New-York Tribune.

V LVI....No. 18,332. NEW-YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 23, 1897.—FOURTEEN PAGES. PRICE THREE CENTS.

HOT FIGHTING IN CUBA.

SPANIARDS REPORT SERIOUS LOSSES TO THE INSURGENTS.

REBELS SAID TO HAVE PERISHED BY DROWNING IN THE HANABANA RIVER AND BY SINKING IN THE MUD—THE SIEGE OF GUAMO.

Havana, Jan. 22.—The Spanish brigade, under Commander-General Molin, which has been operating in the vicinity of Zarabanda and Guamo, in the Province of Matanzas, has had an engagement with several combined parties of rebels, who were defeated and routed. In their flight many of the rebels threw themselves into the Hanabana River, and fifteen were drowned and twenty-four perished by sinking in the mud. The troops lost two killed and seven wounded.

Upon the return to Manzanillo of the gunboat Centinela, after the sinking in the Cauto River of her consort, the Relampago, by the explosion of a torpedo planted by the rebels, orders were given for a force of Spanish troops to proceed to Guamo to relieve the besieged garrison there, which had been the object of the naval expedition, but which had been frustrated by the loss of the Relampago and the death or wounding of every man on both that vessel and the Centinela, either through the explosion itself or the subsequent rifle fire from the rebels, who were ambushed on both banks of the river.

The relieving expedition was under the command of Colonel Tovar, who, with his brigade, marched along the left bank of the Cauto River, meeting detached parties of rebels at various places along the route. At Cayamo the insurgents were gathered in quite strong force, but after a short engagement they were driven from the town. The Spanish force then proceeded for Guamo, where they found that the insurgents who had been attempting the capture of the fort had disappeared.

It was learned that the rebels had attacked the fort on January 6. They were in two columns, one, operating from the right bank of the river, being under the command of Calixto Garcia, and the other, from the left bank, being led by Rabi. Many attempts were made to carry the fort by assault, but in every instance the garrison compelled the enemy to retire. The insurgents had artillery, and the projectiles from their cannon unroofed the fort, but did no serious damage to the heavy walls of the structure.

Finding themselves unable to capture the Spanish position, the rebels determined to attempt to compel its surrender by cutting off the supply of water. In pursuance of this object, trenches were dug in front of the place from which the garrison obtained its water, and a detachment of rebels were placed therein to prevent the troops approaching.

The garrison, however, had sufficient water to last with economy until the rebels, evidently hearing of the approach of the reinforcements, raised the siege and retired. Some time before the enemy disappeared they blew up with dynamite a barge that was employed as a pontoon for the passage of troops across the river.

The siege lasted for fourteen days. The garrison lost three killed and eight wounded, while twelve men were made sick by the close confinement within the walls of the fort, the scant rations and short supply of water.

General Weyler is now at Palos, in the Province of Matanzas.

Alfredo Rodriguez Garcia and two other prisoners were shot this morning at Santa Clara "for the crime of rebellion."

The Mayor of Havana has resigned. The "Diario de la Marina" suggests the appointment of a military officer to fill the vacancy.

MAKING A WASTE OF CUBA.

THE MADRID CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PROTESTS AGAINST WEYLER'S LATEST DECREE.

Madrid, Jan. 22.—A dispatch from Havana states that Captain-General Weyler has ordered the destruction within three days of all the plantations and buildings in the Province of Havana that would be likely to prove useful to the rebels. The Madrid Chamber of Commerce and other bodies here have protested by cable to General Weyler against the order, as its execution will result in the destruction of much valuable property without serving any practical purpose.

The dispatch adds that General Weyler has recalled General Pin, the commander of the troops in the Province of Santa Clara, apparently for the reason that he had held conferences with landowners in that province respecting General Weyler's order issued to prevent the obtaining of food by the rebels.

TRIAL OF THE COMPETITOR'S CREW.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND SENDS THE CORRESPONDENCE TO CONGRESS.

Washington, Jan. 22.—The correspondence relative to the arrest and trial of the Competitor crew, which was laid before Congress to-day, is voluminous, but contains little that has not been heretofore printed. The latest dispatch is a cable message from Mr. Olney to Minister Taylor, on September 3 last, saying that the delay of the Spanish Government in deciding the case was absolutely unreasonable, and calling on Mr. Taylor to urge prompt action. This brought a reply under date of September 8, in which Mr. Taylor said that the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs had told him confidentially that the judgment in the Competitor case had been annulled and a new trial ordered before an ordinary tribunal. The decision was expected to be given out shortly.

AMERICAN CLAIMS AGAINST SPAIN.

THE PRESIDENT TRANSMITS A LIST AGGREGATING ABOUT $10,000,000 TO THE SENATE.

Washington, Jan. 22.—In response to a resolution, the President transmitted to the Senate to-day a list of the claims filed in the State Department by American citizens against Spain, arising out of the insurrection in the island of Cuba, together with such correspondence relating to the capture of the schooner Competitor and the persons claiming American citizenship taken on that vessel as he does not deem it incompatible with the public interests to communicate.

The list of claims includes eighty-three, and aggregates nearly $10,000,000, where the amount is given.

ORDERED TO FIGHT FOR CUBA.

Francisco Rosado, a young Cuban, has come to this city from Chili with $1,000 in his pocket and a great deal of enthusiasm in his soul for the cause of Cuba Libre. He was sent here by his father, who equipped him with funds and told him to get to the front with the insurgents in Cuba as fast as possible. This paternal mandate was given on the announcement of General Maceo's death, which aroused the father's anger. Rosado is waiting for the Cuban Junta to put him in the way of joining the insurgent forces.

THE DAUNTLESS LIBELLED AGAIN.

Jacksonville, Fla., Jan. 22.—United States District-Attorney Clark to-day filed a libel against the steamer Dauntless for carrying an armed expedition from No Name Key, in the southern portion of Florida, on January 1, for the purpose of cimmitting hostilities against the King of Spain in the island of Cuba. The libel does not differ from that filed against the Three Friends prior to the decision of Judge Locke, of the United States Court of this district, to the effect that the statute in question applied to rendering aid among nations at war, and not to unrecognized peoples engaged in hostilities against the nation of which they were a part.

THEY WILL NOT VOTE FOR PAYN.

EIGHT SENATORS WHO WILL OPPOSE HIS CONFIRMATION.

Albany, Jan. 22 (Special).—The term of James F. Pierce, Superintendent of Insurance, will expire on February 11. The Republican Senators are already considering the confirmation of his successor in office. Senator Wray said to-day that should Louis F. Payn be named by Governor Black for Superintendent of the Insurance Department, he would not vote for his confirmation. The friends of Payn say the following Senators also declare that they will not vote for his confirmation: Brush, Ford, Davis, Higgins, Humphrey, Pavey and White.

It is asserted that Mr. Payn, fearing that he cannot secure sufficient Republican support for confirmation, is at work among the Democrats endeavoring to secure pledges of support.

LEFT THE FIELD TO MR. HANNA

THE CHAIRMAN'S OPPONENTS FAIL TO APPEAR AT COLUMBUS.

OHIO LEGISLATORS DISCUSS THE SENATORSHIP—EX-GOVERNOR FOSTER'S CANDIDACY—GOVERNOR BUSHNELL HOLDS THE KEY TO THE SITUATION.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Columbus, Ohio, Jan. 22.—The mist surrounding the Senatorial situation in Ohio is not perceptibly cleared by the social session and banquet of the Legislature here to-night. The active political managers are here from all parts of the State, but the solution of the problem is apparently as far away as when Senator Sherman announced that he would resign to accept a place in President McKinley's Cabinet. During the afternoon and evening there were several developments regarded as significant, but they apparently add to the mystery rather than point to the final outcome of the contest. It was announced that ex-Secretary of the Treasury Charles Foster, who yesterday declared himself as a candidate, would attend the banquet, and during the day some of his friends were on the ground urging the ex-Secretary's claims for the honor. At noon a telegram was received announcing that Mr. Foster would not attend, and the orders for his rooms and tickets were cancelled.

Then it was given out that Charles L. Kurtz, chairman of the Republican State Committee, a leader of the Foraker faction and one whose name had been mentioned as a possible successor of Mr. Sherman through an appointment by Governor Bushnell, had been called away from the city and would not attend. Senator Foraker is also absent. This left the field, except a few workers on the opposite side, to Chairman M. A. Hanna. Mr. Hanna arrived in the afternoon, and his quarters at the hotel were crowded until the time for the banquet to begin, 9 o'clock. Numerous friends of Mr. Hanna were on the ground moulding sentiment among members of the Legislature and others in his favor. They pointed to him as the logical candidate of the party and the one upon whom the honor should be bestowed. The fact that his appointment would be pleasing to President-elect McKinley was made prominent.

This line of argument had its influence with the legislators, but all efforts to get a favorable expression from Governor Bushnell, who is absolutely in control of the situation, were unavailing. Ex-Governor Foster is regarded as being in high favor with the Foraker-Bushnell side of the contest, but the absence of all the prominent leaders of this faction except the Governor, who acted as toastmaster at the dinner, occasioned a great deal of comment. Some of Mr. Hanna's opponents openly declare that he will not be appointed by Governor Bushnell. But the Governor has not, it is believed, authorized any one to speak for him. He declined repeatedly this afternoon to give out any statements for publication, saying that he did not care to express himself further on the situation at this time. The Governor kept his own counsel, and it is probable that no one in the State has any positive information as to what he will do. It is considered certain, however, that no extra session of the Legislature will be called. Sentiment is strong against this course, and Governor Bushnell is quoted as being opposed to calling the members together. If the Governor should refuse to appoint Mr. Hanna, there is strong reason to believe that he will confer the honor on ex-Governor Foster.

Judge William R. Day, of Canton, one of the closest of President-elect McKinley's friends, made a hurried trip to Columbus this morning. He came in on an early train, went direct to Governor Bushnell's office and the two held a conference of some length. Judge Daly returned to Canton on a noon train. Much significance is attached to this conference, and it led some to the belief that the Governor and President-elect have an understanding as to the settlement of the Senatorial problem at the proper time.

Late to-night a rumor was in circulation to the effect that unless the appointment of Mr. Hanna was assured by the Governor, Mr. Sherman would remain in the Senate, at least until the next Legislature is elected in November. This view of the situation finds a number of adherents, but is not generally credited. If there is any certainty about the situation, it is that Governor Bushnell will appoint either Mr Hanna or ex-Secretary Charles Foster to the vacancy when Senator Sherman tenders his formal resignation.

The speakers at the banquet were Lieutenant-Governor A. W. Jones, M. A. Hanna, General A. A. Axline, Levi C. Goodale, C. N. Shryo, C. U. Shryock, C. H. Bosler, Albert Starr, Attorney-General Monett, T. J. Harbaugh, J. J. Sullivan, Philip Fosdick, J. E. Blackburn, C. E. McBryde, and J. E. Griffith. The toast assigned to Mr. Hanna was "Ohio, the Mother of Presidents; How They Are Made."

Certain politicians in this city say that they no longer feel any doubt that Governor Bushnell will appoint Mr. Hanna to fill out the unexpired term of John Sherman when the latter enters the Cabinet of President McKinley. When Governor Bushnell was in New-York recently he was undecided as to just what he would do, but in talking with friends he was emphatic in saying that he would not appoint Mr. Hanna, whatever else he might do. There is no actual proof available in this city that Governor Bushnell has changed his mind, but the far-seeing ones are saying that he will. The Governor, while in New-York, was irritated over reports which he saw in certain newspapers. Some sneering remarks to the effect that he was a pliant worker for Foraker and ready to capitulate at a word were reported in certain newspapers, and he thought that they came from men whom he knew as the friends of Mr. Hanna. These remarks are said to have annoyed him, and he went West ready to battle.

Senator-elect Foraker, who has been right on the field of action, saw that an open fight could not be risked now, so those who are in his confidence say. A complete State ticket is to be elected this year, and a factional fight might lose the State to the party. The only way to avoid an open contest, as he saw it, was to let Mr. Hanna have the Senatorship. It is said that he has been working hard with Governor Bushnell ever since the latter reached home to convince him that the only thing to do was to appoint Mr. Hanna. Governor Bushnell, still smarting under the comments that have been made, is said to be far from pliable. He wants, so it is declared, to fight it out, although he knows that he will be the candidate of his party for Governor and might suffer most severely for the factional contest. Senator-elect Foraker's plan, as outlined by those in his confidence, is to have Mr. Bushnell appoint Mr. Hanna to serve until the Legislature meets and then have the struggle out in an open field. Governor Bushnell, so it is said, objects to this, and thinks if he appoints Mr. Hanna to serve for the short term, that when it comes to electing a Senator for the full term Mr. Hanna will be so well intrenched that it will be impossible to dislodge him. That is the situation in Ohio, as it was reported to a number of Mr. Foraker's friends in this city in a confidential manner yesterday. Those who heard the report shook their heads in a knowing way and said that Governor Bushnell would be brought around when the time came. They added that if Mr. Hanna once secured an entering wedge the seat in the Senate might as well be conceded to him. Naturally he would enter the struggle to re-elect a Republican Legislature and the State ticket in order to insure his own tenure of office. So Senator-elect Foraker would make doubly sure the success of the State election, but the dubious part for the Bushnell-Foraker side would be when they went to the Legislature and requested the election of one of their friends to succeed Mr. Hanna. Senator Foraker, so those who know best say, will not risk a factional fight, and Mr. Hanna's appointment by Governor Bushnell is sure. Senator-elect Foraker remembers well the memorable campaign of 1889, when Mr. Hanna withdrew from the struggle because he was affronted. Mr. Foraker was defeated by Mr. Campbell, and the result led to the election of Brice as Senator. He does not wish a repetition of this, so his friends say, and they confidently look for Mr. Hanna's appointment as Senator and expect to see him elected for the full term when the Legislature is called upon to decide.

NO CHOICE IN WASHINGTON.

Olympia, Wash., Jan. 22.—The first ballot taken in the Legislature to-day for United States Senator was without result. Denny led with 25 votes, Turner had 20 and Squire had 4.

FAVORABLE FOR SENATOR DUBOIS.

Boise, Idaho, Jan. 22.—The Populists in the Legislature to-day switched back to Claggett, Populist, for United States Senator, giving 27 to him, and 26 to Dubois. It is predicted that to-morrow's ballot will show a change in favor of Dubois, on the belief that the Claggett men will not consent to the selection of another Populist, and on the determination of the Democrats not to join in the election of the Populist favorite.

THE MORMON CHURCH TAKES A HAND.

Salt Lake, Utah, Jan. 22.—The Mormon Church authorities are making a bitter fight against Thatcher for United States Senator, and the interesting point is that most of his supporters in the Legislature are Mormons who oppose Church interference.

SUICIDE OF A PROFESSOR.

Madison Wis., Jan. 22.—Professor John G. Dow, thirty-five years old, committed suicide by taking laudanum last night. Until about eight months ago he was a professor of rhetoric in the University of Wisconsin. He graduated from the Edinburgh University with the highest honors, and had always been considered a brilliant scholar.

A PORTFOLIO FOR GOFF.

BELIEF THAT THE JUDGE HAS BEEN SELECTED FOR ATTORNEY-GENERAL.

THE WEST VIRGINIAN VISITS CANTON AND HAS A TALK WITH THE PRESIDENT-ELECT—OTHER CABINET POSSIBILITIES.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Canton, Ohio, Jan. 22.—Judge Nathan Goff, one of Major McKinley's friends of long standing and former colleague in Congress, came by special invitation to see the President-elect at his home in Canton to-day. Judge Goff had to take a train at Clarksburg, W. Va., his home, at 3 o'clock in the morning, and did not reach here till 12:30. Nothwithstanding his long ride and broken rest, he looked as fresh and his smooth face seemed as youthful to the President-elect as it did when they last met, some six years ago. Major McKinley and Judge Goff did not talk politics for a long time after they shook hands to-day. The conversation was reminiscent in tone, but before they parted General Goff understood that Major McKinley wanted him for Attorney-General, and he in turn made it plain that if the portfolio were tendered to him he would be able so to arrange his affairs as to make it possible for him to accept it. As Judge Goff is now on the United States Circuit Bench he will have to give up an honorable and much-desired position to accept the new honor which Major McKinley will surely offer him. Judge Goff was invited to Canton several weeks ago, but was unable to come at that time. He left Canton this evening, and said that, while he was not yet a member of the Cabinet, his visit had been a very satisfactory one.

C. L. Magee, of Pittsburg, who is one of the strong anti-Quay leaders of Pennsylvania, had an hour's talk with Major McKinley to-day. He discussed some local matters, and said that so far as the Cabinet was concerned he had given his indorsement some time ago to P. C. Knox, of Pittsburg, whose friends have asked Major McKinley to choose him for Attorney-General. Mr. Knox is a lawyer of large means and high standing in his profession. He is about forty-five years of age. His career at the bar has been one of marked success, and the people of Western Pennsylvania are supporting him for the Cabinet. From a political point of view, it is thought, there is not much to recommend the appointment of Mr. Knox to the Cabinet, and it is surmised that he is more likely to receive a judicial appointment some time from Major McKinley than the tender of a Cabinet portfolio. However, Mr. Knox has been considered by the President-elect, and is still among the Cabinet possibilities.

The availability of T. Jefferson Coolidge, of Massachusetts, for a Cabinet place was presented to Major McKinley, to-day by ex-Governor Cheney, of New-Hampshire, and S. M. Weld and Charles H. Dolton, of Boston. Major McKinley listened with courteous interest to what his New-England visitors had to say in favor of Mr. Coolidge, and promised to take the matter under advisement, but there is every reason to believe that the New-England member of the Cabinet will be ex-Governor John D. Long, of Massachusetts, or Senator Aldrich, of Rhode Island.

The New-York situation is in reality the dominant one at Canton. A vast amount of information about the various Cabinet possibilities is reaching the President-elect by mail, by telegraph and through the medium of messengers. The chances are that Major McKinley knows as much about the situation and the condition and men which make it as he needs or wants to know, but the well-meant efforts to instruct him continue. The most prominent Cabinet possibilities from the Canton point of view are General Stewart L. Woodford and General Horace Porter. A new name was suggested to-day, however, that of Congressman F. H. Wilson, of Brooklyn. Some of Mr. Wilson's friends think he would make an excellent compromise Cabinet appointment, and they believe him to be particularly well qualified to discharge the duties which fall to the lot of a Secretary of the Navy. Mr. Wilson is on the House Committee on Naval Affairs, and is well known by the President-elect. It is pretty certain that J. Sloat Fassett will not be the New-York member of the Cabinet. The President-elect thinks highly of him, but is said to consider him lacking in experience in National affairs. It has been seriously suggested by some New-York Republicans to-day that the surest way to maintain harmony would be for the President-elect to decline to put any New-York man into the Cabinet.

Among Major McKinley's callers to-day was F. W. Holls, of New-York, who spent last evening with the President-elect, and had another interview this morning.

Lyman J. Gage, the Chicago banker, is still being considered in connection with the Treasury portfolio.

MR. GAGE AND THE TREASURY PORTFOLIO

A MESSENGER FROM MAJOR M'KINLEY CALLS ON THE WELL-KNOWN BANKER AT HIS HOME.

Chicago, Jan. 22.—When seen last night in regard to the report from Canton that President-elect McKinley had sent a messenger to this city to ascertain if he would accept the place of Secretary of the Treasury, Lyman J. Gage said: "I only hope that the report is not true, for the financial considerations involved in accepting the place would not be favorable to me. I do not know of any one who has gone to Canton in my behalf. I do not know Major McKinley at all intimately. If the place should be offered to me it would be a matter of very careful consideration whether I should accept it or not."

To-day Mr. Gage spoke in a different strain, saying:

"I have been called on by some one from President-elect McKinley, and the offer was made to me informally. In no sense can the offer be regarded as formal. When I was visited it was to find out how I would consider the offer should it be made, and the inference was given me that Mr. McKinley wished to know what my position would be. I am now debating in my mind the question. Should I accept the portfolio if it is formally tendered? Have I a public duty to consider, and are my personal obligations of greater importance than public duty? I have been in the banking business for thirty years, and have become rooted to it. When the question of separating presents itself to me it is much like a child parting from its mother."

INDORSE ALGER FOR THE CABINET.

Detroit, Jan. 22.—The Alger Republican Club held its eighth annual banquet last night. The organization is named in honor of General R. A. Alger, whose name was mentioned throughout in connection with his appointment as a member of McKinley's Cabinet. During the festivities resolutions were offered and passed indorsing his name for a Cabinet office, a copy of which will be forwarded to the President-elect as the voice of the club and the Republican party in Michigan. General Alger, in acknowledging, said:

"If I am chosen to represent this State in the Cabinet of President-elect McKinley I will esteem it the crowning honor of my life and something to hand down in the history of my family; an honor that will be cherished as long as life shall last."

D. D. Woodmansee, of Ohio, and A. J. Beveridge, of Indiana, were among the speakers.

MAJOR M'KINLEY'S SISTER BREAKS HER ARM.

Canton, Ohio, Jan. 22.—Miss Helen McKinley, sister of the President-elect, fell on a slippery sidewalk this afternoon and broke her arm.

THE PARIS REACHES ENGLAND.

The American Line steamer Paris, which sailed from New-York for Southampton on January 13, was reported at an early hour this morning as having passed Lizard Point, on the southern English coast, at 12.20 o'clock. She was expected to reach her destination about 10 o'clock, consuming about 9 days and 17 hours on the passage, or about three days over her best eastward record.

The length of time is due to the fact that the Paris went across with the aid of only one of her propellers, the other having become disabled on her last westward trip.

JETTISONED 500 BALES OF COTTON.

Queenstown, Jan. 22.—The steamer Frieda, from Baltimore for this port, and the steamer Maroa, from Brunswick for Liverpool, have arrived here. Both report having experienced terrific weather. The Frieda's decks are damaged and the Maroa is short of coal. During the storm which she encountered the Maroa was obliged to jettison 500 bales of cotton.

THE NEW NATION PROTESTS.

AN UNEXPECTED TURN IN NICARAGUA CANAL AFFAIRS.

THE GREATER REPUBLIC OF CENTRAL AMERICA OBJECTS TO MEASURES PENDING IN CONGRESS ON THE GROUND THAT THEY WOULD INVALIDATE NICARAGUAN CONCESSIONS — THE ISSUE TAKEN UP BY SENATOR MORGAN.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Jan. 22.—The debate on the Nicaragua Canal bill took a rather novel and surprising turn to-day, when a letter from Señor Rodriguez, the diplomatic representative of the Greater Republic of Central America, was transmitted to the Senate, in which a pointed protest was made to the State Department against the passage of the Morgan or any other Canal bill now pending in Congress, on the ground that it would make void the existing Nicaraguan concessions.

Mr. Morgan took up the new issue raised, and devoted the greater part of the afternoon to combating the contention started by Señor Rodriguez, incidentally denying his authority as Minister of the Central American Federation, to deal with a diplomatic question arising between an individual member of that Federation and the United States. The Alabama Senator's speech took a wide range, involving a discussion of the validity of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, and of the terms of the Frelinghuysen treaty with Nicaragua, withdrawn from the Senate by Mr. Cleveland during his first Presidential term. The Canal bill finally went over until Monday.

THE PROTEST RECEIVED.

Just as the Vice-President laid before the Senate at 2 o'clock the unfinished business, the Nicaragua Canal bill, Mr. Sherman sent to the desk a letter from the Secretary of State transmitting a communication from Mr. Rodriguez, the Minister from the Greater Republic of Central America, on that subject. It called attention to the friendship expressed by the United States for those republics and the interest displayed in endeavoring to bring about the construction of an Isthmian canal. At the same time it was pointed out that the provisions of all the bills pending in Congress were in contravention of the contract between the Government of Nicaragua and the Maritime Canal Company, and that if Congress were to attempt to carry out the provisions of any of these bills it would vitiate that contract. The Minister suggested a renewal of negotiations between the United States and the Greater Republic along the lines of the treaty negotiated with Nicaragua by Secretary Frelinghuysen.

The moment this document was read Mr. Morgan was on his feet. He declared that Congress knew nothing officially of such a Government as the Greater Republic of Central America.

"The Minister is accredited to the United States," said Mr. Sherman.

"In one sense, yes," said Mr. Morgan. "He has been presented at the door of the Government, has been bowed in and permitted to take a seat among the diplomats, but we know nothing, beyond newspaper reports, of the existence of the Government he is said to represent. We know from this same source that this Confederation, this Diet, has no control over the internal affairs of any of the States; that it controls only in diplomatic affairs with other Governments. I am informed by the newspapers that in receiving this Minister the President of the United States said that none of the rights of the United States with respect to any of the three Governments thus consolidated could be accepted as having been changed. I am glad the President made this statement, and I may add that this Confederation has no effect in a legislative sense on the attitude of the United States toward any of them."

Mr. Morgan said the Secretary of State had not informed the Senate whether or not the communication of Mr. Rodriguez met with his approval, but had left them entirely in the dark, and he characterized the communication as "the impertinent intrusion of a Minister," the effect of which might be to defeat the passage of the pending bill. Mr. Morgan said he had in late years become accustomed to threats from high officials, and this one did not alarm him.

As the discussion proceeded, Mr. Morgan referred to the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty, and particularly called the attention of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Sherman), soon to be Secretary of State, to the fact that a report drawn up by the former Senator from Vermont (Mr. Edmunds) and approved by the Senator from Ohio (Mr. Sherman) had declared that this treaty was in no way obligatory upon the United States.

Mr. Sherman interposed to remark that he hesitated to answer the remarks of his honorable friend because they seemed based on matters which should be discussed in executive session.

THE PRESIDENT DENOUNCED.

Mr. Hoar (Rep., Mass) also expressed his opinion that the discussion was trenching upon executive business, to which Mr. Morgan replied that, if this were so, he was sinning most grievously, for his recollection was that the seal of secrecy had been removed and everything relating to this Clayton-Bulwer report had been printed for the information of the Senate and the public. He spoke of the Frelinghuysen treaty as one of the most splendid accomplishments of American diplomacy, and condemned in strong terms the action of President Cleveland in his first annual Message in withdrawing that treaty from further consideration. He complained, and thought every Senator had a right to complain, that so important a transaction as the recognition of Mr. Rodriguez, the Minister of the Greater Republic of Central America, had been accomplished without any communication to the Senate.

"Who knows," he said, "what happened when this man was received in the Blue Room at the White House? What kind of a Senate is this which will undertake to legislate upon matters when the very information upon which that proposed legislation is based is withheld from the Senate of the United States by the Secretary of State?"

Mr. Hale explained that until this afternoon neither he nor any of his associates had known anything about this complaint of the Government of Nicaragua.

"Neither did I," said Mr. Morgan, with marked emphasis. He repeated his assertion that if this bill were recommitted and the arbitration treaty were ratified the United States would be shut out, and he intimated that the delay asked by this Rodriguez protest was instigated by Great Britain, a country which never failed to push its way, but had one glorious characteristic, that it never failed to protect its subjects, whereas the graves of Cuba were filled with those who had died simply because they were American citizens and their Government failed to protect them. Mr. Morgan concluded by saying that he wanted to hear the Senator who would move to recommit this bill.

Mr. Hale (Rep., Me.), replying by indirection to this challenge, suggested that the Senate should adjourn until Monday, so as to give an opportunity for obtaining further information before the motion to recommit was made.

Mr. Morgan retorted that he hoped in such a case the Senator from Maine (Mr. Hale) would make the application to Secretary Olney, for he (Mr. Morgan) had found by experience that he could get nothing from the State Department.

Mr. Vilas (Dem., Wis.) briefly addressed the Senate against the Nicaragua Canal bill, speaking of it as being in articulo mortis, and of the company as "a worthless and bankrupt corporation."

An ineffectual attempt to adjourn over until Monday, which a majority of Senators favored, was defeated by the absence of a quorum, and the Senate at 4:45 p. m. adjourned until to-morrow, with the understanding that it would then take up unopposed bills, and perhaps go through the formal motion of reading the Bankruptcy bill, which Mr. Hale said would occupy an hour and a half at least.

MINISTER RODRIGUEZ'S LETTER.

The following is, in substance, the protest of the Greater Republic of Central America on the Nicaragua Canal question, prepared by Minister Rodriguez, and transmitted to-day by Secretary Olney to the Senate.

As several bills relative to the construction of an interoceanic canal through Nicaragua have been for some time pending before both houses of Congress, his Government recently instructed him to examine them and make, under certain conditions, suitable representations to the Secretary of State. He says he has examined the various bills, and finds that they are at variance in matters of detail with the stipulations of the contract of April 24, 1887, between Nicaragua and the canal company. He then calls attention to the fact that the VIIIth Article of that concession provides that it shall not be transferrible to Governments or to foreign Powers, and that Article LIII provides that any contravention of the stipulation shall entail a forfeiture of the contract. He then asserts that the bills before Congress effect a transfer to the Government of the United States, making this Government the absolute owner. He points out other facts at variance with the contract, and proceeds to say:

Among the benefits which Nicaragua reserves to herself is 6 per cent of the shares, bonds, certificates, or such other obligations as the company may issue with a view to raising capital. Notwithstanding the fact that the company has made several issues, it has not fulfilled its obligations, and, as the bills say nothing on this particular point, these securities would probably either be lost in the new form of the enterprise or would be liable to troublesome and tedious litigation. Two of the bills in question have already been reported by a committee, so that they may finally exclude the others; nothing, however, is established in them with regard to the shares that would belong to Nicaragua, and it might happen, owing to this, that Nicaragua would get none at all. If the company were to issue $100,000,000 or $150,000,000 worth of bonds in order to meet the cost of the work, which bonds would have to be considered as capital or be left out of the contract, Nicaragua would be entitled to 6 per cent in virtue of stipulations; but the bills leave no door open to such a possibility, nor do they allow her any participation in the issue which is to be made in order to pay for the work already done.

Señor Rodriguez then calls attention to the fact that the contract called for the completion of the canal within three years, and says:

That term expired a long time ago, but the company, notwithstanding the most earnest solicitation, has made no pretence of meeting that obligation or of definitely adjusting the compensation which it ought to pay in order to be discharged therefrom. The bills establish nothing on this other point, and Nicaragua's rights in this matter might thus be annulled in consequence of their silence.

By the plan involved in the new form which the bills devise for the enterprise the present company is extinguished, and nothing remains of it in its relations with the enterprise, save as the shadow of a personality represented by a vote in the Board of Directors of eleven members, while in its relations with Nicaragua it may always claim full personality as the holder of the concession, although having none of the means necessary to enable it to meet its obligations.

Finally, it is to be observed that, while the bills contravene and set at naught stipulations of the contract, they do not state whether the remaining ones still remain in force or not, although among these latter there are very many which are of no great importance to Nicaragua in particular and to Central America in general.

Mr. Rodriguez says he does not question the good faith of the authors of the various bills, and adds that he is impelled to the course which he is pursuing, with the hope of protecting just rights. The document closes as follows:

It seems evident that the company is unable to raise money to fulfil its contract unless the United States of America furnish it therewith, and, since that contract excludes the possibility of attaining that result, the undersigned, having been duly authorized to do so, proposes to His Excellency the Secretary of State that the two Governments, relying upon the favorable disposition of the Government of the United States, shall come to a direct understanding on the subject on the basis of the Zavala-Frelinghuysen treaty, with such modifications as may be agreed upon, and endeavoring to reach a just arrangement with the Maritime Canal Company of Nicaragua, so that it may renounce a concession whose conditions it is unable to fulfil.

TO KEEP OUT THE PLAGUE.

A BILL TO BE INTRODUCED AT ALBANY ON MONDAY NIGHT.

THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE PORT AT THE CAPITAL CONFERRING WITH THE GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATORS—DR. DOTY CONFIDENT THAT HE CAN EXCLUDE THE PLAGUE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Albany, Jan. 22.—The great plague in India, which is causing such appalling loss of life at Bombay, was the subject of official action here to-day. Dr. Alvah H. Doty, Health Officer of the Port of New-York, came here, and in as secret a manner as possible saw Governor Black and some leading members of the Legislature in relation to the passing of an emergency bill containing an appropriation to strengthen his hands against the bubonic plague. An appropriation is needed for modern apparatus to disinfect all articles which might come from India or from ports of other countries infected. For instance, there is a suspicion that a ship which recently arrived at Hamburg was infested with the dread India disease. Dr. Doty visited the office of the State Board of Health and also the Senate Chamber and the Assembly Chamber. He especially sought in the Senate the members of the Senate Finance Committee, and in the Assembly the Committee on Ways and Means. Dr. Doty conferred with Senators Humphreys, Brown and Martin, and Assemblyman Otto Kelsey, who, in the absence of Mr. Nixon, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, represented that committee. Mr. Kelsey and the Health Officer were closeted for some time in the Ways and Means Committee room drafting a bill which will be submitted to the Legislature on Monday night through the respective financial committees of the two houses.

The appropriation asked for is $5,000, which the Health Officer believes will be sufficient in case the plague does not extend its ravages to other countries. In response to an inquiry as to the necessity for the appropriation, Dr. Doty said that he had already issued orders that all mail matter arriving from British India, no matter by what route, shall be thoroughly disinfected before being landed. He added that if he secured this appropriation he would have all articles whatsoever coming from India thoroughly fumigated. Dr. Doty further said that the ordinary disinfection by means of sulphur does not kill the germs of the disease, and that modern apparatuses are needed, which will effectually remove all danger of the bubonic plague reaching these shores. The greatest danger from contagion was to be found in the shiploads of rags which come from India. The Health Officer called upon Governor Black, who assured him that he was favorable to any measure which would afford greater protection to the residents of this country.

Secretary Smelzer of the State Board of Health is working in harmony with Dr. Doty in securing the appropriation. Dr. Doty left Albany to-night, but it is understood that he will return on Monday to secure immediate action upon the bill. Mr. Kelsey will complete the draft of the bill, as outlined by the Health Officer, and have it ready for introduction on Monday evening. An attempt will be made to hurry the bill through both houses and to secure the approval of the Governor, which has been assured, in order that the funds may be made available at once.

EXAGGERATED REPORTS FROM BOMBAY.

THUS FAR ONLY FOUR EUROPEANS HAVE DIED FROM THE PLAGUE.

London, Jan. 22.—In the House of Commons to-day Lord George Hamilton, Secretary of State for India, said that Lord Sandhurst, Governor-General of Bombay, had informed the India office by telegraph that alarmist telegrams greatly exaggerating the plague situation as regards the spread of the contagion to Europeans were being sent from Bombay to Europe by press representatives and others. Thus far, Lord Sandhurst telegraphed, only four Europeans had died from the plague, including a physician and a nurse.

FAMINE FUND IN CANADA.

Ottawa, Jan. 22.—A fund for the relief of the plague-stricken East Indians has been started here, and subscriptions are coming in rapidly. The directors of the Bank of Ottawa voted $500 for the purpose, and made personal contributions of $300. Premier Laurier has contributed $100 to the relief fund started in Montreal.

Montreal, Jan. 22.—The Bank of Montreal to-day sent to "The Montreal Star" a check for $5,000 toward the fund inaugurated by "The Star" for the relief of the plague-stricken sufferers in India.

PRECAUTIONS AT THIS PORT.

ARRANGEMENTS AT ELLIS ISLAND—FEWER PASSENGERS TO INDIA.

Although it is impossible to obtain an admission from the steamship companies that the fear of the bubonic plague spreading from India to European countries is affecting transatlantic travel, yet the number of passengers booking now for the other side is less than usual at this time of the year. Especially have the reports affected the travel of Americans to India, which is the chief point of interest to around-the-world tourists, usually numerous at this time of the year. A large proportion of those who take passage to Mediterranean ports intend to travel through Egypt, India and China; but it is a fact that many Eastern passages have been cancelled on account of the plague.

The Quarantine Commissioners here are taking every precaution against the possible transportation of the disease to this country by vessels from Indian ports. It is not expected that another vessel from the Orient will arrive here within the next three weeks. Meanwhile, a part of the disinfecting plant at Camp Low, established on Sandy Hook at the time of the cholera scare, will be moved to Ellis Island. This consists of two disinfecting ovens. Every steerage passenger landed at the island hereafter will be stripped, thoroughly washed and his clothing put through a disinfecting process.

SENATE'S RIGHTS ASSERTED.

THE ARBITRATION TREATY UP

PRESSURE FOR IMMEDIATE RATIFICATION RESENTED.

EMPHATIC PROTESTS AGAINST THE DEMANDS FOR UNDUE HASTE IN CONSIDERING SO IMPORTANT A SUBJECT MADE BY SENATORS HOAR, LODGE, CULLOM AND OTHERS—A LIVELY AND INTERESTING DEBATE UNEXPECTEDLY PRECIPITATED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Jan. 22.—Something of the feeling of irritation and resentment developed in the Senate by the unusual pressure of religious, commercial and philanthropic sentiment for an immediate ratification of the treaty of general arbitration with Great Britain came unexpectedly to the surface this afternoon in a suggestive and spirited debate, which arose more by accident than design, over the presentation of certain routine petitions favoring or opposing the pending convention. Jealous of its prerogative as a coordinate part of the treaty-making power, and the more sensitively tenacious of its executive functions because of recent issues raised by Secretary Olney's famous "holiday" manifesto, the Senate has listened with impatience to the demand from the varied sources of public opinions above enumerated that it should approve the Olney-Pauncefote agreement without either qualification or delay.

Holding the belief that one branch of the treaty-making power should be subjected to no more popular pressure than the other, and seeing in Secretary Olney's premature publication of the text of the treaty only a flank movement to force action by an appeal to public sentiment, the conservative element in the Senate has felt itself put in a wholly false and embarrassing position in its treatment of the grave issues involved in the ratification of the general arbitration agreement. Justly considering themselves charged with an equal responsibility with the Executive in the exercise of the treaty-making power, the leaders in the Senate have thought themselves entitled to at least a reasonable time in which to review and weigh negotiations for arbitration which have confessedly been for over a year in the hands of the President and the Secretary of State.

THE CONSERVATIVES OFFENDED.

Technically the tre