

GAGE'S CHANCES EXCELLENT THE CHICAGO FINANCIER WILL PROBABLY ENTER THE CABINET.

His record clear and he is in thorough harmony with the Republican policy.—CABINET TALK AT CANTON.

BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE. Canton, Ohio, Jan. 24.—Major McKinley went to church this morning with Alexander H. Revell, one of his Chicago friends, and spent the rest of the day in comparative quiet at home.

There is a good deal of talk about Lyman J. Gage, of Chicago, and the Treasury portfolio to-night. It seems that the doubts about Mr. Gage's Republicanism have been cleared away. He has always been with the party, save on one occasion. He is in thorough harmony with the Republican policy of protection, and has endorsed the St. Louis platform. Mr. Gage is now more than a Cabinet possibility, he is a decided probability.

R. Ross Appleton, of Brooklyn, arrived here to-night. He will suggest to Major McKinley the appointment of Andrew Jacobs as Naval Secretary of the Port of New-York.

Interest in Cabinet-making centres about the place of Secretary of the Treasury. If one may judge from the enormous volume of correspondence which is pouring into Canton, and from the number of delegations which come to see Major McKinley in the interests of various men who have been suggested for this place, the public is displaying a degree of concern which has seldom evinced. Considering the financial condition of the country and the prominent place financial topics have occupied in public discussion for the last two years, it is not strange that the candidates for Secretary of the Treasury should be discussed from one end of the land to the other.

Other things being equal, the President-elect would prefer to appoint a Western man to the Treasury portfolio, but he will not permit geographical considerations to rob him of a good officer, so if the most available man is found in the East that fact alone will not prevent his appointment.

Senator Cullom, whose position in respect to Cabinet appointment has been a singularly strong and dignified one, is not a candidate for any place under the Administration and has distinctly said that he does not desire a Cabinet portfolio, but, on the other hand, it is known that the President-elect esteems him highly, and has considered him with reference to more than one place. Senator Cullom, if appointed to the Cabinet, would doubtless receive the offer of the portfolio of the Interior for the reason that Major McKinley has determined that that place shall be given to a Western man. Gossip which was known to a Western man connected the name of Senator Cullom with the Treasury portfolio, but he is not under consideration for that place.

The pressure for Federal appointment is absolutely without precedent. The result of this is that the cabinet is being very slowly made. New possibilities and candidates are being developed daily, and it will not be surprising if the cabinet is incomplete when Major McKinley leaves Canton for Washington. President Harrison selected his Secretary of Agriculture from the New-York member of his Cabinet, General Tracy, after he reached Washington, and President Garfield, it is recalled, selected his Postmaster-General about midnight on March 3.

THE NEW-ENGLAND MAN.

There is a pretty strong suspicion here, which, indeed, amounts to a certainty, that two Anglo-American men who came here a day or two ago to suggest the appointment of T. Jefferson Childs have no reason to think their mission will be successful. It has been known in Canton at least for a fortnight that the only Massachusetts man who is likely to be appointed to the Cabinet is ex-Governor John D. Loug.

Indeed, matters have gone so far that the appointment of a Massachusetts man to the Cabinet is almost a foregone conclusion, and when the Cabinet slate is finally completed the name of John D. Loug will undoubtedly be found in the good books of the President-elect. The good Bostonian is well known to the President-elect, and a glance at the list of applications reveals the fact that the name of John D. Loug is the one which has been placed in the most prominent places than those of any other State, Ohio not excepted.

There is already some speculation concerning the office of First Assistant Secretary of State. The President-elect desires a strong, capable man for the place, and one who has more than a common knowledge of foreign affairs. Colonel John Hay, who has been prominently mentioned as a possible appointee, is a man from Great Britain who has been prominently mentioned as a possible appointee, and upon whom the President-elect has placed his confidence. The President-elect has placed his confidence upon John Russell Young, of Philadelphia, who has had valuable diplomatic experience in China, he talked in connection with the place, and ex-Congressman Benjamin Storer, of Cincinnati, Ohio, is also mentioned as a possible appointee. The President-elect will consider an effort to secure the present assistant, but there is no reason to think it will be successful. His relations to some members of the Diplomatic Corps are not so friendly, and it is likely that they will be no different in the hands of a Republican who has experience and ability to enable him to discharge the duties of the office in a highly satisfactory manner.

The South has practically dropped from public notice so far as current discussion of Cabinet possibilities is concerned. It is likely that the President-elect will find a representative of the South in the Cabinet, but it is a fair inference that nothing further will be heard of Mr. Gary in connection with the Cabinet which is now being formed.

A NEBRASKAN SEES MAJOR MCKINLEY.

Lincoln, Neb., Jan. 24.—Peter Jansen, one of the delegates-at-large from Nebraska to the Republican National Convention, is in the city direct from a visit to Major McKinley. He tells of an extended interview with the President-elect on Cabinet possibilities and says that he was satisfied that the man from Nebraska would be in the Cabinet.

The conversation turned on the matter of Secretary of Agriculture. I impressed on him that the agricultural interests of the country wanted a man from the Middle West, and Major McKinley responded that he would be glad to have a Nebraska man in the Cabinet. The Major then said: "Do you know Senator Wilson, of Iowa?" "Yes, he was a good friend of mine in Nebraska," I answered.

"That is so, I fully realize it," said the Major. "Then, after a little pause, he said significantly: 'It is likely that Nebraska will be back on us. The President-elect has obtained from the General a list of names to which Nebraska could not be appointed to a Cabinet position under the circumstances, and I believe Senator Wilson will be Secretary of Agriculture. As for the Treasury, I believe either Lyman J. Gage, of Chicago, or Senator Cullom will be chosen.'"

Mr. Jansen says Major McKinley is strongly in favor of international imperialism.

GENERAL WOODFORD AND THE CABINET.

General Edward L. Woodford, of Brooklyn, was among the earliest on Senator-elect Platt at the Fifth Avenue Hotel yesterday and spent an hour in private conference with Mr. Platt in his apartments. The presence of the General's visit was assigned to the headquarters to the prominence which recent news dispatches from Canton have given to him as a Cabinet possibility. No confirmation, however, of reports that General Woodford had been offered the office of Secretary of the Navy or some other portfolio from the Senator-elect yesterday.

General Woodford is one of the three names mentioned in the list of names which the President-elect has obtained from the Senator-elect yesterday. It is believed that General Woodford is the most likely of the three to be appointed to the office of Secretary of the Navy or some other portfolio from the Senator-elect yesterday.

A USEFUL NEW ARTICLE.

Washington, Jan. 24.—Consul Deville, at Creteil, reports that the State Department upon a new article called pagamoid, which is a crystal-clear gelatinous fluid, easily applied to almost any material, and which resists humidity, acids, oils, and various other influences in a remarkable degree. The paper, leather and other substances are rendered water-proof, protected against vermin, and remain smooth, soft and flexible.

A CATTLE DEALER'S DISAPPEARANCE.

Poughkeepsie, N. Y., Jan. 24.—George Howell, a cattle dealer, who lives with his family at Salisbury Point, left his home over a week ago, and has not been heard of since. He was last seen in his city on Friday last, when he was in company with a colored man, who he said, worked for him. When he left home he had a trunk containing a large quantity of money, and it is believed that he had been carrying out of the city for the purpose of buying cattle. His friends fear he has met with some misfortune.

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OFFICIAL VOICE OF THE STATE IN 1860 FOR ABRAHAM LINCOLN FOR PRESIDENT.

He was then twenty-five years old and had been a member of the Army for three years. He became a member of the United States District-Attorney for the Southern District of New-York, but a few months later resigned to enter the Army, from which he received a brevet Brigadier-General's rank. He was elected Lieutenant-Governor of New-York in 1854, and was elected Governor in 1858. He was nominated as the Republican candidate for Governor in 1859, but was defeated by the Democrat, John T. Hoffman. Two years later he was elected to Congress. From 1857 to 1859 he was State Attorney for the Southern District of New-York.

SENATOR GEORGE CRITICALLY ILL.

His family summoned to his bedside in Washington. Washington, Jan. 24.—Senator James Z. George, of Mississippi, is lying to-night at the Garfield Hospital, in this city, critically ill. At 11 o'clock he was reported as resting slightly easier than he had been during the day. His wife and family, who are at their home in Canton, Miss., have been summoned to his bedside, and are expected to arrive to-morrow.

Senator George came to this city from Mississippi on January 5, and immediately entered the Garfield Hospital. He is suffering from a complication of diseases, involving the chest and the heart has become involved in the general condition. A consultation between Dr. Berman, his attending physician, and the other members of the medical staff, has not been held for nearly a year, and has not occupied his seat in the Senate since 1870. He is over seventy years of age, and this fact militates against his recuperation.

BISHOP LAWRENCE REJOICES.

A REFERENCE IN HIS SERMON YESTERDAY TO THE ARBITRATION TREATY. Lynn, Mass., Jan. 24.—The Rev. William Lawrence, Episcopalian Bishop of the Diocese of Massachusetts, preached in St. Stephen's Memorial Church this afternoon. He made the following reference to the Arbitration Treaty: "We are this month rejoicing in a realization of a dream of the dreamers of centuries. Whether the present treaty be ratified or not is of great importance, but it is at least the same time of the least importance, as compared with the fact that the treaty has been seriously proposed and formulated; that it has received the signatures of the representatives of the two great English-speaking nations, and that it has been commended to the Congress of the United States and to the consideration of the nations of Europe, who are armed to the teeth in mutual suspicion, are drawing their swords, and are in a state of almost armed hostility to each other, peacefully and reasonably settling the deepest and most vexatious of international differences of the deepest moment, is a step beyond the dreams of even a generation ago."

"We are not optimistic enough to believe that all will be well, but we are confident that the treaty will be ratified, and that it will lead to a peaceful settlement of the world's problems. It is a step towards the harmony of peace on earth, and goodwill toward men."

LYNCHED AND RIDDED WITH BULLETS.

SUMMARY DEATH FOR A NEGRO IN FLORIDA'S CAPITAL. Tallahassee, Fla., Jan. 24.—On Saturday evening, the 19th inst., Miss Emma Anthonie, daughter of William Lee Anthonie, at one time Surgeon-General of Florida, and also president of the famous Returning Board that gave the electoral vote of Florida to Mr. Hayes, was attacked by a negro known as "Buck" before he could injure her further. He screams brought succor and his assailant escaped.

The negro was arrested and committed to jail. There were threats of lynching, but nothing was done and the negro was taken to the jail. At 2 o'clock this morning a small mob gathered in front of the jail, and the negro was taken out, hung to a tree and killed with bullets before he had time to utter a word. A coroner's jury examined the body and returned a verdict of "death from hanging and shooting at the hands of unknown parties."

LYNCHED IN FRONT OF A BANK.

Galveston, Tex., Jan. 24.—Details of the lynching of Gene Washington, who committed a criminal assault on Miss Dehart at the home of her brother-in-law last night, four and a half miles north of Bryan, Tex., have been received here. He was hung to the limb of a tree in front of the First National Bank in Galveston, in that town, at 6:30 last night by an armed mob. He was identified by an Irishman with whom Washington was walking on the railroad track near Wright's house, and whom he left ostensibly to go to the store to get some things to eat. The Irishman, when he reached Bentley, a station south of Bryan, heard of the hanging, and he rushed to the scene. The Irishman, who was with him last night, said that he saw the hanging, and that he saw the body of the negro on the gallows. The Irishman, who was with him last night, said that he saw the hanging, and that he saw the body of the negro on the gallows.

A NOTORIOUS CHINAMAN KILLED.

San Francisco, Jan. 24.—Fong Ching, killed known as "Little Pete," was shot and killed in a Chinese bar in California, was shot and killed in a Chinese bar here last night. He was one of the many Chinese who have been driven out of the city by the Chinese Exclusion Act. He was shot by a man who was with him last night. The man who shot him was identified by the police as a man who was with him last night. The man who shot him was identified by the police as a man who was with him last night.

DEMANDS OF WESTERN BUSINESS MEN.

Chicago, Jan. 24.—C. B. Condon, R. L. Lyon, L. W. Bolman and George F. Stone, delegates to the National Board of Trade, will start for Washington in the morning. They will present the measures adopted by the Chicago Board of Trade. These are for international relations, and for the establishment of a Monetary Commission, for the most stringent enforcement of the Interstate Commerce law, and against the present recognition of Cuban legitimacy.

A LIGHT FALL OF SNOW.

A light northwest snowstorm set in about 11 a. m. yesterday and ceased at 4 p. m. According to the Weather Bureau, the quantity of snow that fell was less than one inch in depth, but it was sufficient to make the roads and streets slippery. In some cases, the pedestrians were injured. The range of the thermometer was from 19 degrees at 6 a. m. to 24 degrees at 6 p. m.

A RECEIVER CHARGED WITH FRAUD.

Atlanta, Ga., Jan. 24.—D. D. Draught, receiver of the Florida Midland, is under arrest here, charged with cheating and swindling. The accusation charges him with issuing and selling \$2,000 of bonds, which were not authorized by the Court. The money was expended on the road. The pursuers of the certificates say that they were protected and have not been able to get any money from the proceeds of the sale. Draught was arrested on a warrant sworn out by Eady & Mayfield, who hold \$2,000 of the certificates. It is said that Boston parties bought \$2,000 of the certificates.

MOVEMENTS OF NAVAL VESSELS.

Fort Monroe, Va., Jan. 24.—The cruiser Columbia, from New-York, reached Hampton Roads at 5 p. m. to-day. The cruiser Montgomery, from New-York, arrived at 9:30 this morning.

WOMAN SUFFRAGISTS ASSEMBLING.

St. James, Iowa, Jan. 24.—Miss Susan B. Anthony, Rachel Foster Avery and Anna Howard Shaw, of Philadelphia; Miss Chapman Catt, of New-York; Edith Stone Blackman and others, prominent in woman suffrage work, arrived this morning to attend the National Convention of the Women Suffrage Association, which opens here to-morrow. Delegates are expected to number 100.

LOW TEMPERATURES IN THE NORTHWEST.

St. Paul, Minn., Jan. 24.—To-night's reports from every part of the Northwest indicated that last night was the coldest night in two winters. St. Paul, about 23 degrees below. The range was from 20 to 26 below at St. Paul, Minn., and 40 below at St. Hilaire. There are no reports in yet of people freezing to death, though suffering in the country must have been great. The St. Paul Relief Society has been busy all day furnishing coal and other supplies to the needy. The thermometer in this city to-night is 25 degrees below zero, and indications point to a further drop of at least 10 degrees before morning.

Calling traffic is everywhere greatly retarded, either because of drifts or inability to keep steam. Around Aberdeen, Huron, Milbank, and Wilmot, S. D., the tracks have been made for two days past to clear the drifts, owing to very high winds and snow. The St. Paul passenger train, which is carried to the train to keep the passengers comfortable.

Reports from points along the Missouri River indicate that there will be heavy mortality among the cattle and sheep in that section. It is clear in central and eastern Minnesota and the wind has subsided.

Cleveland, Jan. 24.—The coldest weather of the winter prevails. At 5 p. m. the thermometer in the United States Weather Observatory registered 4 degrees above zero and before midnight the mercury had dropped to as many degrees below. The snow-covered streets were deserted to-night, churches and empty and numerous entertainments were abandoned. The various halls and the poor is appalling.

Far. Wayne, Ind., Jan. 24.—This has been the coldest day of the winter. At 7 o'clock to-night the thermometer is 7 degrees below zero and indications are that it will go lower before morning.

Omaha, Neb., Jan. 24.—This is the coldest day in Nebraska has experienced in two years. At many points the thermometer registered 12 degrees below zero, and the warmest reported was 4 below. A strong wind from the north made the cold seem more intense. The Missouri River is frozen, and the ice is cutting to-morrow. Little snow has fallen in this section, and railway traffic is not interfered with.

Denver, Col., Jan. 24.—The cold wave struck this section at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, and in less than an hour the thermometer fell 20 degrees from 50 to 30 above zero. Ten above is the mark registered at 8 o'clock to-night, with prospects of a few degrees more.

Utica, N. Y., Jan. 24.—At midnight the temperature in the Adirondacks was as follows: Malone, 13 degrees below zero; at Tupper Lake, 15 below; at Fulton Chain, 10 below, and at Remsen, 5 below.

RAILWAY TRAFFIC GREATLY RETARDED—GREAT LOSS OF CATTLE FEARED.

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WAGES PAID IN THIS STATE.

FACTS DERIVED FROM AN INVESTIGATION COVERING FIVE YEARS. Albany, Jan. 24.—The latest report of the New-York Bureau of Statistics of Labor is devoted in great part to the question of wages in the various industries of the State covering a period of five years. From 1,721 establishments in the State, fifty-five general industries covered by the report elicit the fact that in the year 1891 290,233 persons employed by these manufacturing concerns received \$97,257,541.99, or an average of \$462.31 each. In 1892, 218,830 wage-workers in 1,824 establishments received a total of \$109,616,000, or an average of \$499.14 for each. There were 236,908 employed in 1893, at an average of \$418.25 each. In 1894, 220,000 establishments, 233,176 persons engaged therein obtained in wages \$117,457,158.81, an average for 1894 of \$498.41 for each worker. It is reported by 214 establishments that in 1894 their employees got \$96,622,625.38, the yearly average for each being \$439.57; while in 1895, according to the figures presented, 220 establishments, 233,176 persons engaged therein obtained in wages \$117,457,158.81, an average for 1895 of \$498.41 for each worker.

More than fifty women and girls were examined as witnesses in the investigation regarding the surroundings and wages of working women in New-York City, and as a result the Commissioner says: "It is a puzzling problem for the State to solve for thousands of women and girls in the Greater New-York City, who are willing and anxious to work, and yet are not receiving wages enough to enable them to live as human beings should be able to do."

The story told in the following pages cannot be read without reaching the conclusion that many petty wrongs and frauds are practised upon these hard-working women, and it is a difficult task to point out an adequate remedy—in fact, the organization of unions of these working people, for wage-workers, is a better protection and to have better surroundings than those who are not connected with labor unions.

The report shows that while there were only 948 applicants for help, there was an extraordinary rush for registration at the Free Employment Bureau in New-York City. 8,000 persons having sought work through that agency in six months. The report shows that the trade and calling was represented from the school-teacher to the day laborer, and that the Bureau allowed the registration of 6,458 men and 1,542 were women. The number of native-born was 1,100. The rest were foreign birth, of whom 2,364 were men and 1,140 were women.

ROBBED BY A CONFIDENTIAL CLERK.

A PITTSBURGH CONTRACTOR SWINDLED OUT OF \$10,000 BY MEANS OF FORGED PAPERS. Pittsburgh, Jan. 24.—Forged assignments of contractor, who was swindled out of \$10,000, was raised, have been discovered. The paper was held by the Columbia National Bank and the Mercantile Trust Company, but neither institution will lose anything, for the reason that the amount was not cashed. The man who forged the paper is now in the West. The man who forged the paper is now in the West.

IN PURSUIT OF A BROKER.

A FORT WAYNE MAN ACCUSES JULIUS A. KOHN OF STEALING \$30,000 IN SECURITIES. Fort Wayne, Ind., Jan. 24.—Solomon Rothschild, of this city, will start for New-York this week to secure extradition papers for Julius A. Kohn, a broker, who, it is alleged, appropriated to his own use \$30,000 worth of securities placed with him for sale by Mr. Rothschild, and left America immediately afterward. It is understood that the child was given to Kohn, and he will spare no effort to punish him.

THE IMPROVED ORDER OF BROTHERHOOD.

Baltimore, Jan. 24.—The tenth annual convention of the Improved Order of B'nai B'rith was opened today at Hazlett's resort from several States. They delegates were present from several States. They represented twenty-nine lodges, with a membership of over 5,000.

The report of Julius H. Wyman, supreme president, contained some suggestions as to amendments to the constitution. It was referred to a committee, and the report will be presented to the convention to-morrow.

To-night the delegates were entertained at a banquet, complimentary to the delegates, will be given at night. It is probable that Mr. Wyman as Mark of New-York, will succeed Mr. Wyman as president of the supreme lodge.

SHE LIVED ON THE OCEAN.

THE LUCANIA'S OFFICERS INHERIT HER FORTUNE. Mrs. CARSON NEVER MISSED A TRIP ON THE STEAMER FROM THE DAY SHE WAS LAUNCHED. AND SINCE 1868 THIS STRANGE WOMAN HAD MADE HER HOME ON ATLANTIC LINERS. Chicago, Jan. 24.—Mrs. Elijah Carson, who died on Friday night in Anamosa, Iowa, crossed the ocean 250 times and had never missed a trip on the Lucania since that vessel was launched. For thirty years she had been travelling across the Atlantic until her face had become a familiar one not only to officers of all the vessels of the Cunard Line but to the custom-house officials on both sides of the Atlantic. She is said to have been received on intimate terms by the officers and Vanderbilts and other prominent families who had long been accustomed to meeting her on her trips across the sea. Mrs. Carson, the prima donna, had a strong liking for the sea.

Mrs. Carson was the widow of Samuel Carson, of Belfast. Her name was Newell before her marriage, and William H. Newell, her brother, was a millionaire of Nashville, Tenn. Shortly after the death of her husband, in 1864, Mrs. Carson, accompanied by her daughter, Elizabeth, came to America to visit her brother. This was her first ocean trip and was the beginning of her infatuation for the sea. Mrs. Newell prevailed upon her to remain in America, and on his death, she bequeathed to her half a million dollars. This formed an ample fund to permit the indulgence of her desire to be constantly on the water.

It was in the year 1866 that Mrs. Carson was first at liberty to follow her inclination. She left her daughter with friends and took her second trip to Belfast. Returning in a few weeks, she saw that her child was in safe hands, and from that time until the day she was seized with her last illness, a month seldom passed in which she did not take a voyage across the Atlantic. In 1883 her daughter was married to Julius Rohrbach, a travelling salesman of Chicago. Mrs. Carson then felt that she had no more family ties which would restrain her from keeping continually on the sea. Since 1886 her entire time had been spent in voyages.

Mrs. Carson had a great liking for Captain McKay and all the officers of the Lucania, and remembered them in her will. It is said she bequeathed \$50,000 to Captain McKay, and to the subalterns sums proportionate to the esteem in which she held them. The exact terms of the will, however, cannot be learned, as the document was filed at Belfast.

Mrs. Carson was well known in Chicago. About two years ago her son-in-law, by the advice of his wife, made an effort to restrain Mrs. Carson from taking any more trips across the ocean. While she was at a hotel here, on a visit to her daughter, Mr. Rohrbach went before a court and asked for the appointment of Mrs. Carson as guardian, making the statement that Mrs. Carson had already spent \$250,000 in her voyaging, and that unless a stop should be put to it her entire fortune would be lost. Mrs. Carson fought this legal action, and in a vigorous manner announced that she would submit to no restraint. If her son-in-law dared to interfere with her liberty she would cut him off without a cent.

This so alarmed Mr. Rohrbach and his wife that the proceedings were dropped, and Mrs. Carson was free to resume her voyaging. She had, however, had made an impression on her mind, for on her next visit to Belfast she made and had placed on record her daughter, which she only 81,000. Mrs. Carson had her \$25,000 to her banker at Belfast and her agent in New-York City, and the rest of her fortune to the officers and crew of the Lucania. Mrs. Carson made her last voyage across the Atlantic in 1895. On the trip out from Liverpool she was seized with an attack of pneumonia, and when the steamer reached New-York she was only 1,000. She was taken to a hospital, where she remained two days, when her daughter arrived and took her West.

Mr. and Mrs. Rohrbach arrived here this evening from Iowa with Mrs. Carson's body. They were in the city of Nashville, Tenn., where the burial will take place on Friday afternoon. Mrs. Carson was seventy-four years old.

THE LAURADA AGAIN IN HOME WATERS.

Baltimore, Jan. 24.—The American steamship Laurada, Captain Hagar, which has been chartered by the Spanish Government, and which is engaged in filibustering expeditions within the Cuban lines, and for which she is universally hated by Spaniards, is at Hampton Roads with a cargo of oranges and lemons, from Palermo and Messina, consigned to the firm of J. H. Seward & Co. of this city. The firm, previous to the arrival of the steamer at Baltimore, had ordered the signal station to be closed to her, and she was ordered to leave the harbor. On the trip out from Liverpool she was seized with an attack of pneumonia, and when the steamer reached New-York she was only 1,000. She was taken to a hospital, where she remained two days, when her daughter arrived and took her West.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

Milwaukee, Wis., Jan. 24.—Notice has been given to the employees of the Illinois Central Company that the strike will be called off Monday. This announcement affects about six hundred men.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THEM EXPECTED IN A WEEK.

WELBY SENDS PLEASING REPORTS TO SPAIN. BUT SHARP FIGHTING GOES ON CONTINUOUSLY IN THE ISLAND. London, Jan. 24.—"The Standard's" Madrid correspondent telegraphs that the belief is held in official circles that the scheme of colonial reforms applicable to Cuba will be published at the beginning of February, owing to the favorable reports of the situation in the island sent here by Captain-General Weyler.

Havana, Jan. 24.—The marine authorities here ignore the Cometa affair, and it is impossible to learn from them what, if any, truth there is in the report that that little gunboat has been destroyed by insurgents. The military authorities profess to know nothing of the matter, and in this case their professions are believed to be true, for, in view of the antagonism between the naval and military authorities, it is considered that if the latter were in possession of facts detrimental to the navy they would not hesitate to make them known to the general public. From other than official sources it is learned, however, that the reports that have already reached the United States are not the loss of the gunboat are probably correct.

The official reports issued to-day give the details of a number of engagements between the insurgent forces and rebels in the provinces of Santa Clara, Havana, Matanzas and Pinar del Rio. According to these reports, the troops of the loyal government have been victorious in the various engagements. The rebel losses in thirty-seven killed, a large number wounded, and two captured. The insurgent camps, prefectures and other military posts were destroyed. Many families who had taken refuge in the woods were found by the troops and taken into the towns.

The Spaniards say their losses were four killed, one wounded, three captured, and three lieutenants and sixty-one privates more or less severely wounded.

Notwithstanding the recent announcement of the "pacification" of the island, the official reports refer to the greater number of the engagements referred to took place in that province, which is pretty good evidence that the rebels are still conducting their operations there. The most important of the several fights took place near Guines, Province of Havana, where the troops met the rebel parties led by Castillo and Delgado.

FOR SICK AND WOUNDED CUBAN SOLDIERS.

A concert for the benefit of the sick and wounded of the Cuban army will take place at Chickering Hall on the evening of February 13, under the auspices of the Daughters of Cuba and under the management of Professor Henri Marcell, of the Grand Conservatory of Music. Among the artists who will appear will be Misses Katherine Bloodgood, contralto; and Misses Katherine Bloodgood, contralto; and Misses Katherine Bloodgood, contralto.

OVERCOME WEYLER'S TOBACCO EDICT.

Chicago, Jan. 24.—The first lot of Cuban tobacco to arrive since the Weyler edict of last May forbidding its export reached Chicago yesterday, consisting of 100,000 cigars. The cigars were from the country after six months of petitioning for a permit from the Spanish authorities.

GEN. ROLOFF TO BE TRIED IN BALTIMORE.

Baltimore, Jan. 24.—General Carlos Roloff, Secretary of the Cuban Provisional Government, and Dr. Joseph J. Lutz, who received a preliminary hearing in New-York yesterday on the charge of violating the neutrality act in connection with the shipment of men, arms and ammunition to Cuba by the steamer "Cometa," will be brought to this city for trial to-day. The United States District-Attorney Marbury said to-night that instructions to that effect had been sent out from the Department of Justice at Washington.

The reason assigned for the transfer of the case from New-York to Baltimore is that the steamer "Cometa" was purchased here and landed from this port. Mr. Marbury will ask the United States Grand Jury for an order that a plantation in Cuba be sold to the United States. It is thought that when they appear before Commissioner Shields in New-York next Saturday, they will be over to Baltimore to meet the marshals and brought here.

WENTWORTH'S OPINION OF BOYS.