

FATAL ACCIDENT NEAR STOCKTON.

Contractor McDougald Instantly Killed at the Weber Cut-Off.

The Unfortunate Tragedy Due to the Careless Handling of a Shotgun.

Was Pulling the Loaded Weapon Out of His Buggy Muzzle First, When the Trigger Caught on Something and the Gun Was Discharged, the Contents Entering His Heart.

STOCKTON, Nov. 17.—Contractor J. D. McDougald was instantly killed this afternoon, about 2:15 o'clock, at the Weber Cut-off, three miles from Stockton. He was pulling a shotgun out of his buggy, muzzle first, when the trigger caught on something, causing the contents of the gun to be discharged into his heart.

Edward Sherwood of Stockton, who witnessed the accident, says McDougald died instantly. Sherwood immediately came to town and notified the coroner. McDougald was president of the Board of Managers of the State Hospital for the Insane at Stockton, and was well known throughout this part of the State. He leaves a wife and several children. It is understood that his life was heavily insured.

A brother of the unfortunate man was killed in the same way in Yosemite Valley some years ago. McDougald had large enterprises on hand, and carried to completion some of the big projects of recent years. He had the contract to excavate the Modesto irrigation canal, and became embarrassed for a time by carrying a large block of the bonds of the district, while they were not negotiable, but finally won out when they were declared good. He also had large contracts in grading the Valley Railroad from this city southward.

NEVILLS ON THE STAND.

The Complainant in the Extortion Case Cross-Examined.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 17.—Captain W. A. Nevills took the stand this morning when the hearing of the case of extortion against Myron Azherian, Elsie Williams and Grace Loose was resumed in Judge Cook's department.

The owner of the Rawhide was hostile, and in response to questions in cross-examination, entered upon such lengthy arguments with counsel that the court was finally compelled to warn him that a repetition of the offense would subject him to punishment for contempt of court. Then Nevills calmed down and responded in more amiable fashion.

"Why did you give Mrs. Williams a check for \$2,000?" asked Attorney Baker.

"Because she had threatened to inform my wife of our relations, and I feared such a disclosure would set her crazy," was the reply.

"Did not your wife know you were friendly with Mrs. Williams at that time?"

"No, she did not."

"Did not Elsie Williams call on you at the Palace Hotel and nurse you for two days after you had given her the \$2,000 check?" was asked.

"I did not give her a \$2,000 check. The check was raised from \$200 to \$2,000."

At this point Judge Cook quizzed the witness, and drew from him the information that when he had given out the check he wrote out "two thousand dollars" in words, but only inserted \$200 in figures. Another cipher was subsequently added to the amount.

In response to further questions, the witness went over the story of the scene at the Palace Hotel, when he was lying seriously ill, and was visited by the defendants. At that time he claimed he was so ill that all he wanted was to be alone.

"I filled out the check and gave it to Mrs. Williams," he said, "but I was so sick that I did not know what I was doing."

"You remember, do you not, that a boy came to your room with the check from the bank, and that you O. K. d it?" was asked.

"Yes, I have a faint recollection that such a thing occurred," was the response.

While the morning session was in progress, J. Azherian, a brother of one of the defendants, came into court and was taken into custody by the order of the court for violation of the order made excluding witnesses. He would give no reason for his act, and was fined \$100 and committed to the custody of the Sheriff for five days, but later Judge Cook vacated the order.

BECKER-CREEGAN CASE.

The Jury, After Being Out Forty-Eight Hours, Fails to Agree.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 17.—The jury in the Becker-Creegan forgery case, after being out for forty-eight hours, returned to court this morning with the statement that an agreement with the state was impossible. Thereupon Judge Wallace discharged the jury from further consideration of the case.

It was ascertained that the jurors stood nine for conviction and three for acquittal. That was the situation from the first ballot to the final discharge. Judge Wallace set next Monday for the commencement of the third trial.

TRANSPORT ST. PAUL.

The Steamer Will Depart To-Day on Her Voyage to Manila.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 17.—The transport St. Paul will sail for Manila to-morrow. Lieutenant Martin Diswikes of the Tennessee Regiment will be in command of the troops. He will have under his care some fifty enlisted men for the various regiments now in Manila, a number of civilian clerks and twenty women nurses who are quartered at the Hotel de Ville.

Captain Kirby Smith, Assistant Surgeon of the Tennessee Regiment, and

T. A. McCulloch and W. H. I. O'Malley, assistant surgeons, will also sail on the St. Paul. Captain Smith will join his regiment at Manila, while Drs. McCulloch and O'Malley will travel out as far as Honolulu, where they will be attached to the division hospital.

It is expected that the St. Paul will reach Manila about December 20th.

Two Suicides at San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 17.—Mrs. Cecilia Bodie committed suicide to-day by drinking carbolic acid. About a year ago her husband, from whom she had separated, blew his brains out because she would not return to him. He was a wealthy mining man of Montana.

Another suicide was also reported to the coroner. Charles Gaud, owner of a saloon on King and Third streets, committed suicide at 2 o'clock this afternoon by shooting himself in the head. He is said to have been despondent for some time.

Steel Tug Launched.

VALLEJO, Nov. 17.—The United States steel tug Pawtucket was launched at the Mare Island Navy Yard to-day. She was christened by Miss Heather Baxter, the little daughter of Naval Constructor W. J. Baxter, in the presence of a large number of spectators. The Pawtucket is 102 feet long, is of 225 tons, and is expected to develop 450 horse-power. She will make twelve knots per hour. Her boiler and engines are almost completed, and the Pawtucket will be ready for commission by January 1st.

A Prisoner Escapes.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 17.—While two Chinese were being brought from Los Angeles for deportation this morning, one of them managed to escape. The Chinese were in charge of Guard Oakes, when one of them asked that he be permitted to get a drink of water. He stepped into the small room where stood the water tank, and failed to return. Presumably he jumped through the window while the cars were at Newman station on the route. Guards are looking for him.

Heavy Gales at the Horn.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 17.—The British ship Norma, which arrived today 148 days from Antwerp, reports having experienced a succession of severe gales shortly after rounding the Horn. Boatswain James King fell overboard from a topsail yard, but was rescued by one of the vessel's lifeboats. Jacob Ealin, one of the crew, died during the voyage.

Arizona's New Capitol.

PHOENIX (Ariz.), Nov. 17.—The Territorial Capitol Site Commission today adopted plans for a new Capitol building to cost \$100,000. Bids for construction will be advertised for at once.

RACE TROUBLES IN SOUTH.

Colored People Meet at New York to Resent Treatment of Race.

NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—A mass meeting of colored men and women to protest against the recent treatment of their race in some of the Southern States was held to-night in Cooper Union. As a "precautionary measure" the police were out in force, as even in this city, in the Hell's Kitchen district, there has been a considerable amount of anti-negro sentiment. This precaution, however, was not at all necessary, as the gathering, although enthusiastic at times, was a very peaceable one.

The hall was crowded with colored people, with a sprinkling of whites. During a tedious wait for the speakers, a white man with long flowing hair, arose in his seat in the center aisle and shouted: "Oh, if we only had a William Lloyd Garrison, a Wendell Phillips or an Abraham Lincoln at this time!" This evoked great applause.

Thomas Fortune appeared on the stage a few moments later, and took the presiding officer's chair. Mr. Fortune, in a lengthy address, told of the race troubles in the South.

Ebenezer D. Bassett, formerly Minister to Hayti, also spoke.

Resolutions were adopted denouncing the "rioting and revolution which have disgraced the States of North Carolina and South Carolina," censuring the Governors of those States for their failure to suppress the outbreaks against the negroes, and for their failure to invoke the aid of the Federal authorities if they found themselves unable to cope with the conditions, and insisting that the just rights of all citizens under the Constitution shall be respected.

Resolutions further recite that the States of Mississippi, South Carolina and Louisiana have by constitutional action disfranchised more than half their population, and demand that the basis of representation of these States in Congress and the Electoral College be reduced in the proportion to the number of male citizens thus disfranchised.

The concluding resolution was as follows:

"Resolved, That we implore the guidance of Almighty God in the shaping of our citizenship, to the end that it may make way for righteousness, for human progress and for the inviolability of our great and beloved Republic against the elements of rioting and revolution from within, and the assaults of enemies from without."

PANA MINE TROUBLES.

Clash Between Non-Union Negroes and White Strikers.

PANA, Nov. 17.—Non-union colored miners and white strikers clashed in the streets of this city again to-day. Several hundred shots were fired, but the combatants did their shooting from behind trees and hedges, consequently no blood was spilled.

The trouble is said to have been started by an unknown negro firing upon Wesley Pope, a striker. Pope says he was walking near the Springside colliery when the negroes are quartered, when he was fired upon. He secured a rifle and reinforcements. Meantime the negroes appeared in force, and the shooting became general. After several hundred shots had been exchanged the negroes retreated to their stockade. The militia arrived too late to get into action, but are patrolling the Springside district to-night in force.

American Nets Seized.

SANDUSKY (O.), Nov. 17.—The Canadian cruiser Petrel, which is patrolling the fishing grounds in Lake Erie waters in this vicinity, has seized a number of gill nets belonging to American fishermen, and which it is claimed were set in Canadian waters.

PARIS PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

The Administration Feels Encouraged Over the Outlook.

For a Successful Termination of the Labors of the Commission.

The Reply of the Spaniards No Surprise to the American Members, and the Attempt of the Former to Induce the Latter to Accept Their Construction of the Meaning of the Protocol Where It Touches the Philippines Has Been a Flat Failure.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—The Administration felt encouraged over the outlook for a successful termination of the labors of the Peace Commissioners in Paris. Whether the renewed confidence is based upon the abstract of the Spanish reply which was submitted at yesterday's meeting, or is founded upon private advices indicating a weakening of the Spanish position, is not known, but it is probable that both of these had an influence in brightening the prospects.

The Spanish reply was no surprise to the American Commissioners, who in fact had prepared themselves in advance, with instructions received directly from the President and Secretary Hay for a complete answer. Still, it was probably regarded as better policy, and more in accord with the amenities of official exchange, that the Americans should do the Spanish Commissioners the courtesy of giving deliberate consideration to their carefully prepared written argument.

But with all due intent to give proper weight to the Spanish representations, it must be said that up to this point they have had very little effect in influencing the American Commissioners, not because of any obstinate disregard of facts on their part, but for the simple reason that almost every one of the points mentioned by the Spanish Commissioners have been anticipated in the preparation of the American case, no small tribute to the acumen and diligence of Judge Day and Secretary John Moore.

The attempt of the Spaniards to induce the Americans to alter their construction of the meaning of the protocol where it touches on the Philippines has been a flat failure. The President himself was party to the preparation of the protocol. It was he who, upon a purpose to which the Spanish side to becloud the issue and leave open a door for future escape from the consequences of the war, had swept aside as so much chaff the message of the Spanish President, Duke Almonacid, and reducing that to the demands of the United States, which is called a precis, had declared that the Spanish Government might accept that as an exact statement of the demands of the United States. Having made the statement, the President believes himself to be the person who is most competent to construe its meaning, and the American Commissioners are consequently acting in conformity with this view.

Inasmuch as the Spanish are making most strenuous efforts to assert their sovereignty over the Philippines, all based upon the use of the word "disposition" instead of "possession" in that part of the protocol relating to the future of the Philippines, it may be stated that the American Commissioners have been obliged to call attention to the fact that Mr. Cambon, who acted for the Spanish Government in arranging the protocol, declared positively that the change, which was made at his instigation, amounted to nothing; was of no significance in English; and affecting the object aimed at, but was made merely because it sounded better in Spanish, and would not be humiliating to the Spaniards. Consequently the American Commissioners are allowing the sincerity of the French Ambassador to be drawn into question.

THE SPANISH REPLY.

PARIS, Nov. 17.—The clerical force of the American Peace Commission was busy nearly all night in translating the Spanish memorandum presented at yesterday's joint session. While the translators and typewriters were rendering the Spanish argument into printed English, counsel for the American Commission studied it sheet by sheet, making notes of records to be examined and of law points bearing on the matter in hand. As a result, when the Americans in English, for the daily session to-day the Spanish presentment lay before them in English, ready for consideration, and accompanied by data bearing upon it.

No unofficial person knows the contents of the document presented by the Spanish Commissioners yesterday, but it is safe to assume that, added to her insistence on the reservation of her Philippine sovereignty and her proposition to arbitrate the construction of the document, presented by Spain has made two other important statements:

"First—That on the high ground of financial probity she cannot allow any discussion here of the validity of her action in pledging the resources of the Philippines for the payment of the Philippine debt.

"Second—That in connection with the American proposal to reimburse Spain for her Pacific expenditures in the Philippines, she cannot admit of any inquiry as to how she spent the proceeds of the loans based on the Philippine pledges.

If Spain has assumed this attitude, and it is believed she has done so, she practically compels the American Commissioners to consider at least the entire debt and its assumption by the United States or the Philippine Islands as a condition to Spain's amiable surrender of her sovereignty over those islands.

It is difficult to understand how the Americans can reply to this in any other manner, than by strictly outlining their position, and giving the Spaniards a time limit in which to accept the propositions of the United

States. But the American Commissioners may patiently continue their endeavors to arrive at an amicable understanding on the subject.

The "Main" to-day, in reviewing the history of the late war, criticizes the American attitude in regard to the Philippines, and says Prince Bismarck on one occasion remarked that "when you have your knees on a nation's neck you should make her cough out all you can." adding: "It is possible the United States now remembers the brutal Mrs. Hicks, who danced at the United States has forgotten the rancor, hatred and exasperations it involved."

DILATORY PROCEEDINGS DEPRE-CATED.

MADRID, Nov. 17.—Almost all the papers deprecate the dilatory proceedings in Paris, expressing their belief that the United States will decline arbitration, and urging the Government to yield quickly, since it is impossible for Spain to renew the struggle or to expect European assistance, and furthermore because war wears out the people, wastes money, and concentrates attention upon Spain's domestic affairs and the restoration of her finances.

SPANISH WILL FINALLY YIELD.

LONDON, Nov. 17.—All the special dispatches to the London papers this morning from Paris express the belief that the Spanish Commissioners will finally yield, though under protest, to the American demands.

Knights of Labor.

CHICAGO, Nov. 17.—The feature of to-day's session of the Knights of Labor Convention in Paris, was the Grand Master Workman Hicks of a New York delegate, who charged that the Grand Master had admitted an outsider to a meeting of the order, in contravention of the constitution. When the delegates learned that the outsider was Mr. Hicks, who charged to be present during a part of the meeting simply because it was held at the residence of Mr. Hicks, they quickly disposed of the grievance. The other business of the day was almost entirely of a routine matter.

A Schooner Totally Wrecked.

NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—A message from A. Sewall & Co. of Bath, Me., was received by their agent here to-day, saying that the four-masted schooner Talofa, Captain Fletcher, from Guantanamo for Fort Tampa, in ballast, has been totally wrecked on Cuzumel Island, off the eastern coast of Yucatan, and that the Captain and seven of the men had arrived at Progreso, two of the men having been drowned.

Sudden Death of an Artist.

POUGHKEEPSIE (N. Y.), Nov. 17.—Professor Henry Vaningen, the artist, who had been art instructor at Vassar College since its opening in 1865, died suddenly of angina pectoris at his home to-night, aged 65 years. He was in Holland, on the eve of his departure, and came to this country about 1861.

Troops Soon to Move to Cuba.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—The movement of the United States troops to Havana province will begin within the next few days. The exact date of the arrival will be determined by the reports of Major Greene, who commands a division of the Seventh Corps.

Condition of the Treasury.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—To-day's statement of the condition of the treasury shows available cash balance, \$296,616,654; gold reserve, \$241,083,630.

EVENTS ON THE TURF.

RESULTS OF COAST AND EASTERN RACES.

LEITER, BONNIE IONE, KAISER LUDWIG, OSTLER JOE, ROSEMOND, OUTAWAY, WIN AT THE BAY.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 17.—Weather at Angleside fine and track good. Results:

Five furlongs, selling, Leiter (Houck), 25 to 1, won; Jerry Hunt (Ward), 4 to 1, second; Boardman (Beauchamp), 4 to 1, third. Time—1:03 1/4. Don Tell, Wrinkler, The Offering, Dun Praise and St. Kristine also ran.

One mile, selling, Bonnie Ione (Powell), 7 to 1, won; Dr. Bernays (Ward), 8 to 5, second; Helg Ho (J. Reiff), 6 to 1, third. Time—1:43 1/2. Colozel Dan, Treachery, Peter II. and Coronado also ran.

Six furlongs, selling, Kaiser Ludwig (T. McHugh), 10 to 1, won; Yankee Doodle (Bullman), 2 to 1, second; McFarlane (Powell), 10 to 1, third. Time—1:16 1/4. Mainstay, Masero, Sweet William and Zama II. also ran.

Seven furlongs, handicap, Ostler Joe (Piggott), 7 to 2, won; Rosinate (Rutter), 8 to 5, second; Satsuma (Jones), 7 to 2, third. Time—1:28 1/2. Babeca and Rainer also ran.

Six furlongs, Rosormondo (Bullman), 3 to 2, won; Novia (Powell), 8 to 1, second; La Maroma (Rutter), 5 to 2, third. Time—1:15 1/4. Formella also ran.

Six furlongs, selling, Outaway (Bullman), 5 to 2, won; Mamie Scott (Powell), 7 to 2, second; Durward (J. Reiff), 8 to 1, third. Time—1:15. Anabasis, Jack O'Lantern and Alvo also ran.

AT CUMBERLAND.

NASHVILLE, Nov. 17.—To-day's results at Cumberland:

One mile, Farm life won. Howitzer second, Sir Blaise third. Time—1:43 1/2.

Five and a half furlongs, Topaz won. Red Admiral second, Royal Banner third. Time—1:11.

Six furlongs, Danocles won, Miss Bramble second, Albert S. third. Time—1:17 1/2.

Six furlongs, Shieldbearer won, Mamie Cullan second, Violet Parsons third. Time—1:19 1/2.

One mile, Lackman won, Demosthenes second, Jim Flood third. Time—1:47.

AT BENNING.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—Track sloppily at Benning to-day. Results:

Six furlongs, Boney Boy won, Tabouret second, Diminutive third. Time—1:16 1/2.

Five furlongs, Tyrann won, Middlemore second, Rare Perfume third. Time—1:09 1/2.

One mile and three-quarters, hurdle, Florallie won, Arrezzo second, Hurry Up third. Time—3:23.

Seven furlongs, Trillo won, Leitner second, Wordsworth third. Time—1:30.

One mile, Ben Ronald won, Jefferson second, Sensational third. Time—1:44 1/2.

WOULD MURDER GENERAL AROLAS.

Spanish Troops Fiercely Dislike Havana's Military Governor.

Only Awaiting the Opportunity to Put Him Out of the Way.

The Prompt Removal From the Island of the Orden Publico Checks for the Moment Any Immediate Action on the Part of Other Mutinous Regiments, but the Guardia Civile is Still in an Unsatisfactory Condition and an Outbreak may Occur at Any Moment.

NEW YORK, Nov. 17.—A dispatch to the "Herald" from Havana says: With the departure of the greater number of the Orden Publico for Spain, one of the principal elements of disorder is removed from the city. This body of picked men, better trained and more intelligent than the ordinary Spanish soldier, and with the bitterest feeling against the Government, felt naturally to the place of the leaders of the movement which for the last week has kept the city in a state of constant anxiety. From them have come the directions to be followed in attempting to force the Government to accede in the soldiers' wishes, and while the other camps implicated have been equally anxious as the Orden Publico to bring matters to a crisis, the initiative has been left entirely to the latter.

Their prompt removal from the island was a step hardly contemplated by the mutineers, and has checked for the moment any immediate action on the part of other regiments. The Government apparently believes that the trouble has been averted in the meantime, and that the danger of an uprising at any moment has passed.

The streets of Havana presented the appearance of a besieged town, but have resumed almost a normal aspect. Soldiers camped at various points, who slept under arms and were ready to march at the bugle call, have been withdrawn to the outskirts, leaving the city in the hands of the Guardia Civile. The city is still policed by soldiers and municipal guards, the Guardia Civile not having been allowed to resume its functions.

This remaining element of danger, the Guardia Civile, is still in an unsatisfactory condition. Prompt action of the military authorities in checking the outbreak has tamed the spirit of the men to some extent, but causes for their discontent still remain, and the flame may burst out at any moment.

Isolated and unarmed in their quarters in Dragones street, they are powerless for the moment, but they will only be postponed in order that better opportunities may be taken advantage of.

The spirit existing among the men is very bitter. If only the opportunity arises it will not be wasted. The principal object of their hatred is General Maximo, and the measures in checking the outbreak on Thursday night, together with his implacable methods of dealing with individual revolts, has earned for him the fiercest dislike of those affected. His life only will appease them and one of the first acts of the men should they have the opportunity will be to murder Arolas.

This was the plot of Saturday night, but it fell through.

The situation still presents an unsettled aspect. It has been discovered that many members of the Orden Publico, especially of the Fourth Company, have departed for Havana, on foot and flying into the country. Several bands of these are now outside the city, and soldiers are employed in hunting them down.

Another element of danger is the Cubans. Menocal's camp is situated about two hours' march, or half an hour's ride by rail, from Havana. On reports of disturbance reaching him, he held his men in readiness to march on Havana, with a view to protect American and other foreign residents. A special detail has been provided to guard the Salon Trocha, the residence of the American Consul, and within two hours Menocal says he would have 3,000 men in the city and in twenty-four hours 10,000. The consequences of such a movement would have been of a grave character. The Spanish authorities would never have agreed to the use of Cuban troops, and the result would have been triangular fighting in the streets—Spanish troops and mutineers against each other, and both against the Cubans. Complications arising from such a situation would have been inexhaustible.

This contemplated step by Menocal is one of the keenest criticisms that could be passed on the American policy of delay in occupying Cuba. American residents in Havana protected from riotous Spanish soldiers by insurgents almost three months after the peace protocol had been signed, would make us the laughing stock of Europe. Americans here express great indignation at this situation which renders such a proposal possible.

The American and Spanish Commissioners, in agreeing upon January 1st as the date of the Spanish evacuation of the island, took a present from the treaty of peace entered into fifty years ago between Mexico and the United States, when an agreement was made as to the date for the American occupation to cease. Then, as now, it was known that all the troops could not be embarked by the date agreed upon. Theoretically the Spanish occupation will cease by January 1st, though it is believed that 25,000 Spanish troops will still remain in Cuba. These men will continue to occupy their barracks until they leave for the peninsula. It was agreed that all arms save those in position shall be returned to Spain. There yet remains to be settled the rights of that country to sell the bronze cannon and to have pay for the public buildings within the island.

General Greene expects the first troops to reach Havana about November 25th.

FISHERIES AND RECIPROCIITY.

The Anglo-American Commission Holds a Lengthy Session, Discussing Questions of Differences Between United States and Canada.

Canadian Government Favors Granting Enlarged Rights to American Fishermen in the North Atlantic If in Return Canadian Fish Are Admitted Free of Duty to the Markets of the United States.

Chief Endicott Points Out Necessity of Ample Docking Facilities.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—In his annual report to the Secretary of the Navy Chief Endicott of the Bureau of Yards and Docks makes a strong point of the necessity for ample docking facilities not only for small vessels, but for the battleships upon waters near Key West. The estimates submitted for the next year provide for only one new dock, which is to be of the largest type, constructed of granite and concrete and located at the Norfolk Navy Yard.

The estimates of the various navy yards for the next fiscal year are as follows: Portsmouth, N. H., \$306,000; Boston, Mass., \$367,000; New London, Conn., \$251,000; New York, \$612,000; League Island, Pa., \$755,778; Washington, D. C., \$205,000; Norfolk, Va., \$2,000,000 (\$1,500,000 being for a new dock); Port Royal, S. C., \$145,000; West, \$112,520; Mare Island, \$851,750; Puget Sound, \$53,500.

The report also comments upon the fact that no battleships or heavy draught cruisers were approached the wharves at Mare Island, and that it is important to equip a first-class naval station in that vicinity, a new site should be selected, for the present has none of the desiderata of a good naval station. There is no near-by population to draw upon for skilled labor; no available market, and no direct railroad connection with trunk line. Under these conditions, it is said to be doubtful if it is wise to build a large station at this point.

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LARGEST WAR VESSEL.

The British Ram Battleship Formidable Launched.

PORTSMOUTH (England), Nov. 17.—Thousands of people to-day witnessed the launching of the ram battleship Formidable at the dockyard here.

She is said to be the largest warship in the world, being of 16,000 tons displacement. She is 400 feet long, has 75 beam, and draws 26 feet 9 inches of water. She cost over one million pounds, and is estimated to steam eighteen knots.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Michael Hicks-Beach, the First Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. Goschen, and Admiral Sir Michael Culme Seymour were among those present.

A notable feature of the launch of the battleship was the enthusiasm shown by the British and American officers.

The armament of the Formidable consists of four 12-inch guns; twelve 6-inch quick firing guns, eighteen 12-pounders, twelve 3-pounders and eight 2-pounders.

She carries 900 tons of coal in her bunkers, and will have a complement of 750 men. Her 12-inch guns are in hooded barbettes. She is to be driven by two propellers, and will have 15,000 indicated horse-power.

National Fraternal Congress.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 17.—The National Fraternal Congress to-day elected officers for the coming year. Vice President D. E. Stevens of Philadelphia was the unanimous choice for the Presidency. The new Vice President is a Mohawk Indian, Dr. Oronhyateka of Toronto, Canada. M.