S. White, the thirteen-year-old son of F. W. White of the Steel-Smith Grocery House, committed suicide by hanging some time this afternoon. His mother discovered the body about 6 o'clock, but life had been extinct for some time. The boy is thought to have been simply experimenting with a towel tied around his neck. He had made a noose and hung this by means of a chair over the door. Swinging off into space, he was unable to regain his foothold, it is supposed, and was strangled to death.

### The Republican Will Get It.

RICHMOND (Va.), Dec. 8.—The Supreme Court of Appeals to-day handed down a decision in the Yost mandamus case. The decision compels the election officers of Buckingham County to correct their election returns, thus making changes in the count in the Tenth Congressional District, which will give the certificate to Yost (Rep.) instead of Flood (Dem.), to whom the State Canvassing Board had decided to award the certificate.

### Pardons by the President.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The President to-day pardoned Dong Sun, sentenced in Southern California to six months' imprisonment for contempt of court, and Bee Melton, sentenced in Western Arkansas to three years' imprisonment and fine for manslaughter. He has commuted to five months' imprisonment the sentence of eight months' imprisonment imposed upon Margaret Morrison, Southern California, for smuggling opium.

### Death of a German Statistician.

BERLIN, Dec. 8.—Ernest Engel, the German statistician, died to-day at Lorzwirh. He was 75 years old. Herr Engel succeeded to the directorship of the Bureau of Statistics in 1870. He was the author of a number of statistical works.

### Glass Works to Resume Operations.

PRINCETON (N. J.), Dec. 8.—Fires were put under the Cohasney Glass Company's glass tanks to-day and the blowers will begin work on the 25th instant. Four hundred men will be given employment in the works.

## MONTREAL SUFFERS SEVERE LOSS BY FIRE.

### In Three Hours Nearly Half a Million Dollars' Worth of Property Destroyed.

### Whole Fire Department Called Out to Subdue the Flames.

### Opposition of Parents to the Marriage of Their Daughter the Cause of a Bloody Tragedy in Nebraska—The Suitor Objected to Shoots and Kills the Brother and Seriously Wounds the Father of the Girl of His Affections.

MONTREAL, Dec. 8.—One of the most destructive fires Montreal has experienced for a long time broke out shortly before 8 o'clock this evening in one of the upper stories in the center of the Barron block, on St. James street, extending from John street to St. Xavier street, facing St. Lawrence Hall. The fire was in the most dangerous locality in the very heart of the city.

The upper stories of the Barron block are occupied by offices of various kinds, while the ground floors are occupied by Fulton & Richards, Freeman's restaurant, A. W. Ross & Co., Gibbs & Co., the Central Vermont and Intercolonial Railway ticket office and other smaller offices.

The fire spread with alarming rapidity, and when the fire brigade reached the scene the flames were shooting out of the middle of the block, while dense clouds of sparks rose and fell on St. Lawrence Hall, the Postoffice and other structures, placing them in imminent danger. The whole fire department was called out, and the firemen made desperate efforts to stop the progress of the flames. The water towers and other apparatus were brought into requisition, but at first the volume of water did not seem to have much effect, and the flames rose with increasing fury.

The fire spread to the old Bank of Toronto building, at the corner of St. John and St. James streets, and was soon a mass of flames.

After burning for three hours with terrible fury, the fire was got under control shortly after 10 o'clock.

The Barron block, valued at \$300,000, is a complete wreck.

Among those who occupied the offices in the burned block and who lose all their effects are: The Union Mutual Life Insurance Company, Montreal and Western Railway, the "Commercial Gazette," the Ottawa and Gaiuacau Railway offices, the Dominion Alliance office, the Manufacturers Life Insurance Company, the Manufacturers' Guarantee Accident Insurance Company, the Ward Commercial Agency, the Mutual Investment Company, the Freehold Loan Company and a number of smaller offices.

The premises of John Parslow, stationer; Freeman's restaurant and Fulton & Richards, publishers, on the ground floor, are also totally wrecked.

The total loss will reach nearly \$500,000.

### AT MCKINLEY'S HOME.

#### Rain Does Not Deter People From Visiting the President-Elect.

CANTON (O.), Dec. 8.—It rained steadily and furiously all day in Canton, but no extreme or variable of the weather are effective in checking the rising tide of visitors to the McKinley residence. When Major McKinley returned from the station at 2 o'clock, whither he had gone to meet Mr. and Mrs. Lafayette Williams of Chicago, cousins of his wife, he found people falling over each other in the hallway and with no more than a convenient amount of standing room in his study.

The commanding figure and snow-white hair of General Adam King of Baltimore, formerly Consul-General to Paris, first caught the eye of the President-elect, and he invited him and his colleague, Albert L. Talbot of Baltimore, into another room for a conference. General King and Mr. Talbot, who are both Presidential Electors, came to Canton at the request of the other Electors and prominent Republicans of Maryland to give Major McKinley the formal endorsement of the Republicans of Maryland for Thomas Garry of Baltimore as a member of the Cabinet.

"In view of the result of the recent election in our State we think Maryland worthy of recognition, and we have united upon Mr. Garry," said Mr. King.

A score more of people had short private talks with Major McKinley.

### A NEBRASKA TRAGEDY.

#### A Young Man Shot and Killed and His Father Badly Wounded.

SCHUYLER (Neb.), Dec. 8.—A shooting affray occurred at midnight last night at the home of Max Gleason, six miles from here, in which Gleason's son, a young man of 21 years, was killed, shot through the heart by Claus Delta, who wished to marry Gleason's daughter.

Opposition of the parents to the marriage is said to be the cause of the murder, and it is no fault of Delta that he did not exterminate the family. After killing the son he fired three times at Mrs. Gleason, without effect. The father, who was in bed, sprang up, seized a shotgun, and aimed it at Delta, but the charge failed to explode. Delta then turned on the old gentleman, shot him in the forehead, and, wrestling the shotgun from him, beat him over the head, leaving him for dead. He then made his escape.

This morning the Sheriff formed a posse, and is scouring the country for Delta, who has not yet been captured.

### FUNDING BILL.

#### Will Probably be Passed by the House at the Present Session.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—It is the purpose of Mr. Powers, Chairman of the House Committee on Pacific Rail-

roads, to arrange with Speaker Reed for an early consideration of the bill reported at the last session to adjust the indebtedness of the Pacific railroads to the Government. This falls due within a few weeks, and a settlement of the matter was deemed of sufficient importance by President Cleveland to justify a reference to it in his annual message which was laid before Congress. Mr. Powers said to-day that he did not doubt the Committee on Rules would report an order setting aside a full day for the consideration of the measure. He did not doubt that the House would pass the measure, as it was not a party measure.

### MCKINLEY'S ADVISERS.

#### The Latest Slate Given Out by the Cabinet-Makers.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The latest gossip about Cabinet positions gives portfolios to the following gentlemen: Secretary of the Treasury—Mark A. Hanna, Ohio. Secretary of State—Andrew D. White, New York. Secretary of the Navy—Charles A. Boutelle, Maine. Secretary of War—T. S. Clarkson, Nebraska. Attorney-General—W. R. Day, Ohio. Postmaster-General—H. Clay Evans, Tennessee. Secretary of the Interior—H. C. Payne of Wisconsin. Secretary of Agriculture—M. H. de Young, California.

### Army Appropriation Bill.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—The House Military Committee to-day considered the first draft of the army appropriation bill. This draft is drawn on the lines of the estimates, which are an increase of \$600,000 over the bill for the present fiscal year. Some consideration was given in the Military Academy bill, and it is said that both of these measures will be reported to the House and passed before the holidays.

### Got Ten Years in Prison.

BROOKLYN, Dec. 8.—William Valentine, one of the leaders of the McLaughlin-Valentine gang of forgers and the lover of May Wintage, was sentenced in the County Court this morning to imprisonment in the Kings County Penitentiary for ten years. He had pleaded guilty to two indictments, one for forgery and one for abducting the young woman.

### Fatal Boiler Explosion.

SAVANNAH (Ga.), Dec. 8.—A special to the "Morning Call" says: The main boiler of the Wilcox Lumber Company mills at Seville, Ga., exploded this morning about 6 o'clock, killing one white employee, a tramp and five negroes. Everyone at the scene was killed and no one was left to give the cause or details of the accident.

### Accidentally Shot Himself.

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 8.—J. B. Drew, a grain buyer of this city, accidentally shot himself to-day in a closet at the St. James Hotel. He lived long enough to say that the shooting was unintentional.

### STATE BOARD OF TRADE.

#### REGULAR MEETING HELD YESTERDAY AFTERNOON.

Favorable Discussion on a Proposition for Raising Sums to Spend for Advertising Purposes.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 8.—The members of the State Board of Trade held their regular meeting this afternoon, the session beginning shortly after 1 o'clock. The members of the board discussed favorably the proposition to endeavor to have the Legislature, at its coming session, to so amend the county government bill as to fix the maximum sum which may be annually spent for advertising purposes in counties of the first, second, third and fourth class at \$5,000, instead of the present figure, \$2,500, and in all other counties at \$2,000, instead of \$1,000.

It is not thought that there will be any difficulty in securing the passage of the desired amendment, as its adoption will not bind any county to increase its present expenditures for the purpose referred to, or, indeed, to make any at all, but will merely give those which are inclined to exploit their resources and attractions in an up-to-date way the power to do so to better advantage than has been heretofore possible.

Colonel John P. Irish was, on motion, authorized to represent the board at the Business Men's Conference, which meets at Indianapolis on the 12th of next month.

The committee appointed to investigate the possibilities of tobacco culture in this State formally submitted its report, which has already been published.

A hearing was granted to Mr. Gilman of Boston, who has a plan on foot to form a train of fifty cars or so, loaded with the products of all sections of the Union, and to run it all over the country, wherever a train can go, as a sort of traveling exposition. His desire is to have each State furnish and fit up one or more cars, finding its compensation in the advertising to be obtained by the display of its products in the manner already explained. Mr. Gilman stated that he would make arrangements with the Pullman Company for the furnishing of such cars as would be needed at about \$2,000 each.

It was further explained by Mr. Gilman that he proposed to carry all sorts of products on his train, including live stock. The latter he would remove from the cars wherever he made any considerable stop, and exhibit in the open air. It was his intention, of course, to charge an admission fee to those who came to inspect what he had to show, and from the profits so derived he expected to be able, at the end of a year, to buy the cars and the exhibits from the States to which they belonged, and thereafter he would himself own and conduct the entire show.

Mr. Gilman's scheme seemed tempting, but the members of the board could not see their way to taking any immediate action in his behalf, occupied as they now are with the consideration of ways and means looking toward securing California a proper representation at the Hamburg, Nashville and Guatemalan Expositions.

## HAS GENERAL MACEO MET WITH DEATH?

### Report That the Rebel Commander Was Killed in Battle Near Havana.

### Though It is Accepted With Reserve by Madrid Officials.

### President Cleveland's Message Relating to the Cuban Question Causes a Bad Impression in Spanish Political Circles—Opposition Papers Assert That Spain is Fully Able to Avert Any Interference on the Part of the United States.

MADRID, Dec. 8.—The Havana correspondent of the "Imparcial" has sent a dispatch to that paper which has caused considerable interest here. The correspondent claims that he has personally made an investigation of the reports current in Havana of the death of Antonio Maceo, second in command of the rebel army, and the son of Maximo Gomez, the rebel Commander-in-Chief, and found them to be true. In official circles the report is accepted with reserve.

The correspondent briefly gives the details of the defeat by a Spanish force of 2,000 rebels near Punta Brava, about twelve miles west of Havana. The insurgents' loss is placed at forty killed. It has already been officially announced about six times that Antonio Maceo had not been killed, and the Havana rumors are innumerable to the same effect. Heretofore it has been the custom of the Spanish officials in Havana to announce the death of Maceo whenever he defeated the Spaniards either in strategy or open battle. No recent reports have been received of the death of the Cuban leader, and it is conjectured that the American correspondents in Havana, knowing the ways of Spanish officials, placed so little credence in the report that they have not mentioned it in their dispatches.

The dispatch says: The body of a well-dressed man was found among the dead rebels, on which were documents which lead to the belief that the man was the son of Maximo Gomez. Among the papers found was one on which was written with a lead pencil the confession that the writer had committed suicide, rather than abandon the body of Antonio Maceo. The war diary of Maceo was also found. In it was an entry which says the rebels crossed the trocha on December 4th. It is concluded from these circumstances that Maceo was killed in the engagement with Ciriujeda's command. The news of his death has caused the greatest kind of sensation in Havana.

The Government officials vouchsafed no information as to how Maceo, with an overwhelmingly superior force operating against him, and supposed to be watching his movements, could have eluded the Spanish forces, doubled on them, crossed the trocha at what has been supposed the strongest part of it and reached the Province of Havana, without any known interference until he had nearly reached Havana.

"Maceo is now in the city, and it has been proposed to hold a great demonstration in his honor. In the cafes and all other public places the Spanish residents are congratulating each other on what they believe to be a deathblow to the rebellion, and it is predicted that Captain-General Weyler will now have an easy task of defeating the insurgents under Gomez and the minor leaders. For nearly two years there has not been such joy in Havana as there is now, and the speedy establishment of peace is confidently looked for. It is thought that when Gomez learns of the death of his chief Lieutenant he will be disposed to treat with General Weyler for a cessation of hostilities."

The officials here declare that while they believe that both Maceo and Gomez's son are dead, they lack official information, and wait confirmation of the report.

The message of President Cleveland to Congress, wherein he treats of the Cuban question, has created a bad impression in political circles, and depressed the Bourse. In Government circles great reserve is maintained, none of the officials displaying willingness to discuss the subject at any length, although some satisfaction is expressed that the message does not in any way advocate the absolute independence of Cuba, and does not support the proposal to recognize the insurgents as belligerents. The opposition papers are greatly irritated by the threat of intervention on the part of the United States unless Spain speedily suppresses the rebellion. They declare that Spain is fully able to avert such action.

### NO MENTION OF MACEDO'S DEATH.

HAVANA, Dec. 8.—Major Ciriujeda having received information that a force of rebels had arrived in the vicinity of Punta Brava, in the Havana Province, and with his command in the direction the rebels were believed to be. The Spanish troops met the main body of insurgents, 2,000 strong, at San Pedro, and engaged them in battle. The insurgents entrenched themselves behind stone fences, where they held the position until nightfall, when they were dislodged and compelled to retire. The Spaniards then returned to Punta Brava. They lost in the fight three privates killed and three Lieutenants and twenty-eight privates wounded. Over forty of the rebels were left dead upon the field.

Reports received here state that General Figuer's command has had an engagement with the rebels at Rio Hondo, near San Jose de las Lajas, in the Havana province. The Spaniards came upon the outposts of the rebels and immediately opened fire upon them. The rebel outposts were captured, and the position occupied by their main body in the Morales Hills was then attacked. A cavalry charge by the Spaniards was repulsed, but the insurgents were finally driven from the field, leaving behind them over sixty of their number dead.

The Spaniards lost Lieutenant-Colonel Aguayo and a private killed and one Lieutenant and twenty privates wounded. During the battle thirty-five cannon shots were fired by the rebels.

Great excitement has been caused here by President Cleveland's message. Great interest is felt in it, but as yet none of the officials will give an opinion. On the whole, however, the message is regarded favorably, and Spanish spirits have visibly arisen.

Officials here deny that General Weyler has been wounded, and they say that the story was started by Cuban sympathizers.

### CONSUL-GENERAL LEE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—Consul-General Lee left Washington for New York last evening whence he will sail for Cuba. Before leaving here he had a general conference with the President. The date of his departure is not known, but it is known that he will take the first available steamer.

### CUBANS LOOKING FOR RECRUITS.

TRENTON (N. J.), Dec. 8.—Representatives of the Cuban Junta in New York called to-day at the office of Adjutant-General Striker and at the State House, and were given permission to copy the roster containing the names of the officers of the National Guard of New Jersey. It is understood that overtures have been made to some of them to enlist in the Cuban cause.

### A DRUMMER'S DEATH.

#### Was the Result of Injuries Received in a Fight.

CHICAGO, Dec. 8.—Louis W. Herman, traveling salesman for Appleton & Co., the publishers, died at his home this afternoon as the result of injuries received in a fight with Dorsey D. O'Connor, a traveling salesman for the Sheldon Publishing Company, in a room at the Clifton House last Saturday night.

George P. Hamilton, in whose room the trouble occurred, made a full statement of the affair to-night. Half a dozen other traveling men were in the room at the time of the fight between Herman and O'Connor, which is said to have resulted from a long-standing grudge. Herman was able to go home, and died from a brain hemorrhage. O'Connor is believed to be in Minneapolis.

### Justifiable Homicide.

CEDAR RAPIDS (Ia.), Dec. 8.—F. F. Benedict, the station agent at Fairfax, who shot and killed one of three men who attempted a train hold-up last night and wounded another, was exonerated from all blame to-day by the Coroner's jury. The escape of the wounded man is believed to be impossible. The identity of the dead man is unknown. He was about 19 years old.

### Earthquake in Pennsylvania.

DUNBAR (Pa.), Dec. 8.—At 11:55 to-day an earthquake startled the people of this place. At first it was thought an explosion had occurred, but this was reported. The shock was noticeable in several of the surrounding towns. No damage except to crockery has been reported.

### McKinley's Policy May Be Different.

BERLIN, Dec. 8.—The "Vossische Zeitung" says in its comments on President Cleveland's message to Congress that the document does not justify either fears or expectations in regard to the Cuban insurrection. The policy of President McKinley, the paper adds, will, however, probably be different.

### REPUBLICAN SENATORS CAUCUS.

#### TALK OVER MEASURES TO COME UP IN CONGRESS.

Doubts Expressed as to Sufficient Strength to Pass the Dingley Bill at This Session.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—A Republican Senatorial caucus was called to meet at 10 o'clock this morning. Dubois, Pettigrew, Mantle and Cannon, four of the five bolting Senators now in the city, did not attend, but held a conference of their own in the committee room of Dubois. There was no discrimination in the matter of notification in connection with the caucus. The Senators in accordance with the usual custom are not invited. They are simply notified that a caucus will be held at a stated time and place. These notices were sent yesterday to all the bolting silver Republicans and to Senator Jones of Nevada. The only ex-Republican to whom one was not sent was Senator Stewart of Nevada, who is considered an out and out Populist.

Senator Dubois, in a note addressed to Sherman, Chairman of the caucus, resigned the Secretaryship of the caucus and his membership on the Steering Committee. This may be an indication of the proposed policy of the free silver men to refrain from hereafter affiliating with their old-time colleagues.

Senator Wilson of Washington was elected Secretary in place of Dubois. A friendly rivalry between Senators Shoup of Idaho and Hansbrough of South Dakota for the vacancy on the Steering Committee caused by the resignation of Dubois, was settled by putting both men on the committee.

The chief topic for discussion was the Dingley bill, with the result that the matter was referred, without action, to the Steering Committee.

A consensus of opinion, gathered from the short speeches made was that it would not be wise to take up the bill, as it would be impossible to get the votes to pass it.

Senator Wolcott of Colorado introduced a resolution, which was unanimously adopted, authorizing the Chairman of the caucus to appoint a special committee of five Senators whose duty it should be to devise such legislation for action by this session of Congress as will secure an international monetary conference with the leading commercial nations of the world.

Gear of Iowa called the attention of the Steering Committee to the fact that the Pacific Railroad refunding bill had been referred to it last session, and urged that the committee make a report favoring action this session. He threw out an intimation that he intended to force the measure to the front should the committee's report be unfavorable to prompt action.