

## UNEXPECTED TURN IN THE CUBAN QUESTION.

### Cameron's Joint Resolution, Declaring Independence of the Island

#### To be Favorably Reported by Senate Foreign Affairs Committee.

#### Interviews With Members of the House Indicate That Although the Senate May Adopt the Resolution, It Cannot Pass the Lower Branch, at Least Until President-Elect McKinley Has Been Inaugurated.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The Cuban situation took an unexpected turn this morning when the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations decided without any serious opposition to report Senator Cameron's joint resolution recognizing the independence of the Republic of Cuba. This report will be made to the Senate Monday, but there is no prospect of decisive action in either house of Congress before the holidays. Meanwhile the situation in Cuba, as it develops during the holidays, will undoubtedly affect the final action of Congress on the resolution.

Only two adverse suggestions were made in the committee on the Cameron resolution. Both of these suggested delay until after the holidays. These suggestions came, it is understood, from Senators Hale and Sherman.

A verbal change was made in the text of the resolution, so that as finally agreed to it reads as follows:

"Resolved, That the independence of the Republic of Cuba be and the same is hereby acknowledged by the United States of America.

"Section 2.—That the United States will use its friendly offices with the Government of Spain to bring to a close the war between Spain and Cuba.

Secretary Olney, who had been requested to appear before the committee by Senator Sherman, was present for one hour, and laid before the committee all of the information in possession of the State Department. He stated to the committee very fully all the movements of the Administration.

No member of the committee is willing to make any statement as to what Mr. Olney said, each one looking upon his statement as a confidential matter between the Secretary and the committee. Sufficient is known, however, to show that Mr. Olney laid before the committee the information received from Consul-General Lee and other sources that has been steadfastly kept from the general public.

Mr. Olney's argument did not appear to have much weight with the committee, if it was against the passage of the resolution, for immediately upon his withdrawal the resolution was laid before the committee for action. There was not a ye and nay vote, but the resolution was agreed to without a dissenting voice. The only point of difference was as to whether the action of the committee should be made public to-day or withheld until Monday. One Senator thought action of any sort should be postponed until after the holidays, but the will of the majority prevailed, and there was practical unanimity in the vote.

Senators Gray and Daniel were both absent, but it is said that both of them are favorable to the action taken by the committee.

Senator Cameron was instructed to prepare the report that will be submitted to the Senate Monday. As a matter of fact, the report was written and was submitted to the committee this morning. It is looked upon as an exceedingly strong document, and goes into the diplomatic history of the United States very fully to show our policy in the matter of recognizing new States. Some few additions and alterations were suggested by other members of the committee, but the report as drawn by the Senator is practically complete.

The House heard with surprise the action of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in recognizing the independence of Cuba, and if the opinion of the members of the Foreign Affairs Committee and some of the Democratic and Republican leaders in the House is to be taken as a criterion, the popular branch of the Government will not sustain the position taken by the Senate committee. Hit of Illinois, the Chairman of the House Committee, is out of the city, and is not expected to return until after the holiday recess. Several other members of the committee were not in their seats to-day, and have presumably left town. Of those who remain—and of this number a United Associated Press reporter talked with five—the entire quietest strongly opposed any action at this time. The Republicans objected to any step which would in their opinion bring about a war with Spain, on the ground that the McKinley Administration ought not to be met at the very moment of coming into power by so serious an international problem.

A member of the House Foreign Affairs Committee said the time for action had passed; that the island was bankrupt; that American interests in Cuba are destroyed; that our commerce with the island has practically disappeared, and that recognition now would be a mere sentiment without a practical consideration behind it. "If," said he, "we want a war with Spain for a sentiment we are at liberty to have it, but not with my consent."

Another member of the committee expressed his belief that the United States had better attend to its own business and not go dancing through the congress of nations with a chip on its shoulder, spooling for a fight.

A prominent member (a Republican) of the House pointed out that a promise of better times was made to the American people if McKinley should be elected to the Presidency. Mr. McKinley, he added, had been elected, and now it was supposed by the Senate to

take a step which would involve us in complications with Spain, and retard a return to prosperity for several years. He expressed the belief that all the Republican leaders, as well as the influential Democrats, in the House would set their faces strongly against the adoption of any Cuban resolution which might properly be regarded by Spain as an unfriendly act.

Members of the Foreign Affairs Committee expressed their surprise at the change of the sentiment among their colleagues. The prediction was freely made that, notwithstanding the unanimity with which the resolution was reported by the Senate committee, it was doubtful if the Senate would adopt it, or at least not without a very considerable delay. Not a single member of the House out of a score or more of leaders could be found who believed that the Senate resolution could pass the House. The opinion was freely expressed that the Senate, from being a conservative branch of the Government, has changed places with the House, and that the latter is to-day by long odds the conservative branch of Congress.

One of the members of the Foreign Affairs Committee who did not hesitate to express his views was Quigg, a New York Republican. He said: "I do not think the Senate resolution can pass the House at this session of Congress. I do not know a member of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs who is in favor of it, nor do I think it possible to obtain from the House committee a resolution of any sort at this session. The disposition of the House committee is to leave the matter to the incoming Administration. Personally, while I entertain the liveliest sympathy with Cuba, I am opposed to the conduct of foreign affairs by Congress."

Pearson of North Carolina, another Republican member of the committee, had no criticism or comment to make on the action of the Senate committee. The Republican party, he said, had promised the country prosperity, and the question presents itself, "Will war or rumors of war or apprehension of war lead to the promised result?"

Shafroth, the silver member from Colorado, expressed surprise at the action of the Senate Committee. "Before the election," he said, "when the candidates had yet to appeal to the people, the Cuban revolution was a live subject, but now it will be found that the business interests of New York must be protected. You will find that the New York press to-morrow will denounce the action as threatening the relations between Spain and the United States, and dangerous to the trade between New York and Cuba. Wall street will not permit the passage of the resolution through the House. It may pass the Senate, but that will end the matter."

NO LITTLE CONCERN.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—A "Herald" special from Washington says: The attitude of the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations in favor of immediate action on the Cuban question, coupled with the outbursts of sympathy for and preparations in aid of the Cubans in various sections of the country, is causing no little concern to conservative public men here, who have been anxious to prevent the bringing about of a crisis by the action of the United States.

It may be stated in advance that Secretary Olney will oppose the adoption of the Cameron or other resolution at this time.

He will state very plainly that the passage of the Cameron resolution will be equivalent to an indirect declaration of war, and will be so regarded by Spain. Mr. Olney is of the opinion, I am told, that if there is to be war the provocation should come from Spain and not from the United States.

It is the honest conviction of the Administration officials that if Congress should pass the Cameron or other resolution contemplating the immediate recognition of the independence of Cuba, such action would be immediately followed by a severance of diplomatic relations between the two countries, with probably more serious results.

The Administration officials are viewing the demonstrations in various sections of the country in favor of the Cuban insurgents with quite as much concern as possible action by Congress. These demonstrations are not only spurring Congress on, but are giving the Administration considerable trouble in its efforts to enforce the neutrality laws. The enlistments in various quarters are regarded as a clear violation of the law. Minister de Lome is keeping close track of all these reports, and following out his customary practice, is furnishing the State Department with all the information he receives concerning them.

LONDON JOURNAL'S COMMENT.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Commenting to-morrow on the action of the Foreign Committee of the American Senate in agreeing to report favorably Senator Cameron's resolution recognizing the independence of Cuba, the "Daily News" will say it is of the opinion that the committee's action will not tend to any immediate result. It remarks that the condition of Cuba is a serious matter, and is naturally irritating to the free neighboring republic. The strength of the supporters of the resolution lies in the fact that Spain is unable to subdue Cuba, or let the island alone.

STIR IN NAVAL CIRCLES.

Orders Issued to Expedite Repairs on Warships.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Acting Secretary McAdoo of the Navy this afternoon summoned the chiefs of construction, engineering and ordnance—Commanders Hitchcock, Melville and Sampson, and ordered them to take necessary steps to expedite the repairs of all ships now in commission at the Atlantic coast navy yards.

## THREE MURDERERS PUT TO DEATH IN KENTUCKY.

### Meet Their Fate at the Hands of an Army of Determined Citizens.

#### One, Who Defied the Mob, Killed in His Cell.

#### The Other Two, Father and Son, Taken From the Jail and Hanged to a Tree, the Mob Refusing to Listen to the Jailer's Plea for Mercy for the Men.

RUSSELLVILLE (Ky.), Dec. 18.—A blood-thirsty, armed mob of men from Logan County, half of whom came from Adairville, reached this town after midnight this morning, and lynched three prisoners who were in jail waiting trial on charges of murder and conspiracy. Arch Proctor, who murdered Aaron and "Doc" Crafton at Adairville on October 4th, was taken from the jail with his father, "Dink" Proctor, charged with conspiracy in the Crafton case, and both men were hanged to the same tree just outside of the town. "Bill" Proctor, a half-brother of "Dink" and classed as being a real desperado, who had terrified the Adairville district for a number of years, was riddled with bullets in his cell, defying the mob to take him out alive, and cursing them with his last breath.

The man-hunters were pitiless, and were well organized. They refused to allow Arch Proctor to see his mother, who was sleeping in a neighboring hotel, before being deprived of life. The jailer pleaded with the mob not to lynch the men, and then made a special plea for "Dink" Proctor, who had always been a quiet citizen, the Crafton murder being the first trouble he had ever had in his life. But the only answer of the leaders was "Dead men tell no tales."

The Adairville mob came to town about 100 strong and attacked the jail at 1:30 o'clock. The door of the main entrance soon gave way before the onslaught of sledge-hammers. The keeper of the jail was forced, on the peril of his life, to deliver the keys of the prison to the mob leaders.

The victims had been apprised of the coming of the lynchers and their intentions, none of the three being in bed at the time their cell doors were opened. They faced an excited, cursing mob of men.

"Bill" Proctor, who was a powerful man, showed his desperate character when brought to bay. He swore no one should take him from his cell alive, and no one cared to engage him in a test of physical strength to get him out alive. One of the mob gave the signal for the murderer to be killed where he stood by shooting him. A charge of buckshot entered the desperado's body the next second, and he fell. As he lay on the floor writhing in pain a volley of bullets was fired at him. When he was apparently dead a man entered the cell, and placing a pistol barrel at Proctor's head pulled the trigger to make sure that the most feared and murderous man of Logan County was dead.

Then the mob turned towards the cell of Dink Proctor and his son Arch. They were taken from their cells without resistance. The jailer's pleas were unheeded, and the hands of the victims bound.

By this time there were fully 200 men in the mob, and no attempt was made to interfere with their lynch-law plans. The prisoners were taken to a three-limbed cedar tree on the Nashville road. The empty limb was intended for Bill Proctor, and upon the other two limbs were strung father and son without giving either time for speeches, confessions or prayers.

Mrs. Proctor, the wife and mother, who had come to attend the examining trial to-day, was sleeping in a hotel near by. She was awakened by the sound of the mob's march, and by order of the leaders the procession to the improvised gallows was not allowed to stop at the hotel to grant the last pitiful plea of Arch to see and say goodbye to his mother.

The bodies, swinging side by side, were cut down this morning, and the three bodies laid out there for the Coroner's inquest.

The mob on its way from Adairville cut all the telegraph wires leading from that place, in order to prevent notice of their coming being given.

The law-abiding citizens of Adairville congratulated each other that Bill and his nephew had been put away, but the people of the county generally say that Dink was not deserving of death. The brothers were acquitted of the charge of killing Aaron Crafton, and Arch was held for trial in \$5,000 bonds. The trial was set for to-day on another murder case. Bill had killed several men, and had been on trial four times for his life. He was one of four men who were charged with killing Ed Trauber about four years ago.

tal clerk, also of Cincinnati, sustained a fractured rib and was injured internally so badly that he may die. Postal Clerk Shober of Cincinnati was seriously injured. Conductor Brown was badly bruised and narrowly escaped death. None of the passengers were injured beyond bruises that are not serious.

FATAL ACCIDENT IN INDIANA. INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 18.—At 8:30 o'clock to-night a wreck occurred at the crossing of the Wabash and Monon Railways at Delphi, Ind. A wrecking train jumped the track and the entire train went into a ditch. One man was instantly killed and several others injured. Among the injured is Trainmaster McCannan of the Monon road.

The names of the killed and injured are as follows: Cecil Douglas of Hammond, Ind., who was stealing a ride, was instantly killed; C. W. McCannan, trainmaster, both legs broken; John Reed, conductor, injured internally; Otto Long, brakeman, cut about the face and head, but not seriously injured.

CHARGES OF EMBEZZLEMENT.

The Grand Jury Takes Action in the Case of F. J. Kerkhofer in.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The Grand Jury has taken action in the case of Francis J. Kerkhofer, formerly Disbursing Clerk of the State Department, who is charged on three counts with embezzlement of \$17,000 of funds intrusted to his care while in Government service. The money is alleged to have been taken by Kerkhofer from the trust funds of the State Department, over which he had control. It is part of the \$139,000 shortage discovered by an expert accountant in the accounts kept by Kerkhofer.

Mr. Kerkhofer was arrested some months ago, but was released on \$15,000 bail. He had previously resigned, by direction of Secretary Olney.

Just what the action of the Grand Jury was has not yet developed, but a return of their finding is expected in a day or two, and it is understood that it is perfectly satisfactory to the District Attorney. The matter has hung fire for over a month.

Senator Warren's Condition Serious.

CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—Senator Francis E. Warren of Wyoming underwent an operation for appendicitis at the Auditorium Annex this afternoon, where he has been lying ill for several days, and he is now said to be in a serious condition. His physician said to-night that he was doing fairly well and believes that the operation will prove successful. At midnight the patient's condition was said to be improved.

DOCK LABORERS' STRIKE.

The Matter Taken Up in the German Senate.

HAMBURG, Dec. 18.—The Senate to-day, replied to the proposition of the strikers that a court of arbitration be arranged for a conference of representatives of the employers and workmen in the presence of the Senate. The reply throws cold water on the hopes of the strikers to settle the dispute in the manner they desired. The Senate decided that it is the duty of the strikers to resume work, adding that if they do so they will arrange that a searching inquiry shall be made into the trouble, with a view to preparing a method of settling any disputes by negotiations between the employers and employees.

PRESIDENT-ELECT MCKINLEY.

AGAIN THE CENTRAL FIGURE IN A FRONT PORCH EPISODE.

Appears Before a Large Body of College Students, But Declines to Make a Speech.

CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—Major McKinley was the central figure in a front porch episode to-night. The familiar scene was changed from his own front porch to that of the residence of Charles G. Dawes, in the classic suburb of Evanston. The President-elect was drawn out into the chilly air by the combined lung power of half a thousand enthusiastic students of the Northwestern University.

## CONGRESS OF AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR.

### A Resolution Curtailing Powers of U. S. and State Supreme Courts.

#### Defeated by a Vote of Forty-Two to Twenty-One.

#### The Congress Reaffirms the Stand Taken in Past Conventions of the Federation Favoring the Unlimited Coinage of Silver at the Ratio of Sixteen to One, Without the Consent or Approval of Any Other Nation.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 18.—At the opening of this morning's session of the convention of the American Federation of Labor the resolution introduced Wednesday by Delegate Asher of Boston came up under special order. The resolution demands such amendments to the Constitution of the United States as shall deprive the Supreme Court of the United States and the Supreme Courts of the several States of the power of reviewing and setting aside laws duly enacted by the representatives of the people. The resolution elicited much discussion. The vote resulted in the defeat of the resolution by a vote of 42 to 21.

Delegate Weismann offered a resolution that the former action of the federation favoring the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1 be reconsidered by the Resolutions Committee, through which it was presented to the convention; recommending that as the subject was one on which workmen had become divided, the best interests of the federation would be best served by refusing to give it any consideration.

Delegate Yarnell offered a substitute reaffirming the former action of the federation on the silver question.

Delegate John R. Lennon of the Journeymen Tailors offered as a substitute to the resolutions presented by Delegate Yarnell a resolution reaffirming the stand taken by the American Federation of Labor at its three past conventions, favoring the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 by the United States, without the consent or approval of any other nation, and disavowing any intention that this action should be construed as endorsing any political party.

The Lennon substitute was carried by a vote of 35 against 30.

The convention then adjourned until 2:30 p. m.

At the afternoon session the special order for the annual election was deferred to hear the report of the Committee on the President's Report. It endorsed all the recommendations of President Gompers in every instance, and was indorsed by a unanimous vote of the convention.

The following officers were then elected, in every case the Secretary being instructed to cast the unanimous vote of the convention for the nominee:

President, Samuel Gompers of New York; First Vice-President, P. J. McGuire of Philadelphia; Second Vice-President, James Duncan of Baltimore; Third Vice-President, James O'Connell of Chicago; Fourth Vice-President, M. M. Garland of Pittsburgh; Secretary, Frank Morrison of Bloomington, Ill.; Treasurer, John D. Lennon of New York.

The only change in the list of officers from those chosen at the last convention was in the Secretaryship.

In response to an enthusiastic call from the delegates President Gompers made a short speech to the convention, thanking it for its testimonial of confidence, and saying that in view of recent events his practically unanimous re-election was one of the greatest, if not the greatest, satisfaction of his life.

The convention adjourned until 9 a. m. to-morrow.

## POVERTY CAUSED THE ACT.

### A Telegraph Operator Commits Suicide by Taking Morphine.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 18.—S. E. Josselyn, a telegraph operator, committed suicide last night by taking a dose of morphine. He left behind a note in which he said that poverty caused his act. He was a train dispatcher at Ogden, Utah, recently, where his wife and child are now. He has been working for the Western Union here for the past three weeks. He drew his money on the 15th, and it is said lost it all gambling. Having nothing to send his wife for Christmas, it is thought he became disgusted with life and quit.

## Great Damage Done by the Storm.

CHATHAM (Mass.), Dec. 18.—The gale of Wednesday was the most disastrous in its results for twenty years. Nearly all of a fleet of 150 fishing boats were driven on shore or sunk at their moorings. Trees and fences were leveled and Chatham Beach was given a terrible washing, which greatly handicapped the life-saving patrol. Wires are down in all sections and trains are a day behind time.

## Fire at Cleveland.

CLEVELAND (O.), Dec. 19.—The private morgue and undertaking establishment of W. C. Heitron, corner of Vermont and Hanover streets, was entirely destroyed by fire at 12:30 this morning. The building contained a funeral car, two ambulances, four horses and a large number of funeral cases and general undertaking supplies. All were destroyed. The loss cannot be stated.

## William Jennings Bryan.

LINCOLN (Neb.), Dec. 18.—W. J. Bryan expects to leave Lincoln so as to be in Atlanta, Ga., Tuesday night or Wednesday morning. His stay there will be short, and he intends to return almost immediately to Lincoln. Mr. Bryan had not fully determined this evening the route he would take on his Southern visit. He will probably leave some time Sunday.

## Carnegie Buying Lines.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—It was reported in financial circles to-day that the purchase of the Mountain and Rathbun iron mines in the Messaba Range, Minnesota, by the Carnegie Steel Company from John D. Rockefeller has taken place. The amount involved is unknown.

## Ex-Congressman Horr Dead.

PLAINFIELD (N. J.), Dec. 18.—Ex-Congressman Roswell G. Horr died to-night at 11 o'clock after an illness of two weeks with bronchitis and Bright's disease. He was first stricken after finishing his speech-making in the late Presidential campaign.

## To Prevent Collisions at Sea.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Minister Denby, at Peking, cables the State Department that China has accepted the amendments to the international regulations for the prevention of collisions at sea.

## LIABILITY OF STOCKHOLDERS.

IMPORTANT DECISION BY THE SUPREME COURT.

Many Similar Suits Likely to be Thrown Out of Court in Consequence of the Ruling.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18.—The Supreme Court rendered an important decision to-day relative to actions against stockholders for the recovery of a proportionate share of the debts of a corporation. The case decided was that of the J. L. Case Plow Works, appellant, against Charles Montgomery and others, defendants.

Some time ago the Case Plow Works sold a lot of goods to a corporation of which Montgomery was a stockholder. Subsequently payment of the bill, which amounted to thousands of dollars, was demanded. In lieu of this Montgomery and his associates issued a note for the full amount of the indebtedness to the Case Plow Works. This note was not liquidated, whereupon the Plow Works instituted an action for the recovery of the amount. The court held that the complaint of the plaintiffs was defective in that it did not show that at the time the note was executed it and the debt incurred by the defendants were stockholders of the concern sued. Judgment was entered for Montgomery, whereupon the Plow Works appealed.

Justice Temple in his decision stated that the only question considered by him was whether there was sufficient allegation that the indebtedness was incurred while the defendants were stockholders. "This is discussed," he said, "in *Winona Wagon Road Company vs. Full*, 108 Cal. 1, in which case the question was decided. It was there held that the complaint must show that the indebtedness was incurred while the defendant was a stockholder and that the mere allegation that on a certain day while the defendant was a stockholder the corporation made its promissory note does not show that fact. It is a question merely of pleading and evidence, and a rule having once been declared should be adhered to.