New-York Tribune.

VOL. LIII....No. 17,246. NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1894.—TWELVE PAGES. PRICE THREE CENTS.

FRENCH CABINET UPHELD.

THE VOTE 356 TO 160.

OUTCOME OF THE DEBATE IN THE CHAMBER ON THE NAVY'S CONDITION.

ADMIRAL LEFEVRE, MINISTER OF MARINE, REPLIES IN DETAIL TO M. LOCKROY'S CHARGES—GENERAL MERCIER ON THE EFFICIENCY OF THE COAST DEFENCES—THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY.

Paris, Feb. 1.—The debate on the interpellation of M. Lockroy in regard to the condition of the Navy was resumed in the Chamber of Deputies to-day, and at its close the Chamber adopted the order of the day, expressing confidence in the Government, the vote standing 356 to 160.

The first speaker to-day was Admiral Lefèvre, Minister of Marine. He said that Government recognized that reforms were necessary in the Navy. It had therefore nominated a commission, which had consented to serve, and which would have full power to investigate naval affairs. He compared the naval expenditures of France with those of the Triple Alliance, quoting statistics prepared by M. Chautemps, a member of the Chamber. The Minister declared that he did not believe that France's ironclads, cruisers and torpedo-boats were in a condition of inferiority, as had been asserted by M. Lockroy. Even English authority admitted that the French Navy was better armed with guns and shells than was the English Navy.

In regard to the turret-ship Magenta, which M. Lockroy had said was defective, the Minister of Marine said that M. Lockroy was mistaken. That vessel met the requirements. This was also the case with the turret-ship Neptune. Continuing, Admiral Lefèvre said that the delay in building vessels was due to the fact that the Toulon yards were overworked. Damages to vessels sometimes occurred in consequence of defective surveying, which was severely punished. The defects in the torpedo-boats were not sufficient to prevent them from performing war service. The deficits in the provisions were due to the system of tenders the regulations imposed. It was untrue that the transport Garonne had been unable to leave L'Orient because she had no flour.

Admiral Lefèvre closed by declaring that the Navy would always endeavor to rise to the height of the task facing it.

General Mercier, Minister of War, said that the Government had been taken to task regarding the coast defences. France, he declared, was not unprovided with either defences or defenders. It was necessary to proclaim the truth in the presence of foreign nations. The armaments of the coast forts, which had been placed in the forts in 1888, required modifications on account of the progress of science. Such modifications were proceeding within the limits of the credits granted, and would be reasonably augmented annually. Since M. Lockroy was flaunting the bombardment bogie, he added, he must say that it should be recollected that the odds were in favor of the forts as against ironclads. Twenty thousand fully equipped men were ready to defend Corsica, which M. Lockroy had said was absolutely defenceless. Ajaccio was fortified. The forces for the defence of the French coast exceeded 200,000 men, excluding those who might be mobilized. The fortifications were being increased. Though an attempt on the part of an enemy to land troops at the Cotentin was not likely, the building of a fort there was being considered. The War Minister's speech evoked warm applause.

M. Casimir-Perier, the Prime Minister, said he objected to the appointment of a Parliamentary Commission of Inquiry. The extra-Parliamentary Commission gave sufficient guarantees that a thorough inquiry would be made. The latter commission would study reforms which a Parliamentary commission could not study. The Prime Minister was several times interrupted by Radicals.

M. Greville-Réache stated that he had refused a seat on the extra-Parliamentary Commission because he thought it would only result in a surface investigation.

M. Brisson attacked the composition of the extra-Parliamentary Commission. M. Lockroy declared that the Government recognized the truth of the statements made by him on Tuesday. Though it endeavored to minimize those statements and pleaded extenuating circumstances, it was unable to deny them.

FOR ABROGATION DAY AT HONOLULU.

A PROGRAMME OF EXERCISES ARRANGED—GROWTH OF THE AMERICAN LEAGUE AND ITS OPPOSITION TO CHINESE LABOR.

(Copyright, 1894: By the United Press.)

Honolulu, Jan. 17, via San Francisco, Feb. 1, per brig W. G. Irwin.—This day is to be observed as Abrogation Day. It is the first anniversary of the abrogation of the Hawaiian Monarchy. Among the chief exercises arranged are a morning parade of the military forces, a reception in the council-room (formerly the throne-room), and a mass-meeting in the evening on Palace Square. United States Minister Willis has declined for himself and for the American Admiral and naval officers the President's invitation to the reception. He closes his note by expressing the hope that more satisfactory relations may soon obtain between the two Governments. Up to last night no reply to a similar invitation had been received from Minister Wodehouse, the British representative, who is an almost open partisan of the Queen.

The American League is rapidly growing and is coming to the front as the chief political organization in support of the Provisional Government and the cause of annexation. It is developing strong opposition to what its members regard as an endeavor of the planter capitalists to control the Government in their own interests, in opposition to those of the working classes of whites. Night before last strong resolutions were passed opposing the further importation of Chinese laborers, to 5,000 of whom the Government had agreed to allow admission to the islands. It is becoming evident that party lines are going to run mainly upon these issues for the future. The planting interest is certain to make a strong fight for itself. Planters, as a class, however, are unlikely to antagonize annexation, or any Government which tends toward it. It is not clear how far the natives will be permitted to count in this contest. An influx of Asiatics is generally regarded as destructive to the aboriginal population, who are weak and wasting away. The resolutions adopted by the American League contained the following expressions:

"Resolved, That we view with apprehension the almost eager readiness with which the Provisional Government has co-operated with the importers of this horde of Chinese.

"Resolved, That, while we are fully alive to the necessity of moderately cheap field labor, we shall continue to object to Chinese, viewing them as dangerous and distasteful, not only to ourselves, but also to our steadfast friends in the United States."

DR. HERZ PREPARING HIS MEMOIRS.

Paris, Feb. 1.—M. Henri Rochefort announces in his paper, "L'Intransigeant," that Dr. Cornelius Herz, so often mentioned in connection with the Panama Canal scandal, who is now living at Bournemouth, England, is having published three volumes of memoirs, which will contain all the letters exchanged between himself and French politicians. M. Rochefort adds that when the first alarm was caused by the evident intention of the Government to probe the scandal, all the papers and documents in the possession of Dr. Herz were sent to Chicago for safe keeping. These have now been returned to Dr. Herz, and will form much of the memoirs.

CAUSE OF THE RIOTING IN OPORTO.

London, Feb. 1.—The representative in Lisbon of the United Press writes to the London office that the Censor has refused to allow telegraphic messages giving details of the troubles in Oporto to be transmitted. He says in the letter that on January 29 there was serious rioting in Oporto. The trouble was due to the disaffection growing out of new and vexatious taxation, and the action of the Government in forbidding the meetings called by the Chamber of Commerce, societies, shopkeepers and the various industries to protest against the taxes. Not only were the shops and offices in Oporto closed, but those in Lisbon and all the large towns were shut up. It was only in Oporto, however, that overt acts against the peace were committed. On January 29 large crowds gathered in the streets and there was much angry talk, which culminated in serious rioting. The authorities managed to restore order in part, but news of the situation, which was threatening, was telegraphed to Lisbon, and several warships were at once dispatched to Oporto to assist in quelling the disturbances. The presence of the fleet had a quieting effect, but the disaffection continues.

MR. GLADSTONE'S DENIAL.

"THE PALL MALL GAZETTE" AGAIN ASSERTS THAT HE WILL SOON RETIRE.

THE PREMIER'S TENURE OF OFFICE, IT SAYS, WILL BE LIMITED TO MONTHS, IF NOT WEEKS—SIR ANDREW CLARK'S HIGH ESTIMATE OF HIS PHYSICAL POWERS IN 1893—WORK A RESTORATIVE TO THE AGED STATESMAN.

London, Feb. 1.—"The Pall Mall Gazette," which yesterday announced that it had learned from an authoritative source that Mr. Gladstone intended to resign office before the next session of Parliament, to-day publishes a qualified reassertion of its previous statement. It says that it was prepared for contradiction of the statement on the part of the press and Government officials, but was not prepared for the virtual confirmation of the story by Mr. Gladstone himself. Continuing, the paper says it knew that Mr. Gladstone's intentions had been conveyed to few, if any, of his colleagues; and adds that, whatever changes publicity may effect, it is now certain that Mr. Gladstone's tenure of office will be limited to months, if not weeks.

G. W. Spencer Lyttelton, Mr. Gladstone's private secretary, received a cipher dispatch from the Prime Minister, who is now at Biarritz, at 5:45 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The contents of this dispatch were communicated to Earl Spencer, First Lord of the Admiralty, and Mr. Asquith, the Home Secretary, both of whom refused to divulge their information to reporters. Mr. Lyttelton said to-day that the secret dispatch from Mr. Gladstone had no reference to yesterday's article in "The Pall Mall Gazette."

"The Westminster Gazette" says: "In reading Mr. Gladstone's statement, sent out from Biarritz through Sir Algernon West, it must be remembered that it is Mr. Gladstone's invariable habit to answer with scrupulous exactness each statement, and to never make a general denial. Those familiar with Gladstonia remark Mr. Gladstone's present unqualified emphasis."

"The British Medical Journal" to-day publishes notes of an interview had in 1893 with the late Sir Andrew Clark, who was Mr. Gladstone's physician, which notes, the paper says, it has not hitherto been desirable to disclose. The occasion of the interview was a former report that Mr. Gladstone was about to retire from office. Sir Andrew said that Mr. Gladstone displayed no signs whatever of breaking down. He still had the freshness, elasticity and vigor of youth. His muscular and arterial systems were extraordinary. He possessed a well-preserved force of energy and versatility of nervous powers far beyond an ordinary man in the prime of life. Above all, he had the inestimable power, acquired partly by habit and partly the result of the admirable balance of his nervous system, of sleeping long and well throughout the night, however agitating the occurrences of the day might have been. To Mr. Gladstone, Sir Andrew added, work was not exhausting, but was a restorative. It was his true stimulus, and kept him young and vigorous. Sir Andrew further said that he would never advise Mr. Gladstone to relapse into inactivity. It would not prolong his life, but would rather have the opposite effect.

Dublin, Feb. 1.—"The Freeman's Journal," commenting on the report of Mr. Gladstone's intended resignation, says: "The cruel, cowardly canard did not need contradiction. It is lawful to hope and believe that Mr. Gladstone will be spared in the full vigor of his genius until the not distant day when he will see the greatest work of his great career effected."

FOR HIGHER DUTY ON CORN IN FRANCE.

THE CUSTOMS COMMITTEE OF THE CHAMBER DECIDES ON EIGHT FRANCS, WITH A SLIDING SCALE.

Paris, Feb. 1.—The Customs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies has decided to increase the corn tax to 8 francs, with a sliding scale.

It would be of prime interest to American agriculturists and exporters of wheat to France, which needs yearly about 14,000,000 hectolitres of foreign wheat, to know in advance whether or not the Paris Chamber will vote the tax of 8 francs proposed by the Customs Committee. No absolutely safe prediction can be made in regard to the doings of a Chamber which is so volatile, and so afraid of the future that one day last month it voted that the proceeds of the Rentes Conversion should be applied to decreasing the tax on small rural properties, and ten minutes later voted down that resolution because the Cabinet threatened to resign if the first vote should be maintained.

Still, and precisely because the Deputies will be anxious to be forgiven by their rural electors, the chances are that they will vote this time in favor of the increased corn tax, inasmuch as they will not be in conflict with the Government in doing so. The only difference is that M. Viger, Minister of Agriculture, declared in a previous meeting of the Customs Committee that he did not like the establishment of a sliding scale of duties, and rather preferred to raise the duty from 5 to 7 francs. The committee is in favor of 8 francs, with a sliding scale, the details of which are not specified in the cable dispatch, as they were in a somewhat similar proposition made to the Chamber, two years ago, by Deputy Pilchon.

Aside from the electoral motives which will induce the French Chamber to increase the corn tax to 8 francs, it is certain that the peasants are now losing money in trying to produce wheat, the cost of production of a hectolitre of wheat is from 19 to 20 francs; and it brings only 15 francs in the market. French agriculturists are therefore the losers by 4 to 5 francs a hectolitre.

Now, the Minister of Agriculture, M. Viger, was justified in stating last week before the Customs Committee that he rather disliked the process of the sliding scale, because he was "in favor of a measure to limit speculations in corn." The fixing of higher or lower customs duties cannot always prevent speculation, and French agriculturists suffered, as well as the consumers of bread, by the temporary law passed in 1891. Crops had been bad in France, and wheat rose to famine prices. The Chambers then voted that the duty of 5 francs should be reduced to 3 francs for one year. The event proved that the decree benefited only the speculators. They introduced into France such large quantities of wheat that the market was overstocked, and prices ran down so far that French peasants could not sell profitably the small crop they had gathered. Meanwhile, the price of bread did not decrease for the working classes in cities. All the profits went to the middlemen, who had been able to prepare that "coup" during the unavoidable delays between the proposal and the passage of the law. The failure of the temporary measure of 1891 has made the French still more disposed than they already were toward an increase in the duties on foreign wheat.

THE NEW-YORK HANDICAPPED.

London, Feb. 1.—The mails brought from New-York by the American Line steamer New-York, Captain Jamison, which arrived at Southampton at 1:30 o'clock this morning, arrived at Waterloo Station at 5:55 o'clock, or just four hours and fifty-nine minutes later than the mails from the White Star Line steamer Majestic, brought by rail from Liverpool, were landed at the Euston Station. Captain Jamison said to-day that an hour after the New-York sailed she was compelled to anchor for six and a half hours, owing to a dense fog. She passed out from Sandy Hook at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. The agents of the American Line at Southampton regard the contest between the New-York and the Majestic as satisfactory. The Majestic, they say, had an advantage in that she had just come out of a graving dock, where her bottom had been scraped and painted, whereas the New-York has not been docked for that purpose in six months.

THE CZAR OUT OF DANGER.

St. Petersburg, Feb. 1.—It was announced to-day that all danger to the Czar from his illness is now past.

VAILLANT PROBABLY TO DIE THIS WEEK.

Paris, Feb. 1.—Auguste Vaillant, the Anarchist who threw a bomb in the Chamber of Deputies on December 9, will be executed, probably, to-morrow or Saturday morning.

FRAGMENTS OF FOREIGN NEWS.

Rome, Feb. 1.—A letter has been received from the Czar in response to an autograph letter written to him by the Pope. The Czar promises that peace shall be observed toward Catholics throughout the Russian Empire.

London, Feb. 1.—The House of Lords resumed today the debate on the Parish Councils bill. The Conservative majority passed a series of amendments which the Marquis of Ripon, speaking for the Government, intimated would not be accepted.

Calcutta, Feb. 1.—At a meeting of the Currency Association to-day the president declared himself in favor of taxing imports of silver. He denounced English speculators, because, he said, they were growing fat off India's misfortunes. The Association appointed a committee to draw up an address to the Government.

BENHAM'S COURSE APPROVED.

REPORTS OF THE ADMIRAL AND MINISTER THOMPSON.

THE DETROIT'S BIG GUNS NOT USED IN COMPELLING THE INSURGENT CRUISER TO CEASE MOLESTING AMERICAN VESSELS—ADMIRAL BENHAM'S THREAT.

Washington, Feb. 1.—Light was thrown on the new phase of the Brazilian situation to-day by the action of Secretary Herbert in making public a dispatch received from Rear-Admiral Benham and a detailed report from Minister Thompson of the occurrences in Rio Harbor on Monday. The dispatch from Admiral Benham is a report of his action in breaking the blockade and the subsequent engagement between the cruiser Detroit and an insurgent vessel. A message sent this afternoon by Secretary Herbert to Admiral Benham indorsing his prompt and vigorous action against interference with American interests was also given out, as follows:

Benham, Rio Janeiro: Further information received from United States Minister. We are satisfied entirely with the prudence and judgment with which you have carried out instructions and protected American commerce. Rely upon you for continued exercise of wise discretion. HERBERT.

Secretary Herbert this morning had an interview with the President and persuaded him to withdraw his objections to making public the official news from Admiral Benham and Minister Thompson. The President authorized the Secretary to give to the press the messages from both these officials, and also the telegram of indorsement sent to-day.

ADMIRAL BENHAM'S DISPATCH.

The dispatch from Admiral Benham, which was received on January 29, is as follows:

Secretary of the Navy, Washington, D. C.:

Two American merchant vessels Saturday were prevented from going alongside the wharf. To-day, 6 a. m., sent the Detroit to take position that would protect vessels going alongside the wharf, and if fired upon to return fire. My vessels under way and cleared for action. After the Detroit took position, boat from one vessel running line preparatory to haul in was fired upon with muskets from insurgent ship. Detroit returned fire with 1-pounder, shot striking under her bow. Insurgents fired broadside guns leeward. Later, insurgents fired broadside gun over American merchant vessels. Detroit returned fire with musket. Ch striking insurgent sternpost. Passing by insurgent he was hailed, saying: "If you fire again I will return your fire, and, if necessary, sink you." Detroit anchored to command both vessels—one merchant vessel having been carried to new position near wharf, and tug having offered services gratuitously to discharge cargo. Insurgent leader was notified these vessels would discharge from their present positions, but that my determination was not changed—to give American merchant vessels full protection to the wharf, if they desire to go. BENHAM.

MINISTER THOMPSON DESCRIBES THE FIGHT.

Following is the cable dispatch, dated yesterday, which has been received from Minister Thompson by Secretary Gresham:

Rio Janeiro, Jan. 31.—Had an interview with Benham. He reported the action fully to Navy Department yesterday morning. The United States squadron got under way, cleared for action, and, having notified city and insurgents of his intention to protect, by force, if necessary, and place alongside of docks any American vessel wishing to go there, Detroit took position best afforded to protect, with order, if the vessels were fired upon, to return fire. A boat from one of the American vessels running line preparatory to hauling in, was fired upon from insurgents but was not struck. Detroit returned fire with six-pounder, which struck under bows of insurgent cruiser. Insurgent then fired broadside guns to leeward, and later Detroit returned fire, muskets striking insurgent's sternpost.

Passing by Detroit, Commander hailed insurgent vessel, telling him that if he fired again Detroit would return fire, and if necessary sink him. One of the American vessels having now been carried into new position near dock and tug having offered services gratuitously to discharge cargoes of all, insurgent cruiser's leader was notified that the vessels won't discharge from the positions they were then in, but that the determination of the Commander-in-Chief of United States squadron remained unchanged to give American vessels full protection and place them in their berths at docks if they so desired. Later, Detroit was withdrawn and squadron anchored. Benham has not interfered in the least with military or naval operations of either side, nor is it his intention to do so. He has notified insurgents that it is his duty to protect Americans and commerce of the United States, and this he intends to do, and says American vessels must not be interfered with in their movements, but they must take the consequences when getting in the line of fire where legitimate hostilities are actually in progress.

Until belligerent rights are accorded, insurgents have no right to exercise authority over American vessels or property. Right of insurgents to search neutral vessels or to seize any portion of their cargoes is denied, even though they be within the class which may be defined as contraband of war during hostilities between two independent Governments. Forcible seizure of such articles in the present status of insurgents would constitute an act of piracy.

Since the effective action of Monday, everything is quiet. Attempted blockade of commerce and trade is broken, and the events move smoothly. All foreign commanders concur, as far as am advised.

PROBABLY A ONE-POUNDER WAS FIRED.

The discrepancy between the statements of Minister Thompson and Admiral Benham concerning the calibre of the gun fired from the Detroit at the insurgent vessel on Monday is straightened out at the Navy Department in favor of Admiral Benham, who said that a one-pounder was used. Mr. Thompson's ignorance of ordnance affairs probably led him into error.

The only victim of the hostilities between Da Gama and Benham in Rio Harbor, so far as yet reported, is Passed Assistant Paymaster George Washington Simpson, of the cruiser Detroit. According to a dispatch from Admiral Benham, received before his message concerning Monday's incident, Mr. Simpson accidentally shot himself in the leg while handling a revolver. The injury is slight.

RUMORS OF SURRENDER.

NICTHEROY SAID TO HAVE YIELDED TO THE INSURGENT FORCES.

PREPARING FOR AN ATTACK ON SANTOS—EUROPEAN VIEWS OF THE ACTION OF REAR-ADMIRAL BENHAM.

London, Feb. 1.—A dispatch from Buenos Ayres to a news agency in this city says it is reported there that the town of Nictheroy, on Rio Janeiro Bay, has surrendered to the insurgents.

Another dispatch from Buenos Ayres, dated yesterday, says that the Brazilian insurgents are preparing to make a vigorous attack upon Santos.

Lisbon, Feb. 1.—The British steamer Trent, from Buenos Ayres, via Rio Janeiro, January 11, arrived here to-day. Among her passengers was Captain William L. Lang, who is on his way to England on leave of absence. Captain Lang, who was the senior British naval officer at Rio Janeiro, said to a reporter here that the insurgents had plenty of money resources, while Peixoto's funds were low. Admiral da Gama, Captain Lang continued, was the mainstay of the insurgents. He was well backed by the navy, and general sympathy with him was expressed on shore. The insurgents captured the islands of Conceicao and Moncangue on January 10. These positions, Captain Lang said, commanded Nictheroy. Should that place be taken the insurrection would end, it being the key to the whole situation.

The Brazilian Government threatened to seize the Trent on December 22, on the plea that she had conveyed insurgent officers on a previous voyage. The British sloop-of-war Beagle prevented the seizure.

The Trent brought advices to the effect that Captain Meissner, who succeeded Captain Crossman as the commander of the recently purchased Government vessel America, has left the vessel, as has also the electrician who went out on her from New-York.

Berlin, Feb. 1.—The "Vossische Zeitung" says today, in a leader on Rear-Admiral Benham's action in Rio Janeiro Harbor: "The latest news from Rio clearly demonstrates the intervention of the United States in the internal affairs of Brazil. The United States Government sides with President Peixoto, although he is a violator of the Constitution. It is apparent that the United States, fearing the restoration of the monarchy, will depart from a strictly neutral attitude toward the rebels, not to protect business interests, but for political purposes. Germany will preserve a genuine neutrality. The United States seek to secure a dominant influence in Brazil. That European States will support the Washington Government is most unlikely. Certainly Germany will not support a Government whose President is outraging the Constitution and causing civil war."

BYRNES READY TO TESTIFY.

HE MAY MAKE SOME REVELATIONS TO THE SENATE POLICE COMMITTEE.

THE FIRST SESSION OF ITS INVESTIGATION THIS AFTERNOON—COMMISSIONER MARTIN SAYS HOW GLAD HE IS—IMPORTANT DISCLOSURES ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT WHICH THE SUPERINTENDENT WILL MAKE IF HE IS PRESSED.

The announcement that the Senate committee to investigate the police department would begin operations at the Hotel Metropole in this city to-day did not take the officials at the Central Office by surprise. They said yesterday that they had expected the investigation to begin before the close of this week. Their chief anxiety yesterday was in regard to the lines of investigation which the committee intended to follow. Not a hint of the committee's purpose in that respect had been conveyed to the officials. Neither to the Commissioners nor to Chief Clerk Kipp had there been sent any official notice of the investigation, or any subpoenas for witnesses, and none were expected until to-day. The Commissioners had consulted on Wednesday regarding the choice of a lawyer to act as counsel for the Department and cross-examine witnesses before the committee, but they had not reached a decision among two or three prominent lawyers whose names had been suggested. They did not know whether either of the lawyers whom they had talked of would consent to act as counsel for the Department, and therefore they kept the names of the lawyers to themselves.

It would be easier to make a choice of counsel, they said yesterday, if they knew who the committee's counsel was to be. If the committee selected a man of prominence, whose known character would be a kind of guarantee that the object of the investigation was to get at the truth, the counsel for the Department should be a man of the same character. If it was merely the intention of the committee to throw mud at the Department for partisan purposes, the fact might be shown in the selection of the committee's counsel. In any case, it was said, the committee's choice of counsel probably would indicate the lines to be pursued in the investigation.

MR. CHOATE AND MR. ERHARDT AS COUNSEL.

At the meeting of the Chamber of Commerce yesterday Charles Stewart Smith, president of the Chamber, read a telegram he had received from the chairman of the Senate Committee, requesting Mr. Smith to be present prepared to name special counsel. Mr. Smith announced that Joseph H. Choate had been appointed counsel by the Chamber's special committee, and that Joel B. Erhardt would be retained as associate counsel. It was known at the Central Office that Mr. Choate was out of the city, and was not expected to return before to-morrow. Several of the officials there said yesterday they would be pleased to have Mr. Choate, or a man of the same character, selected as the committee's counsel.

There has been no general investigation of the Police Department in this city by a committee of the Legislature since the investigation by the Roosevelt Committee in 1884. The Fassett Committee later made only a partial inquiry into police methods. When the committee headed by Theodore Roosevelt held sessions at the Metropolitan Hotel ten years ago, the counsel of the Police Department was ex-Judge Horace Russell, and he was ably seconded by the late Seth C. Hawley, who was a trained lawyer and ex-Assemblyman, and had been the chief clerk of the Police Department for many years.

READY AT HEADQUARTERS.

Chief Clerk Kipp said yesterday that he would be ready at a moment's notice to produce any records of the department which the committee might desire to make use of in the investigation. Superintendent Byrnes may be called upon to produce before the committee some of the secret records which are never in the keeping of the chief clerk. Those records include the reports of inspectors and captains about disorderly houses and gambling houses in the city, and about the robberies which the police keep from the knowledge of the public.

Mr. Byrnes would not talk about the investigation yesterday to newspaper men, and his impassive face revealed neither anxiety nor exultation at the approach of the ordeal.

BYRNES WILL STIR THINGS UP.

One of his closest friends in the department said to a Tribune reporter:

"The Superintendent is not afraid, although he expects to be placed in an embarrassing position when he is called as a witness before the committee, as he doubtless will be. If he is forced to tell, under oath, anything about the interference of Commissioners to prevent him from enforcing the laws fairly, there is sure to be trouble for somebody in the department.

"It is more than likely, also, that an attempt will be made to cast blame upon him for the blunders of inspectors and captains, and he is too jealous of his own reputation to permit such attacks without striking back. He knew the inspectors and captains perfectly well when he became Superintendent, and he was too clever a detective not to protect himself against them. He has compelled them to make written reports in every case where there could be any doubt as to responsibility, and he could lay his hands on the right reports at a minute's notice. He may be asked also about the bill which has been introduced into the Legislature to increase the powers of the Superintendent, and if he is required to give his opinions on that subject he may say things that will bring him into conflict with the Commissioners."

THEY WILL WELCOME IT.

President James J. Martin, of the Police Board, said late in the afternoon: "Now that the Senate committee has been selected, I have no hesitation in saying that as a Police Commissioner I will do all in my power to aid in an honest investigation of the department. The newspapers for many months have been spreading all kinds of reports and charges affecting the character of the Commissioners, and we shall have an opportunity at length to answer some of these false reports and charges."

Commissioner John McClave said: "I am glad there is going to be an investigation, and I believe it will clear the air of many of the false and scandalous reports which have been in circulation about the department for months. It must be remembered that Dr. Parkhurst has had a searchlight turned on the department for many months, and has been spending thousands of dollars and employing many persons in the effort to get evidence to substantiate his charges of corruption and blackmail. The department therefore has been virtually under investigation for a long time. Does anybody suppose that, if Dr. Parkhurst had been able to get any direct proof that a member of the department had extorted money from a liquor dealer, a gambler or a keeper of a disorderly house in the city, he would have failed to let the fact be known at once, and also cause the indictment of the offender? Now will be the opportunity for Dr. Parkhurst to come forward and tell under oath what he actually knows about the police. Not only that, but an invitation is to be extended to everybody who has a grievance against the police to come forward and perjure himself, if he likes, under the protection of the committee and the promise of immunity, in order to support any charges against a member of the department. Yet I believe the department will be vindicated by the investigation. We are not afraid of it."

The members of the special Senate committee, Messrs. Lexow, of Nyack; O'Connor, of Binghamton; Robertson, of Peekskill; Pound, of

Continued on Fifth Page.

TURFMEN ALL AT SEA.

ANOTHER CONFERENCE SUGGESTED.

THE JOCKEY CLUB TO BE ORGANIZED TO-MORROW—THE CONEY ISLAND MEN NOT LIKELY TO YIELD.

A meeting of the Committee of Conference between the horse-owners and the Board of Control was held yesterday afternoon. It was decided to organize the Jockey Club on Saturday. It is not likely that a meeting of the horse-owners will be called to act on the letter from the Executive Committee of the Coney Island Jockey Club, Board of Control methods and counsel have prevailed. A large number of owners are thoroughly disgusted with the turn which affairs have taken. It is reported that Perry Belmont signed the Jockey Club boycott agreement yesterday afternoon.

All of the propositions made by the Coney Island Jockey Club were eminently fair, and it was the opinion of horse-owners that the propositions would be accepted without debate. The delay is only to gain time to hear from Florida and Louisiana.

The Coney Island Jockey Club Executive Committee will meet on Saturday, but it is not at all likely that another meeting with the Committee of Conference will be held, as some of the members of the club say that J. G. K. Lawrence's letter was the ultimatum of the club.

The Coney Island Jockey Club is composed of gentlemen, and is the only racing club in the East that is not managed as a proprietary club. Its position is such that it can stand a boycott, as there is a surplus in the treasury, and the club is not afflicted with the stain of the lottery or of being managed in the interest of a few high-rolling plungers who use questionable means to accomplish their ends. It is to be hoped that Saturday will end the suspense either one way or the other, and that turf affairs will have a chance to settle.

FATAL FIGHT AMONG FARMERS.

FOURTEEN INJURED, SIX OF THEM DYING—NORTH CAROLINA MEN ARRAYED AGAINST TENNESSEEANS.

Asheville, N. C., Feb. 1.—A dispatch from Hot Springs, N. C., says a terrible fight took place on the Madison County line, next to Tennessee, between North Carolina and Tennessee farmers who were working the road. Fourteen were wounded and six of them died. The cause of the trouble is not known. The scene of the battle is twenty miles from Greenville, Tenn.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL STOCKTON WEAKENS

READY NOW TO ABANDON THE QUO WARRANTO METHOD OF DETERMINING THE LAWFUL SENATE OF NEW-JERSEY.

Trenton, Feb. 1.—Governor Werts to-day made public an opinion delivered to him by Attorney-General Stockton on the manner of determining which of the two bodies claiming to be the Senate of New-Jersey is the lawful organization. The Attorney-General quotes authorities elaborately to show that the Supreme Court has jurisdiction to settle the controversy. He ends his opinion as follows:

The question which of the two bodies claiming to be the Senate of New-Jersey should be recognized by the courts will inevitably, at no distant day, be presented to the Supreme Court, and that court will not hesitate to decide the question when properly presented.

One mode of bringing it before the court would be an information in the nature of a quo warranto directed to Maurice A. Rogers, claiming to be President of the Senate, calling upon him to show by what authority he assumes to exercise the office of President of the Senate. I had been informed that this course would be satisfactory to the body which assumed to elect him to that office, and, if Mr. Rogers and his friends had been willing to facilitate the proceedings and interpose no technical objections, this would have been the quickest mode of having the question determined, but I learn now that I would receive no aid in bringing the matter to a speedy conclusion, and it is therefore questionable whether a determination would be reached in advance of a decision of the same question which is certain to be presented in another form.

I doubt, therefore, whether it is the duty of the Attorney-General to attempt to bring the matter before the court in advance of the time when it will reach there through the ordinary channels, it not being apparent that he will thereby promote the public welfare and expedite a proper organization of the legislative bodies.

In an interview had with Governor Werts this afternoon in relation to Attorney-General Stockton's opinion, he said: "While I will not, probably, for the time being, concur in the suggestions of the Attorney-General as to the advisability of the immediate institution of the quo warranto proceedings, I shall, unless the question as to which is the constitutional Senate is soon brought before the Court in some other way, insist that the proceedings by quo warranto be instituted."

THEY STOLE FROM THEIR EMPLOYER.

WILLIAM SCHAEFER AND HENRY SECATHE TOOK $20,000 FROM W. C. FLANAGAN—MOST OF THE MONEY RECOVERED.

William Schaefer, thirty-three years old, who lives at No. 153 East Eighty-fifth-st., and Henry Secathe, thirty-eight years old, whose home is at No. 508 East Eighty-fifth-st., were arrested yesterday and are now locked up at Police Headquarters, charged with stealing $20,000 from William C. Flanagan, a real estate agent whose office is at No. 53 Bond-st. Both admitted their guilt to Inspector McLaughlin. Over $15,000 of the stolen money was recovered. The prisoners were remanded by Judge Koch at the Essex Market Court yesterday morning until to-day. A few days ago Mr. Flanagan reported to the Inspector that he had discovered a shortage of $20,000 in his accounts for the last year. Mr. Flanagan has charge of numerous estates and collects monthly large sums of money for rents. He suspected some of his clerks.

When searched at Police Headquarters, Secathe had $1,000 in his possession $3,100. He also gave information which led to the recovery of $5,000 more which he had hidden away in his employer's safe. Yesterday morning Secathe's wife called at Mr. Flanagan's office and gave him four $1,000 bills, which she said she found in her husband's pocketbook at home. Secathe confessed that all the money belonged to Flanagan.

In Schaefer's possession was found bankbooks of the Bleecker Street, Citizens', Bowery and Greenwich savings banks, representing deposits amounting to $5,300. He also confessed that this was part of the stolen money. The two clerks robbed their employer by falsifying the accounts. When they collected rents, on the 1st of each month, they entered the amounts in the account books of the individual estates, but made no entry of the collection in Mr. Flanagan's books. Secathe stole over $12,000 of the amount taken, and Schaefer took the rest. Four thousand six hundred dollars is still unaccounted for. The prisoners will be arraigned in court again to-day.

"PONY" MOORE ARRESTED.

HE ATTACKS THE CONDUCTOR OF A CABLE CAR ON WHICH HE AND MITCHELL, THE PUGILIST, WERE RETURNING FROM A DINNER.

"Pony" Moore was arrested last night in a Broadway car, opposite the Metropolitan Hotel, and was taken to the Mulberry-st. station, charged with assaulting a conductor, Jacob Cohen, of No. 429 East Seventy-ninth-st. Cohen was bleeding from a wound on the face and head. He said that Moore assaulted him because he had ordered him to stop using vile language. Moore was bailed at the police station in the sum of $500, by Joseph Dunn, of No. 56 Spring-st.

In Moore's party were Charles Mitchell, the prizefighter; "Doc" Dougherty, a writer for Philadelphia papers, and a young lawyer named Daniel O'Reilly. About 7:30 p. m., Moore and his friends, who had been dining, got in the car at Twenty-fourth-st. According to the conductor's story, Moore began to talk loudly, and his language was not of the choicest. The conductor ordered him to stop, and he subsided for a time. When alighting at his hotel, the Metropolitan, the conductor says, Moore struck him without the slightest provocation.

Then they were all taken to the police station. Moore wanted to enter a counter-charge against the conductor, but Sergeant Woodruff would not entertain it. Mitchell later contradicted the conductor's story, who, he said, struck the first blow. Mitchell appeared perfectly sober, but it was said that his father-in-law was slightly under the influence of liquor.

AN ALLEGED TALK WITH TWO OUTLAWS.

San Francisco, Feb. 1.—An "Examiner" dispatch from Sampson Flat, dated January 25, gives a long interview between its correspondent and Evans and Morrell, the escaped outlaws, who were staying with the reporter at the time. They talked freely of their travels since they broke jail at Fresno, are well posted as to the pursuit of officers, are in good health and fine spirits, and Evans says they will remain in the mountains and take their own time and opportunity to leave for foreign parts.

THE WILSON BILL PASSED.

FINAL SCENES IN THE HOUSE.

THE MEASURE ADOPTED BY A VOTE OF 204 TO 140.

SEVENTEEN DEMOCRATS AND ONE INDEPENDENT ACT WITH THE REPUBLICANS IN FAVOR OF PROTECTION—EX-SPEAKER REED'S MASTERLY ARGUMENT HAILED WITH WILD APPLAUSE—SPEECHES OF MESSRS. CRISP AND WILSON.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Feb. 1.—With the accompaniment of wild Democratic cheers and the ear-splitting historic "yell" that was never heard in the Capitol of the United States thirty years ago, the hybrid creation known as the Wilson bill, which is designed to uproot and destroy an economic policy under which the people of this country have prospered as they never did before, and as the people of no other country ever prospered, passed the House of Representatives at 6 o'clock this afternoon. The vote stood 204 yeas to 140 nays, as announced by the Speaker after he had added his own vote to the affirmative column. Every Republican present, and there were only three Republican absentees—all of whom were absent on account of illness—voted in the negative, as also did seventeen Democrats and one Independent—Newlands, of Nevada. The Democrats who retained the courage of their convictions to the last and voted against the destruction of the industries of their respective districts were Bartlett, Campbell, Cummings,

THOMAS B. REED.

Covert, Haines, Hendrix, Schermerhorn and Sickles, of New-York; Cadmus, of New-Jersey; Sperry, of Connecticut; Page, of Rhode Island; Sibley, of Pennsylvania; Davey, Meyer, Price and Robertson, of Louisiana, and Geary, of California.

There were more than thirty other Democrats in the House to-day who had denounced one or another provision of the bill openly and in the bitterest terms, and many of whom had declared that they could not and would not vote for it because, if enacted into law, it would be destructive to important and extensive industries in their districts, while others had declared quite as loudly and positively that they could not and would not vote for an income tax on any terms. All of them, with the exception of Mr. Stevens, of Massachusetts, who is a member of the Ways and Means Committee, and who "dodged," voted for the bill. Mr. Magner, of Brooklyn, did so, and so did Mr. Ryan, of Westchester, and both were loudly applauded by their Populist-Democratic associates, but the applause they received was faint, indeed, as compared with that which greeted Bourke Cockran, when he, turning his back upon himself, and repudiating the unanswerable arguments which he delivered only two days ago, recorded his vote in favor of the bill.

MEEKLY SWALLOWING THEIR "CROW."

Mr. Cadmus, of New-Jersey, stood by his colors to the last, but Mr. Dunn, of New-Jersey, who thundered so loudly on Tuesday, and denounced the ruling faction of his party as free traders who "had been