

TROUBLE BREWING AT HAVANA, CUBA.

Startling Rumors Flying About the Streets of the City.

Cuban Troops Refuse to Swear Allegiance to the United States.

Bitter Feeling Against Americans on Account of General Brooke's Order Refusing Cuban Troops Permission to Join in Evacuation Ceremonies—Developments of the Next Few Days May Mean Peace or War Between America and Cuba.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—A special cablegram to the "Tribune" from Havana says: Startling rumors are flying about to-night, and are given credence by excited crowds thronging the streets. It was reported early this evening that General Mariano Menocal and his Cuban forces at La Playa had been asked to take the oath of allegiance to the United States and had refused. The news that Cuban soldiers had refused to take the oath of allegiance was cheered by the crowd, and mounted insurgents clattered through the town telling the people in the streets that General Menocal had refused to take the oath of allegiance to the United States. They justified General Menocal's reported sensational action.

DISCONTENT IN THE TRANSVAAL.

INTENSE RACIAL FEELING AT JOHANNESBURG.

A Boer Organ Talks of War With Great Britain and the Razing of the City.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—A disquieting situation is developing at Johannesburg. According to the latest advices the place is seething with discontent, as on the eve of the Jameson raid, in consequence of recent and proposed Government measures which the Uitlanders regard as being a fresh series of impositions. In addition, racial animosities are intensifying at the vexatious treatment of the British Indians and Cape Boys, which is causing much bitterness.

Results in a Loss of at Least Two Hundred Thousand Dollars.

MINNEAPOLIS (Minn.), Dec. 29.—Elevator X, on the Hastings and Dakota Division of the Chicago, Minneapolis and St. Paul Railway, on Eleventh avenue South, burned to-day. The main elevator, with its annex and 200,000 bushels of wheat, were consumed, and the loss will be at least \$200,000. The division of the road is also blocked up, and will be for a few days.

TRAGEDY IN INDIANA.

A Bloomington Physician Knifs a Woman With a Surgical Stab.

BLOOMINGTON (Ind.), Dec. 29.—Mrs. Florence D. E. E. Gray killed this afternoon in the streets, within 100 feet of the depot, in plain view of many people. He stabbed her four times with a surgical knife, and she died instantly.

Sudden Death of a Public Officer.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Augustus P. O'Connell, President of the borough of Manhattan, died suddenly at his home in this city to-day of heart disease. He was for many years President of the Consolidated Exchange and Chairman of the Tammany Executive Committee. Mr. Peters was a prominent Mason. He was married to Mrs. John N. B., and was 54 years of age.

Gen. Merriam to Go to Colorado.

DENVER, Dec. 29.—A special to the "Times" from Washington says: Adjutant General Corbin to-day stated that an order had been issued assigning General Merriam to command the Department of the Colorado, to take effect at once. General Merriam, however, has been instructed to remain at his present station in San Francisco until relieved by General Shafter, now on his way.

Amnesty for Rioters.

ROME, Dec. 29.—King Humbert has signed a decree amnestying or reducing the punishments of the rioters who took part in the disturbance last spring. About seven hundred persons who were sentenced by court-martial, and about 2,000 who were condemned by civil courts have been liberated, but all recidivists or habitual criminals have been excluded from the benefit of the decree.

Must Pay for Stamps.

LANSING (Mich.), Dec. 29.—Chief Justice Grant of the State Supreme Court, has denied an application for a writ of error under which the express revenue stamp case could be removed to the United States Supreme Court. The Court recently decided that the American Express Company must pay for the revenue stamps affixed to its bill of lading.

Fatal Fire at New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Cornelius McGanney and ten horses were burned to death in a fire which destroyed the two-story brick and frame stable of Mrs. James Brooks on West Fifteenth street to-day. McGanney was asleep in the loft of the stable when the fire started.

GENERAL BROOKE'S PLANS OUTLINED.

Educational Work Among Both the Spanish and Cubans

One of the First Tasks When American Control is Established.

The Machinery of the Civil Administration Now Represented by the Colonial Cabinet to be Promptly Replaced by Some Agency More in Harmony With the New Conditions.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—A dispatch to the "Tribune" from Havana says: Educational work among both Spaniards and Cubans promises to be one of the first tasks when American military control is established. Neither class will undergo any radical changes to the United States. The Spaniards are satisfied with the assurance that their property will be safe, and that order will not be interrupted. That they would be asked to share in the responsibility of the new government is not a military control has not been made plain to them. They have assumed that everything would be turned over to the Cubans. With the military authority back of it, they have not worried greatly over Cuban administration, though they may have had misgivings as to its effectiveness. The Spanish class has not thought that they would be wanted in executive positions, and they shirk the idea of such responsibilities. This does not apply to the office-holding class, which has been an official place. Its members would be quite willing to remain. The new government will have the prospect of attaining the good government which the United States has pledged itself to give Cuba. Most of them are too thoroughly identified with the past Spanish system of corruption to be useful in establishing a new regime. A different class will have to be needed as they can be found.

Robbed of a Package Containing Sixty Thousand Dollars.

SAN ANTONIO (Tex.), Dec. 29.—The local office of the Wells-Fargo Express Company is out a money package containing \$60,000. The money was sent here from Houston for the Southern Pacific to meet its pay-roll west from that city to El Paso. It arrived Wednesday morning. He spent several days at the depot, and was seen on the morning of the 29th. He was seen in the vicinity where the vehicle was found.

WELLS-FARGO'S LOSS.

Beeler had been in the employ of the company for nine years, and enjoyed the confidence of his superiors. He spent several years on the frontier as a cowboy. His friends stoutly assert that he is the victim of foul play, and his wife also inclines to this belief.

AN ELEVATOR BURNED.

Superintendent Taft of the Express Company is here investigating. He admitted that he had seen the elevator stated, while rumor nearly doubles the amount.

RESULTS OF COAST AND EASTERN RACES.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The officials of the War Department have resigned themselves to the loss of General Otis' statement that it requires about four days to communicate with that point from Manila, owing to the absence of cable connections. No further orders have been dispatched to General Otis, as the department takes the position that he must be allowed to exercise his discretion in dealing with the situation, because of his presence on the scene. They are confident that he has enough soldiers at his command to carry out any project likely to be framed, even if that involves the suspension of the insurgents, though it is scarcely expected that matters will reach such a pass.

STROMO, DUNOIS, ROSINANTE, WHAT-ER-LOU, MAGDALANES AND HIGHLAND BALL WIN AT OAKLAND.

OAKLAND, Dec. 29.—Weather at Oakland rainy; track fast. Results: Five furlongs, selling, Stromo (Thorpe) 5 to 1, won; Wing (H. Martin), 8 to 1, second; Master Buck (Devlin), 20 to 1, third. Time—1:02. Gilt Egg, Campus, Royal Fan, Don't Tell, Wheat King, Leiter and Juva also ran.

NEARLY ALL THE NEEDS CARED FOR BY THE RELIEF COMMITTEE.

KINGS CITY, Dec. 29.—The Relief Committee, appointed by Governor Budd, through its representatives, Messrs. King and Harlam, have been very busy during the past few days carrying on the work of relief, and nearly all needs have been cared for. Food for the stock has been carefully distributed, and enough will be given out to last until the middle of February, when it is hoped that enough grass will have grown on the hills to tide the stock over until the regular supplies can be obtained.

FATAL ALTERCATION.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29.—Charles Kennedy, Assemblyman-elect from the Twenty-ninth Assembly District, had an altercation with an old man named William Quane to-day over a bill. Blows were struck, and the old man fell to the ground, striking his head. He was removed to his home and medical aid secured, but he died a few hours later. Kennedy claims that he acted in self-defense.

FILIPINOS FORM A NEW CABINET.

Is Said to Be Hostile to American Control in Philippines.

All the Ministers Pledged to Insist Upon the Independence of Islands.

Declared Also That They Will Refuse to Liberate the Spanish Prisoners—General Otis to be Allowed to Exercise His Own Discretion in Dealing With the Situation at Iloilo.

MANILA, Dec. 29.—The expedition under General Miller arrived at Iloilo on Tuesday and found that the Spaniards had evacuated the place on Saturday. The steamer Churrua transferred the Spanish forces to Mindanao. In accordance with an agreement, the rebels entered the city and trenches on Monday at noon. They immediately established a municipal government. Guards were placed over foreign property. Everything is quiet and orderly. There was some looting during the night, but the department has taken no action and this had an exemplary effect. The only foreign ship in the harbor was the British cruiser Irene.

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MONEY VALUES IN CUBAN ISLAND.

President McKinley Approves an Executive Order

Regulating the Financial System, to Take Effect on January 1st.

Rules Laid Down for the Payment of Customs, Taxes, Public and Postal Dues—Fixes Rates in American Money at Which Spanish and Other Coins Now in Circulation Will be Received.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—After a conference today with Robert P. Porter, special Commissioner of the United States to Cuba and Porto Rico, the President approved the following executive order which had already been signed by Secretary Gage in a measure regulating the financial system in Cuba:

"It is hereby ordered that on and after January 1, 1899, and until otherwise provided, all customs, taxes, public and postal dues in the island of Cuba shall be paid in United States money or in foreign gold coin such as the Spanish alphonsons (centen) and the French louis, which will be accepted in payment of such customs, taxes, public and postal dues at the following rates: 'Alphonsons (25-peseta piece), \$4.82; 'Louis (20-franc piece), \$3.86. 'That all existing contracts for the payments of money shall be payable in the money denominated in such contracts and where French and Spanish gold shall be the stipulated mode of payment they shall be received in their present decreed inflated values, i. e.: Alphonsons (25-peseta piece), \$5.30; 'Louis (20-franc piece), \$4.24, or in United States money at the relative values set forth in the above table, namely, \$4.82 for Alphonsons (25-peseta piece) and \$3.86 for Louis (20-franc piece). 'It is further ordered that on and after January 1, 1899, and until further provided, the following Spanish silver coins now in circulation in the island of Cuba shall be received for customs, taxes, public and postal dues at the following fixed rates in American money: The peso, 60 cents; medio peso, 30 cents; peseta, 12 cents; real, 6 cents; medio real, 3 cents. 'Branze and copper coins now current in the island of Cuba will be received at their face value for fractional payments of a dollar, in a single payment to an amount not exceeding 12 cents, or one peseta. 'WILLIAM MCKINLEY."

EVENTS ON THE TURF.

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