

ALL THE JOURNALISTS WERE EXCLUDED.

Chancellor Von Hohenlohe Did Not Want Them.

In Their Absence the Kaiser Talked Freely at the Dinner.

His Sympathies in the Strike Are Entirely With the Hamburg Employers, and He Advises an International Combination of Employers—Von Tausch's Trial—Agitation by Newspapers to Secure the Arrest of Mundt Also—At the Emperor's Request the Military Court of Inquiry Will Keep on the Trial of Brusewitz.

BERLIN, Dec. 20.—(Copyright, 1896, by the United Associated Presses.)—The parliamentary dinner given on Wednesday last by the Emperor, Chancellor Prince Von Hohenlohe, did not attract the attention of the press as has been the rule heretofore upon the occasion of this function, and consequently less than usual is known of what actually took place there.

The reason for this is the fact that the representatives of the press were entirely excluded from the banquet-hall, whereas hitherto they have been especially invited to be present, but the presence of the Kaiser, who mingled freely with the guests, conversed with them upon subjects of the strike of the Hamburg dock laborers, the rejection of the provision for the reform of the judicial procedure by the Reichstag and upon other important questions, have lent piquancy to the hearsay reports of the proceeding.

While the dinner was in progress one journalist managed to get into the banquet-hall upon his presentation of a blank invitation card, but he was soon discovered and unceremoniously expelled. Reliable echoes of the Emperor's conversation at the banquet agree that his majesty's sympathies are entirely with the Hamburg employers, and he is represented as saying that the employers are wholly lacking in their sense of the importance of working a general coalition of employers against the unions of the workmen, and advising the co-operation of the German, English and other employers in devising a scheme of international communication upon the conditions of trade, which would benefit not only the employer, but the employe as well.

In regard to the Hamburg strike, it may be said that all of the prospects of the success of the strikers are extremely gloomy. The dispatches which have been cabled during the past week, while giving a general outline of the situation, really told nothing of the actual condition of affairs. The fact is that the strikers and their families are suffering terribly for lack of food, clothing, shelter, etc., and it is reported that the amounts contributed by subscription from various sources have been very judiciously distributed or not paid at all.

In consequence of this state of things the men are losing heart and many of them are seeking reinstatement, but the masters remain obdurate and refuse to permit any of them to return until the strike is finally ended. At the beginning of the strike the strikers offered to pay the men one shilling six pence for a day of twelve hours, including meals, but the strikers demanded five shillings a day with overtime.

The employers are now denying their offer, together with the other matters in dispute, to the court of inquiry suggested by the Hamburg Senate, with a view of preparing a method of settling disputes by negotiations between the employers and employes, and it is probable that despite the fact that the bailiwick of yesterday's meetings of the strikers resulted in favor of continuing the strike, the offer will be accepted in the early part of this week.

There were 275 ships loading and unloading at Hamburg yesterday, and 2,777 men were employed in the work.

The Emperor at Prince Hohenlohe's dinner on Wednesday conversed for some time with Herr von Leitzow, formerly President of the Reichstag, and it is supposed that the subject of discussion was the matter of acceptance by Herr von Leitzow of the Presidency of the Prussian upper house, which has been declined by Prince Zolms-Hohensolms Lich on the ground of ill health. The Prince was elected to the office, but he positively refused to serve.

The scandals which resulted in the arrest of Major Baron von Tausch, Chief of the Political Police, for forgery and perjury, upon which charges he is now in jail awaiting trial, are still being generally discussed in the newspapers and in the cafes and other public places. The "Berliner Tageblatt," which paper was shown up during the trial of Baron von Tausch as the home trial of Baron von Tausch, now of one of the agents of Tausch, now turns daily somersaults in an endeavor to demonstrate its loyalty to the Foreign Office and vehemently denounces the at one time supposed connection of Tausch with Prince Bismarck and Count Herbert Bismarck as the grossly untrue calumny against the ex-Chancellor and his son.

The "Tageblatt," the Hanover "Courier" and other newspapers inspired from a common source, are conducting an agitation with the object of obtaining the arrest of Normann Schumann, alias Mundt, who was for a long time an active agent of Tausch and at the same time an occasional correspondent of a New York newspaper and a secret agent of the Porte. Mundt maintains a villa on Lake Lucerne in Switzerland and has long enjoyed the confidence of the German Embassies in Rome and Constantinople. He has reaped a rich harvest as a secret agent all round and has been able to effect the expulsion of foreign journalists from Berlin if they became obnoxious to him. Mundt

has not been arrested and it is reported that he has fled from Lucerne to Constantinople; but his presence is likely to be demanded in Berlin upon the occasion of the coming trial of Tausch.

The event of the American colony in Berlin last week was the charity concert of the Grail Lodge of the American Theosophical Society in Berlin, which was held in the Hotel Rome last evening. United States Ambassadors Uhl, Miss Uhl, Miss Alice Uhl, Marshal Uhl, Consul-General de Kay, Mrs. de Kay and Vice-Consul-General Zimmerman were present. The artists were Miss Mary Howell Avins, Miss Leonora Jackson and Ernest Jackson. After the concert there was a supper and Miss Uhl distributed to a number of her girls the American contributions to the object of the concert, consisting of dresses, hats, boots, undergarments, etc.

The situation in regard to Cuba created by the action of the Foreign Relations Committee of the United States Senate in agreeing to a resolution recognizing the independence of the island, caused the Berlin and Frankfurt Bourses to open weak yesterday and greatly checked the transaction of business in American securities until advices were received from London showing that confidence was practically unshaken there. This news had the effect to restore confidence here and in Frankfurt and prices recovered, but a fraction lower on the day.

At the request of the Emperor the military court will reopen the inquiry into the case of Lieutenant Baron von Brusewitz, who was sentenced to four years' confinement in a fortress for killing an artisan named Siebmann, in a cafe in Karlsruhe a short time ago because Siebmann refused to apologize for an insult to Brusewitz, which he declared he had not offered to him, and the Emperor will postpone his confirmation of the sentence pending the inquiry.

There are conflicting reports as to the Emperor's reasons for his action, one of which is that the Kaiser favors Brusewitz and hopes that the new inquiry will result to his advantage. Another report, however, asserts that the course taken by the Emperor to his majesty's belief that the military tribunal which condemned Brusewitz was altogether too lenient to him.

The long-pending suit of Captain von Straubeck against the brothers Otto and Hugo Dammasch for having made false accusations against him has been settled. The case grew out of remarks made by Herr Biebel, the Socialist leader, in a speech in the Reichstag in 1887, in which he mentioned cases of brutality on the part of the military officers toward their soldiers, and asserted that the conduct of Captain von Straubeck furnished an example of such brutality in his having frequently struck soldiers with his fists, kicked them until they were incapacitated from duty, or struck them with the flat of his sword. In the course of his speech Herr Biebel quoted the brothers Dammasch as authority for the assertions he had made. Captain von Straubeck publicly denied the charges made against him and caused warrants to be issued for the arrest of the Dammasch brothers. Otto fled when he heard of the issuance of the warrants, but Hugo remained and stood trial and was sentenced to four months' imprisonment.

The drift of the evidence taken at the trial showed that although Captain Straubeck was a martinet, he had not struck the men.

The Berliner Bank has decided to increase its capital from 7,500,000 marks to 20,000,000 marks. In consequence of the new bourse law, which goes into operation on January 1st, the Berlin and other bourses are discussing the question of the dissolution of existing conditions and conducting business after the new law goes into effect as free as possible without any formal external organization. The Produce Exchange at Halle has already dissolved in accordance with this scheme.

After hearing, former director of the Berlin Mortgage Bank, who was recently sentenced to penal servitude for forgery, has committed suicide in his cell in prison.

W. S. Carroll, United States Consul-General at Dresden, gave a grand reception at his residence in that city today.

It is reported that Herr Otto Floerschheim, the Berlin critic of the New York "Musical Courier," will be dignified with the honorary title of Professor upon the occasion of the coming birthday of the Emperor, which will occur on January 27th.

United States Consul-General Charles de Kay had a narrow escape from a fatal accident through the collision of his carriage with another vehicle while going from his office to his house on the night of his recent official reception. The shaft of the colliding cab passed through Mr. de Kay's carriage and missed his head by only about an inch. Had the shaft struck he certainly would have been killed.

THE STATE PRISON FIRE.

Convicts Started It in Hopes That They Might Escape.

JEFFERSON CITY (Mo.), Dec. 20.—The source of last night's fire in the State Prison has been traced to a gang of thirty-three convicts, some one of which fired a bundle of refuse under a stairway in the clothing department. The fire smoldered until nearly midnight, when it burst into a blaze. The incendiary act was no doubt done in a hope to escape during the confusion.

Notwithstanding the great excitement Warden Pace and the guards at no time lost control of the prisoners. The clothing department is located in cell building No. 1, and while the guards were transferring the convicts from this building into cell building No. 3 two convicts attempted to escape, but both were captured before they got away from the building.

Great bravery was shown by the convicts who were released from their cells to help extinguish the fire. A convict from St. Louis, who at one time belonged to the fire department of that city, acted as Captain to the State fire department. The Star Clothing Company, which is also situated in the same building as the State department, was at one time in great danger of having its entire stock of clothing destroyed.

Fifty Horses Burned.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Fifty horses were burned to death at a fire which started at 5:30 this morning in a brick boarding stable owned by Bernard Soy at 555 Carroll street, Brooklyn. Three firemen were injured by falling walls. The total loss is about \$18,000.

GENERAL COLBY URGED TO PERSEVERE.

His Plan of Raising Ten Thousand Men to Fight for Cuba

Meets With Much Favor All Over the Country.

Many Wish to be Enrolled as Volunteers—Colonel McReynolds Wants to Join Him With 100 Crack Shots From Oklahoma—Friends of Cuba to Parade in New York—Spaniards Still Rejoicing Over the Death of Maceo—Cleveland Returns, But Will Probably Take No Further Action.

BEATRICE (Neb.), Dec. 20.—General L. W. Colby, ex-Assistant United States Attorney-General, whose proposition to raise an army of 10,000 men to fight for Cuba was given publicity through the United Associated Presses, is receiving letters and telegrams from all over the country indorsing his plan, urging him to continue his efforts, and asking to be enrolled as volunteers. One of these is from Colonel Robert McReynolds of Oklahoma, who says: "I see by the dispatches what you say regarding Cuba. I want you to count me in, with 100 of the finest shots in this Territory. I want to be with you, on staff if possible. I have been agitating the question for a year and a half now, and am in earnest in every word I say."

Colonel McReynolds served under General Colby in the Sioux campaign at Wounded Knee. Last winter he went to Cuba and fought with the insurgents as a private. He is the man who at Galveston was threatened with arrest by Federal officials for advertising for "100 men, well armed, of undoubted bravery, to go on the Gulf of Mexico to shoot gese." The words "shoot gese" were merely a blind, as he subsequently admitted. The promise of General Colby and his unquestioned sincerity has made of this matter, which was at first thought to be but an idle threat, a serious possibility.

MACEO'S DEATH. Spaniards Still Making Demonstrations of Joy Over It.

HAVANA, Dec. 20.—The demonstrations of joy over the death of Maceo have not yet ended. There was a large attended excursion to-day from Havana to Punta Brava in honor of Major Céspedes' column, which killed the rebel leader. The affair was organized by natives of Galicia, Major Céspedes' native province, and was made the occasion for a great display of patriotic enthusiasm.

CLEVELAND RETURNS. He Brings Back Fat Ducks to Distribute to His Friends.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The President returned to the White House at 8 o'clock this morning and attended church a little later with Mrs. Cleveland. He appeared much benefited by his outing and brought back numerous fat ducks, which he caused to be distributed among the members of his Cabinet and his personal friends. Secretary Thurston called to see him and spent some time telling him of events that had occurred during his absence, but no official business was taken up and it is not believed that the President feels called upon to add anything to the Cuban controversy at present.

During the day Secretary Olney made his appearance at the Executive Mansion and had a brief consultation with the President, and while there is no official guarantee for the assertion, it is not to be questioned that their conversation referred almost solely to the latest phase in the Cuban situation.

OLD SEA CAPTAIN DEAD. Sailed His First Voyage as Cabin Boy With J. Fenimore Cooper.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—James Watson, a retired sea captain, is dead. When 15 years old Watson went on his first voyage as cabin boy of the Havre packet ship Courier. This was in 1814, and J. Fenimore Cooper and George W. Blunt, the latter afterward noted as a hydrographer and nautical publisher in this city, were cabin boys on the same ship. He commanded the packet ship Albany in 1832 and in 1837 was made captain of the fine new Havre packet Virginia. The Virginian was chosen by the Government to bring the French indemnity money to this country.

About twenty years ago Captain Watson retired and went with his family to live on the ancestral estate in Westchester County. The old gentleman had a clear recollection of the war of 1812.

HERRMANN'S FUNERAL. A Large Crowd Attends It in the Masonic Temple, New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—The funeral of Alexander Herrmann, the magician, was held at Masonic temple, Sixth avenue and Twenty-third streets, this afternoon. The large hall was crowded with the friends of the deceased. A choir from the Temple Emanuel sang several funeral hymns. The simple Hebrew burial rites were conducted by the Rev. Dr. Joseph Silverman, who delivered an eulogistic oration.

The members of Munn Lodge, of which deceased was a member, were present. After the oration they gathered about the casket and Charles

Heiser conducted the Masonic ritual service.

At the conclusion the body was taken to Woodlawn Cemetery for interment. The pall-bearers included Maurice Grau, Frank Sanger, Alfred Hayman, William H. Crane and Frank McKee.

A large number of prominent theatrical people were in attendance as delegations from the Lambs, Phoenix and Press Clubs, of which deceased was a member.

Death of Silas A. Hudson.

BURLINGTON (Ia.), Dec. 20.—Silas A. Hudson, first cousin of General U. S. Grant, died last night, aged 81 years. He was a co-worker with Greeley on the New York "Tribune" and with G. D. Prentice on the Louisville "Journal," and with both assisted in bringing about the nomination and election of Abraham Lincoln, with whom he was on terms of intimacy. He was appointed by President Grant in 1869 Minister to Central America. He resigned in 1879 and had since led a retired life in Burlington.

His Condition Dangerous.

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—Senator Warren, who was operated upon at the Auditorium Annex last Friday for appendicitis, is still in a dangerous condition. The physicians, however, have hopes for his recovery and say that he will have passed the critical point within another day. He suffered greatly today, but his condition is said not to have become more serious.

A Traveling Imposter.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Daniel Frohman, the theatrical manager, is receiving numerous letters from Southern States asking for information regarding one Dave Woods, who is posing as the agent of a Frohman company, on the strength of which he has been borrowing money. Mr. Frohman states that Woods is in no way associated with him.

Friends of Cuba Will Parade.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—The American friends of Cuba have completed all arrangements for a big parade and demonstration through the streets of this city to-morrow. The paraders will carry American flags and torches.

Has Accepted a Situation.

WILLIAMINGTON (Del.), Dec. 20.—Thomas F. Bayard, Jr., son of Ambassador Bayard, has accepted an Embassy in the Street Department in New York.

FEDERATION OF LABOR.

NO SESSION, BUT OFFICERS WORK FOR UNIONISM.

President Gompers Addresses a Large Audience, Urging the Benefits Derived From It.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 20.—Although there was no session of the sixteenth annual convention of the American Federation of Labor to-day, many of the officers and delegates of the organization were active in the cause to which they are devoted—the advancement of trades unionism.

President Samuel Gompers addressed a large audience at 3 o'clock this afternoon in the M. E. Church, his subject being the "Rough Struggle of a Rugged Life." During the course of his remarks Mr. Gompers reviewed the progress of the labor movement, especially in the United States. He painted in glowing words a picture of the almost insurmountable obstacles and discouragements that have been met and overcome in the heroic struggle of the working classes to bring about a condition that would insure to themselves a just and fair proportion of the earnings of their labor, and told of what it is hoped will yet be accomplished through the work and influence of trades unionism.

The advantages of organization were dwelt on at considerable length, and it was pointed out that the benefits to be gained are not for the wage-earners alone, because as the condition of labor is improved, so is society, and citizenship raised to a higher standard. The manner in which national and international organizations undertake to bring about an adjustment of differences between employers and local labor bodies so as to give to each side in the controversy its just dues, to prevent lockouts, strikes, etc., was explained and the necessity of a universal eight-hour work day strongly urged. Give to the great army of labor a work day of eight hours, compensation that will enable the industrious to have homes, reasonable comforts in their homes, the full advantages of schools, week day and Sunday-schools and churches for their families, and you will have in this country the highest standard of society and citizenship ever attained in this world. The Bible, said Mr. Gompers, both the Old and the New Testaments, are full of doctrines we preach.

He spoke for an hour and thirty minutes, holding the closest attention of his audience throughout, and closed with an appeal to the ministry and all Christian people to aid the cause of labor by their influence and in whatever manner it is possible for them to do so.

A mass meeting of bakers, organized and unorganized, was held this morning at 9 o'clock. The speakers were President Gompers, Delegate Henry W. Weismann, Charles E. Bechtold and W. D. Mahon. Delegate Weismann has been active among the bakers during the convention, has organized three non-union bakeries, and to-night said that he had reason for believing that every bakery in the city would be organized before the close of this week.

At 2 o'clock a mass meeting of carpenters, which was largely attended and at which there were many non-union men, was held in Workmen's Hall and addressed by First Vice-President McGuire, Samuel Yarnell of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners, and Richard Cullinan of Lawrence, Mass., Central Labor Union.

The three most important matters to come before the convention to-morrow are the Olney arbitration bill, a resolution on immigration and a resolution intended to commit the American Federation of Labor to the socialist labor cause.

The question of the refusal of recognition of the credentials of Delegate Pomeroy of Chicago is also expected to come up.

THINKS SPAIN WOULD NOT DECLARE WAR.

And It Would Only be a Bluff if She Did.

Senator Allen's Opinion on the Joint Resolution.

He Holds That It is Within the Power of Congress to Pass It Over the President's Veto, and He Must Carry Out Its Behests—Thinks Olney's Position is Wrong, and That Congress Has Power Thus to Declare War and Make Peace—Other Congressmen's Opinions.

OMAHA, Dec. 20.—Senator W. V. Allen arrived from Washington yesterday afternoon. The Senator was very emphatic in his declarations upon the Cuban question and the Cameron joint resolution. "A number of things have operated in the last few days," said he, "which account for the apparent change of opinion among the members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the entire Congress, for that matter. The story of General Antonio Maceo's death, and there seems to be little doubt but that he was ambushed, had much to do with the determination of Congress to take immediate action. 'The stories of shocking brutalities with which the Spanish treated the children and families of the insurgents have also had a strong effect upon the most conservative members of the committee.

"The resolution will be taken up immediately after the holidays, I think," added the Senator, "and will be discussed perhaps ten or twelve days and then passed up to the President. From Secretary Olney's letter the almost certain inference is that Cleveland will veto the resolution. But it is within the limits of the powers of Congress to pass the bill over the veto, and that can be done, I think, without any doubt.

"Secretary Olney's position in claiming that the power to issue such a mandate rests solely with the Executive is wrong. When a joint resolution is passed by a sufficient majority it is a law, and the power to recognize Cuba's independence is legislative. Congress is made up of a body of men elected by the people and voicing the people's sentiments. When that sentiment is emphatically expressed over the President's veto he is merely the instrument of the law-making power, and must carry out its behests. Thus Congress has the power to declare war and make peace."

"I think there is no probability of it. It would be merely a bluff if she did. Spain is exhausted and poverty-stricken now, and it would be the sheerest folly for her to take up arms against a country like this."

"Does the passage of the resolution mean Cuban independence?"

"Nothing else, as I can see. This is the whole size of it, and the sooner it is done the better. The United States is the guardian of this hemisphere, and under the circumstances it is her bounded duty to interfere."

THE CAMERON RESOLUTION.

Congress May Do Nothing With It Before the Fourth of March.

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—A number of Congressmen on their way home for the holidays spent Sunday in Chicago. Representative Perkins of Iowa was seen by a United Associated Presses representative and asked regarding the Cameron resolution.

"The chances are," said he, "that Congress will do nothing with the Cameron resolution before the 4th of March. The House of Representatives is disposed to be more conservative than some of the newspapers make it. My observation is that opinion is in favor of considering the matter carefully, and and if the Speaker is not in favor of the resolution it may never get out of the committee. It is likely, too, that it may not come over from the Senate much before the 1st of February."

The belief is current among the Western members of Congress who were here to-day that Major McKinley would not look with satisfaction upon any action by Congress on the Cuban question which savored of haste and undue excitement.

UNEMPLOYED IN DENVER.

Four Thousand Assemble and Listen to Incendiary Speeches.

DENVER, Dec. 20.—Four thousand men who by their resolutions, their statements and their actions declared that they were out of work, starving or on the verge of starvation, met in the Coliseum Hall this afternoon and listened to a number of red-hot speeches against the members of the City Council, clamoring for work. The meeting was held in the Coliseum Hall in response to a call. The speakers were Rev. Thomas Uzzell and Rev. Myron W. Reed, the gentlemen who have always been considered friends of the oppressed and needy. The former suggested that the quickest way to bring about the change for the better was to take out half a dozen members of the City Council and bury them in the bed of Cherry Creek as a warning to their successors that the condition of the workmen should not be so cruelly overlooked and slighted in order that the politicians could fatten their own purses at the expense of the many. The resolutions passed called for the construction of city water works, street paving, viaducts, etc., anything to keep the unemployed busy, that the mouths of the hungry might be fed, instead of paying out the money in interest to bankers. Rev. Mr. Reed intimated that violence might be used by reminding his hearers that under the Constitution they have yet left to them the privilege of carrying arms, stating that "we

may yet be called upon to exercise that prerogative."

Previous to the meeting there was a parade. The marchers carried banners, some of the inscriptions being "Cheerless Christmas for the Working-man," "We Want Work, Not Charity," "Work Instead of the Poorhouse," and a number of others on the same lines.

McKINLEY AT CHURCH.

Chicago People Applaud Him on His Entrance and Exit.

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—A burst of applause and some hearty cheers surprised and greeted Major McKinley when his carriage drove up to the Sixth Presbyterian Church on Vernon avenue this morning. The sidewalk was crowded with the people who were unable to find seats in the house of worship. Scores of persons lingered about the vestibule, the doors and the street in front of the church during the service, and when Major McKinley came out after the morning service the cheering and applause were renewed. The character of the day and place did not restrain the enthusiasm of the Chicago admirers of the President-elect. It was partially to avoid a similar demonstration so quietly in the home of his friends during the week and declined invitations to visit any of the theaters. He did not suppose enthusiasm would express itself so emphatically on the Sabbath.

Major and Mrs. McKinley drove to the West Side after church and dined with a relative. The rest of the day was spent very quietly.

BRYAN WENT TO ATLANTA.

He Declines to Express Himself on the Cuban Question.

LINCOLN (Neb.), Dec. 20.—W. J. Bryan left at 2 o'clock to-day for Atlanta, Ga. He will lecture in that city on the evening of the 24th, and may spend Christmas with friends there, but will return to Lincoln in time to be present at the banquet to be tendered in his honor on the evening of the 28th, by the local Traveling Men's Bimetallic Club.

Mr. Bryan was asked before leaving to express himself on the Cuban question but declined, saying he had not the time, nor was he disposed to discuss that question yet.

May Yet be Lynched.

MAYFIELD (Ky.), Dec. 20.—Jim Stone, the negro charged with outraging Mrs. J. M. R. Green of this city, was brought here to-day from Louisville, where he was taken when arrested to prevent a lynching. His examining trial is to take place Tuesday, but he may be lynched before that time, as threats are being made.

Later.—The indications late to-night are that Stone will be lynched before morning. A great many strangers have arrived in town, but there are no groups, and the Town Marshal is not called upon to arrest any disturbers. It is believed the men will form at a certain place at midnight.

Insurance Agent Arrested.

BOSTON, Dec. 20.—Alonzo R. Shattuck, a well-known insurance agent of this city, has been arrested on a charge of doing insurance business for a corporation not registered to do business in this State. The claim is that he represented the Life Insurance Company of St. Paul in placing an insurance policy for \$2,000.

Plate-Glass Company Fails.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—It is reported that a German looking-glass plate company which has controlled the American market since its organization in July, 1890, has decided to go into liquidation. None of the officers of the company can be found to confirm or deny the report.

BUSINESS IN CONGRESS.

THE CUBAN QUESTION MAY ENGROSS THE SENATE TO-DAY.

Only a Small Prospect of a Quorum Being Had in the House.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The Cuban question and Secretary Olney's statement of the executive position may precipitate a debate in the Senate to-morrow that will set aside the regular business assigned for the two days that Congress will be in session before the holiday recess. It is not improbable that some of the more radical Cuban sympathizers will start the discussion with the presentation of Senator Cameron's report shortly after the morning hour. Conservative Senators who have studied the precedents are inclined to the opinion that the talk about a serious difficulty between the President and Congress has no sound foundation.

Cool heads will counsel moderation. There is not the remotest probability of Mr. Cameron's resolution recognizing the independence of the Republic of Cuba being acted upon in the Senate before the holiday recess. When the debate does begin it is evident that Senators Morgan, Davis, Chandler, Lodge, Cullom and Mills will take up a position adverse to that of the Secretary and the discussion may be prolonged until after the 4th of March.

It was agreed in the Committee on Foreign Relations that the report on the Cameron resolutions should be made to-morrow and that the matter should not be called up until after the holidays.

This agreement will be carried out. If the programme of the Senate made before the Cuban question took such an acute form it is permitted to be carried out the Senate will discuss the Oklahoma free homestead bill, which is the unfinished business.

The beginning of the holiday recess, with the adjournment on Tuesday, gives but two days for business in the House and there is small prospect of a quorum. Consideration of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, which is the unfinished business, will resume to-morrow and the measure will probably be disposed of, unless the advocates of the library scheme proposed by the joint committee as a substitute for the provisions reported by the committee should require the presence of a quorum, in which case the bill will go over until after the holidays.