NEGROS AND PANAY.

CONTRASTS IN TWO ISLANDS OF THE PHILIPPINES.

ONE UNDER AMERICAN RULE ADVANCING TOWARD PEACE AND PROSPERITY—IN THE OTHER REBELLION AND BRIGANDAGE.

Bacolod, Island of Negros, Philippines, Nov. 7.—The islands of Negros and Panay, belonging to the Visayan group, and three hundred miles south of Manila, present to-day two distinct phases of American occupation. Negros, under an elected civil government, firmly controlled by the American authorities, is advancing along lines that are set to lead her to peace, prosperity and plenty. Panay is patrolled and guarded, our soldiers are marching and fighting over her hills, and shrapnel from our artillery is crashing through her palmleaf huts, and in the interior is established the harsh and arbitrary rule of the Filipino revolutionary party.

The commercial interests of the two islands are identical. Only twenty-five miles of water separates them, and Iloilo, on Panay, is the shipping port for all products of Negros. These islands show to-day the result of two policies pursued by us in the Philippines, while both are suffering from the lack of a definite policy. The conditions on Panay are the results of a military inactivity, probably occasioned by the lack of sufficient troops to pursue vigorously the campaign. The insurgent forces there have never been estimated at more than six thousand, and four thousand all told would probably be nearer the mark. Most of these men are said to have come down from Luzon, and there was a time, before they concentrated in their present force, when a very few American soldiers could have possessed and held the whole island, with practically no opposition. But we contented ourselves with holding the town of Iloilo, and nothing more, and only to-day, after the arrival of reinforcements from Manila, is our position changing from that of a besieged garrison to one of aggression and action against the enemy. General Hughes has about thirty-five hundred men at and about Iloilo, and an advance by our troops is expected at any time.

FIELD OF THE 6TH INFANTRY.

Negros Island was first garrisoned by the California volunteers, which regiment was replaced early in July, 1898, by the 6th United States Infantry. Brigadier General Smith, formerly colonel of the Californians, is Military Governor of Negros, and since last July affairs here have advanced rapidly and well under his direction. Last July the situation had two sides, the military and the civil. The 6th Infantry had before it the duty of suppressing the interior mountain bandits, as well as the scattering of the revolutionary party which was operating under instructions from Aguinaldo, in Luzon. As to civil matters, General Smith had in view the establishment and maintenance of a civil and elective government, which would ultimately serve to show the other revolting islands what good things could be enjoyed under American rule. Negros was selected as the most promising field for this experiment.

The mountains of Negros run down its centre and length, and between the foothills of this range and the sea there is a belt of lowlands averaging in width from five to twenty miles. On these lowlands are the farms and plantations producing the island's yearly crop of sugar, all of which is sent to Iloilo for shipment. In the lowlands are found almost all the important towns and villages, as well as most of the roads. This geographical distribution of low, productive lands on the coast and mountain fastnesses in the interior was the comfort of the early bandits and marauders, and had much to do with making their work possible and profitable on Negros Island. There were always, under Spanish rule bandits in the mountains, who lived by raiding the valleys, and when we possessed Negros they were part of our heritage from our predecessors.

BANDITS THINNED OUT.

They still exist to-day, but since last July they have encountered the 6th Infantry, and they are not nearly so numerous as formerly, and, consequently brigandage has lost much of its popularity and may be considered to be upon its last legs. It would be unwise to state in print just how many of these marauders have been killed by the 6th—the number is large, and there would surely be people at home in ignorance of the fact that drastic and severe measures alone can remedy this evil, and who, consequently, might raise an outcry against the killings. A part of our inheritance from Spain is the robber chief, known locally as Papa, or Pope Issio. He is the leader of the band operating in the southern portion of the island, who are called Babaylanes. In the light of information gathered by American officers on Negros to-day the Babaylanes were formerly a religious sect composed of natives of the island who preferred their own religion, with its curious observances and wild feasts recurring once every seven years, to the tenets of the Church of Rome, which Spain tried to force upon them. But the natives objected to the holy efforts of the priests and took to the hills for religious freedom. This was in the old days, and their prophetess, Babaylan, went with them. And being kept in the mountains by religious persecution, robbery in the lowlands as a means of livelihood soon developed among them and proved profitable. Hence the name Babaylanes, and hence their present occupation of robbery.

What their religion is to-day seems hopeless to fathom. It bears traces of Mahometanism and traces of Catholicism, but is apparently largely composed of shallow superstition and a belief in the charlatanism of their present leader, Papa Issio. Issio is described as a cunning, shrewd and ignorant man. It is said he mystified them and gained his ascendency over them by having some third class conjurer whom he picked up upon the coast do tricks at his (Issio's) bidding. He issues and signs passports to the mountain people, charging them therefor according to their means and his needs. All tales of him point to the fact that he has a strong hold upon their ignorance and credulity, and that he poses successfully as their governor, god and father. He provides them with small, round pieces of paper, scrawled with dog-Latin, which he declares make a man invulnerable to American bullets. His followers believe him in all things, and his charms are often found upon the enemy's dead.

THE CAMPAIGN OF THE 6TH.

As soon as the 6th Regiment settled upon the island it began an active campaign against the bandits. The wet season was beginning, but the rains were ignored. The bandits never thought the Americans could penetrate their hills and meet them upon their own ground, as the Spaniards had never attempted such a thing. But the 6th did it. There were forced marches through country that was considered impenetrable. Over mountains and through swamps our soldiers forced their way to meet the enemy at break of dawn. In fancied security and never expecting an attack, the enemy were killed, demoralized and scattered. A handful of American troops have taken positions that forty trained men could have held against an army corps. They have fought up the face of mountains and in swamps where the dank grass grows ten feet high and men stagger and drop from want of air and the heat. Hardships which the officers say cannot be adequately described in words were endured with courage and determination. It was hard work, and it was well done. The men operated in small bodies, for the 6th is scattered in some thirty detachments throughout Negros, while two companies of the regiment are at Cebu, on the next island.

The officers of the 6th have many interesting stories to tell. There was, for instance, the capture of a bandit village high up in the mountain, which our men surprised at daybreak after an almost incredible night march. This village was an ideal bandit rendezvous, well located against surprise, intrenched and stockaded. Our men began while the enemy were at breakfast, and there followed a good fight of four hundred bandits against one hundred Americans. Finally the village was charged and captured, and inside was found the plunder of years, mixed with carnage indescribable.

FIVE KILLED BY A CORPORAL.

In the fight an American corporal, pressed close by the enemy, killed five of his opponents in less time than it takes to read these words. Three he shot with his Krag held at his hip, he not having room to lift it to his shoulder, a fourth was bayonetted and the last was killed by a blow with the butt of his gun. The leader of this band, a tall, handsome man, with all the appearances of a pure Spaniard, well mounted, well dressed and well armed, fought from the back of his horse until finally shot to pieces. "He wore a very fine pair of French field glasses, which are now in my possession," remarked Captain Byrne, of the 6th, who was in charge of this expedition.

The loss in killed inflicted upon the bandits in this encounter disconcerted them vastly, and it will take but a few such lessons to annihilate them utterly. They are now beginning to come unarmed into the valleys, anxiously seeking a vocation of peace, and saying their trade has become unprofitable and too dangerous, that food is scarce and that Papa Issio is losing his influence; that the American soldiers shoot very straight, and that the charms of Issio fail to protect. Papa Issio himself will sooner or later be captured, and this will probably end it all, and then, for the first time in many generations, brigandage will be impossible on Negros Island.

Since last July there have been revolutionists on Negros, Tagalog leaders and soldiers from Panay and Luzon having come over to stir up revolt and discontent. They landed on the northern coast of the island and effected a junction with the bandits of that locality, known as the Tulisanes. The Tulisanes are marauders, pure and simple. They operate in the north as do Papa Issio's people in the south, and they have their own leaders. Their name is the vernacular for bandits. The revolutionists made an alliance with the Tulisanes, and the work began. But they counted without the 6th, which met them in the mountains, killing and scattering them until the revolutionary leaders sent in to General Smith to ask permission humbly to return to Panay. General Smith said no, declaring he would do all in his power to prevent their leaving Negros, and that, as he considered them nothing more than murderers and robbers, he would punish severely all whom he caught. Several of the rebel officers and many of the soldiers were killed in a battle, until finally the last of them, about forty in number, managed to escape to Panay—and this was the end of the revolutionary movement in Negros.

When we fought in Negros we fought seriously. No half-way measures were adopted. We had here as we have elsewhere an enemy who construed every evidence of consideration and kindness as a sign of fear and weakness, and on Negros we did not mince matters. We fought to a finish and we fought hard, and the enemy suffered greatly in consequence. As a result of this policy Negros is to-day at peace, and her people are fairly started on the road to a civil administration of their own affairs.

SELF-GOVERNMENT ESTABLISHED.

On October 2 elections for a President of the Island, for Councilmen and for a Supreme Court were held, and the successful candidates were inaugurated yesterday. The suffrage was determined by ability to read and write English, Spanish or Visayan, or the possession of $500 (Mexican) worth of property, or the payment of rent upon $1,000 worth of property. There were in all some forty candidates in the field, and over five thousand votes were cast. Meliscio Severino was elected President of the Island by a majority of 30. When the new Government was inaugurated on November 6 it took over all the functions of the provisional civil government, operative until that time, and began its career with a three days' feast in Bacolod. To-day this village is covered with homemade American flags, none of which, however, have more than a dozen stars and half a dozen stripes. Country people have come in in bullcarts from miles around to attend the festivities. There has been a most successful official dance at the Government House, and this afternoon there will be horse races and wrestling on the Plaza. Native bands have been playing incessantly all over the village for two days, cockfights are fixed for every afternoon, and the monte games are running full blast. No untoward incident occurred.

The power of veto and final decision is vested in General Smith, the Military Governor, and the whole system of civil administration is controlled by the American authorities. This is imperative in the beginning; and latitude can only be allowed later.

"The greatest danger that threatens the success of this experiment," said General Smith in the course of conversation, "is political intrigue among themselves. If we can avoid or prevent that, we stand a very good chance of success."

Negros is the first and only example of the application of the principle of self-government, under American control, to any of the Philippine Islands. If the experiment results successfully, it will have an excellent effect upon all the other islands, for preserving Negros to be at peace, with business booming and life and property protected, others will ask: "Why cannot we enjoy the same blessings?" Aguinaldo recognizes this fact, and has tried in vain to stay the march of events upon this island, as, for instance, by sending in the revolutionary party that was so promptly driven out.

Negros has seen a happy and successful division of labor among the American authorities. General Smith, as the Military Governor of the island, and Colonel Miner, as commander of the 6th, have done excellent work. General Smith is a volunteer officer and Colonel Miner a Regular. General Smith is primarily a man of affairs, while the Colonel is a trained soldier. The division of labor has been along these lines. Colonel Miner has attended more directly to military matters, thus leaving General Smith more free to attend to civil matters, more time to be diplomatic, and more time to study and understand the men who compose his civil government.

The result of the experiment in Negros will have important bearings upon the larger problem of government throughout the archipelago.

CLEANING OUT PANAY.

OPERATIONS OF THE AMERICAN FORCES AGAINST THE REBELS ON THE ISLAND.

Iloilo, Island of Panay, Philippines, Nov. 13.—This island of Panay, sister island to Negros and of the Visayan group, has for months past been in insurgent hands. To-day the American forces are taking the aggressive for the first time and are moving out to cover and hold more territory. Up to the present we have possessed the half burned town of Iloilo and nothing more.

The 26th Regiment, under Colonel Rice, arrived here two weeks ago from the United States. "We at home knew," said officers of this regiment, "that our troops were on Panay, but we had the impression they occupied the island; that the important coast towns at least were ours; that our possession was more than nominal. Hence we are surprised to see the American forces actually besieged by the insurgents upon three miles of land immediately surrounding Iloilo."

People in the United States may have the same ideas as had the officers of the 26th Regiment, and to them it would be well to say that our lines, up to the present, embrace the suburbs of Jaro and nothing more. Insurgent trenches face us on the north and west and outpost firing is to be heard at any time.

With the coming of reinforcements—a battalion of the 19th and the 26th Regiment entire—General Hughes, in the midst of a typhoon that swept the country with driving rain, flooded rice fields and made quagmires of the roads, with an expedition composed of the 18th Regulars, under Colonel Carpenter; the 2d Battalion of the 26th Regiment, two battalions of the 19th, Light Battery G, of the 6th Artillery, under Captain Bridgeman, and Captain Gordon's mounted scouts of the 18th Regiment, advanced into the enemy's country. The battalion of the 26th and the two battalions of the 19th constituted a provisional regiment under Colonel Rice, while the first and third battalions of the 26th garrisoned Iloilo and Jaro.

The objective point of the expedition was the alleged insurgent stronghold at Santa Barbara, eight miles north of Jaro, but as the direct road between these two points had been strongly intrenched, the American forces made a detour to the west in order to approach Santa Barbara on its unprotected side. Yesterday General Hughes's command had occupied successively the villages of Oton, Tigbauan and Gurmal on the coast, and west of Iloilo, likewise Cordoba, four miles north of Tigbauan. There was no resistance by the enemy, their forces retreating as ours advanced.

Company C, of the 26th Regiment, had the only contact with the rebels on the first night out. One of the men of the company, which was under command of Lieutenant Fales, was seriously wounded. Two of the enemy were found dead when the trenches were captured, and considerable ammunition fell into our hands as a result of the brush. To-day General Hughes's column is resting in the four towns mentioned, waiting for ammunition and provisions to be conveyed to it, and also for the rains to stop and the country to dry.

This movement was handicapped and interfered with from the start by a lack of proper and sufficient transportation. A totally inadequate number of army wagons and mules were recently landed at Iloilo. These were added to by a number of bullcarts and bulls, and the sum total of transportation facilities for the expedition was about one-third what it should have been. Consequently it was with the greatest difficulty that the expedition started on schedule time.

Orders from Aguinaldo to the rebel forces in Panay, bidding them fall back as we advanced and to break up into small bands of forty or fifty and harass us when opportunity offered, recently came into the hands of the American authorities. These tactics will probably be followed during this advance, and, furthermore, the insurgents will probably burn many of the villages they evacuate.

The town of San Miguel, within sight of Iloilo, was partially fired by the rebels when they thought our troops were about to enter it.

The insurgent forces in Panay are estimated at from thirty-five hundred to four thousand. They are mostly Tagalogs from Luzon, with about 30 per cent of Visayan natives of the island. The leaders of this force are all Tagalogs, and to the Tagalog Panay is almost foreign territory. It is a Visayan island, its inhabitants are of a different tribe, speaking a different tongue, and have never been independently active in the revolt against the authority of the United States. Out the portions of Panay not held by the Americans the Tagalogs are in control. Their rule is harsh and oppressive, and there would seem to be good grounds for the statement that the natives of Panay, if left to themselves, would not oppose us, but would come quietly into the fold.

The Tagalogs, however, have been able to coerce them into a certain amount of opposition to our occupation of their island. Spain had several regiments of Visayan troops in her employ, and when Spain left the Philippines these natives were disarmed and sent to their homes. Many came to Panay. When a native has led the lazy life of an overpaid soldier, it is difficult for him quickly to take up again the more arduous pursuits of peace; and it is probable that the greater number of the Visayans arrayed against our arms down here are these former soldiers of Spain, who have been persuaded by the Tagalogs again to take up the trade of fighting.

The Tagalogs as they retire before our advance will have little compunction about setting the towns afire, these being the property of another people; so the next few weeks will probably see the destruction of considerable property in this island.

It seems clearly a fact that the Panay revolution is being kept alive by men, arms and news from Luzon. Not long ago seven hundred armed Tagalogs landed on the Panay coast near Antique, and the news of this reinforcement, coupled with the recent change in the form of government from civil to military, the latter under the Tagalog General Delgado, gave the rebels more confidence in their own little prowess.

News comes to the Americans down here that matters are being rapidly brought to a head in Luzon. We hear of General Lawton's advance into the foothills of the northeast mountains, and of General Wheaton's landing at San Fabian. If the revolution is broken in Luzon—and, judging from the stories current here, such bids fair to be the case in the near future—there seems little doubt that this will of itself terminate the revolution here.

HOW MAJOR LOGAN WAS KILLED.

LETTER FROM THE SURGEON OF HIS REGIMENT, WHO WAS ONE OF THE FIRST TO HIS AID.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 24.—In view of the reports put in circulation at the time of the death of Major John A. Logan, killed in action in the Philippines, the following letter received to-day by L. S. Leiberman from his son, Dr. B. Albert Leiberman, major and surgeon of the 23d United States Infantry (Major Logan's regiment), effectually disproves the statement that Major Logan was shot by his own men:

San Fabian, Luzon, November 12, 1899.

As I wrote you day before yesterday that we were to attack a town, I will now tell you that we did it, and although we whipped them the cost was severe, the killed including Major Logan. We left here at 7 a. m. and marched about two or three miles, when we ran into the enemy, who were in houses, rice fields and tops of trees along the road, and intrenchments without end. Corporal Robinson in the advance was wounded by the first volley.

Major Logan in passing him stopped and asked him if he had a first aid package, and was shot through the head just above the temples. I was only a short distance behind, and I called to my acting hospital steward, Mercier, and we went forward to him. I took Major Logan's head and Mercier his feet, so as to move him, when poor Mercier was shot through the heart from a tree under which Major Logan was. I looked up and saw the fellow about fifteen feet above me, and drawing my revolver I shot him, and he fell from the tree.

Then, right at that spot, several others were killed or wounded, and when I established my dressing station at that place the sharpshooters in the tree tops made things lively for us until a detail of men cleaned out the tree tops. One hundred and fifty natives were killed and fifty prisoners and about two hundred guns captured. The road was something terrible, as it had been raining, the rice fields were like lakes, the streams were greatly swollen and the bridges destroyed, so that we had to ford or swim all of them. The natives all had Mausers, and they knew how to handle them. The battle lasted about three and one-half hours. General Wheaton to-day sent us a letter of congratulation on our victory, the biggest one since the war started.

WRECK OF THE CHARLESTON.

OFFICERS RELIEVED FROM RESPONSIBILITY THEREFOR.

Washington, Dec. 24.—Admiral Watson has cabled the Navy Department the results of the court of inquiry into the causes of the wreck of the United States cruiser Charleston on an unchartered reef off the northern coast of Luzon some time ago. The information contained in the dispatch agrees with that given in The Associated Press dispatches and relieves the officers of the ship from responsibility for the disaster. The findings of the court will render unnecessary any court martial proceedings by the Department.

VALENCIA HAS A STORMY PASSAGE.

San Francisco, Dec. 24.—The United States transport Valencia arrived to-day, forty-two days from Manila, by way of Nagasaki. The Valencia experienced heavy weather the entire trip and was compelled to put back three times for shelter. Her passenger list consisted of three civilians.

LAWTON MONUMENT FUND.

Lancaster, Penn., Dec. 24.—A movement has been started among the members of the National Association of Spanish-American veterans to raise a monument in honor of the late Major General Henry W. Lawton. A number of prominent soldiers throughout the country have interested themselves in the movement and a fund is about to be started under the auspices of the National Association of Spanish-American War Veterans to be known as the "Henry W. Lawton Memorial Fund." General Wills J. Hulings, of Pennsylvania, the commander in chief; Colonel Edwin W. Hine, of New-Jersey, the quartermaster general, and William C. Liller, of Lancaster, the adjutant general of the association, are mentioned as president, treasurer and secretary, respectively, of the movement.

RECRUITS DRILLING FOR PHILIPPINES.

One thousand recruits are assembling and drilling at Fort Slocum, David's Island, for duty in the Philippine Islands. About five hundred of the soldiers will go to the infantry, three hundred to the cavalry and two hundred to the hospital corps and artillery to take the places of those who have been discharged or have died. Thirty-five officers who have been assigned to service in the Philippines are also assembling at the fort and are assisting in drilling the recruits. It is expected that the entire force will sail on the United States transport Sumner, via the Suez Canal, January 15, but there may be delay if the transport is not ready at that time. Lieutenant-Colonel Joslyn, of the 25th United States Infantry, will be in command on the voyage.

WEEKLY DEATH REPORT FROM GEN. OTIS.

Washington, Dec. 24.—The following is General Otis's weekly death report:

Manila, Dec. 24.—Following deaths since last report:

Nephrolithiasis—November 7, 6th Infantry, JOHN SMITH, Company C.

Gunshot wounds—November 16, 33d Infantry, ARTHUR D. RADZINSKI, sergeant-major; 13th Infantry, CHARLES E. WHITE, Company K; December 7, 34th Infantry, OSCAR E. DOLAN, Company G; December 21, 11th Cavalry, JOSEPH KESSINGER, Company D; December 10, 35th Infantry, RAYNERD ANDERSON, Company A, accidental.

Typhoid fever—December 16, 3d Artillery, RAYMOND CARPENTER, Company L; December 7, 4th Cavalry, HARRY BENO, sergeant, Company K; December 19, 27th Infantry, CLAUDE B. CHRISTMAS, corporal, Company K; December 19, 21st Infantry, HENRY C. MERRIAM, Company G; December 17, 6th Infantry, JOHN I. FREO, Company K; December 22, U. S. T. Hooker, JAMES CONAWAY, cable man; December 23, 14th Infantry, WILLIAM SCHNEEBELE.

Peritonitis—December 20, 29th Infantry, PAUL GAINES, Company L.

Malaria—December 15, 12th Infantry, GEORGE BURG, Company I; December 8, 22d Infantry, KENNETH RODENBERGER, Company A; December 20, 25th Infantry, ISAAC WATSON, Company F; December 21, 13th Infantry, PAUL H. KLICK, Company H; December 12, 24th Infantry, JAMES BOOKER, Company K; December 18, 24th Infantry, HENRY CUNNINGHAM, Company F.

Dysentery—December 19, 21st Infantry, EDWARD SWANSON, Company M; December 5, 22d Infantry, D. BUCK, Company A; December 4, 34th Infantry, FREDERICK MORFORD, Company K; December 22, Hospital Corps, ALBERT DUSHLIG, December 22, 14th Infantry, OSCAR PROSKE, Company G.

Drowned—December 14, near Nirbican, Luzon, accidentally, 33d Infantry, WILLIAMS AXTELL, Company K.

Intestinal trouble—December 5, 22d Infantry, GEORGE H. M'LEAN, Company F.

General debility—December 11, 24th Infantry, GEORGE MOTLEY, Company H.

Diarrhœa—December 22, 21st Infantry, WILLIAM BLOUCHIR, Company I.

OTIS.

DIES AFTER A SCUFFLE.

WATSON'S NECK TWISTED IN A WRESTLE WITH A SOLDIER.

Edward Watson, twenty-three years old, of Ninety-second-st. and Battery Place, died in the Norwegian Hospital last night as the result of having his neck twisted while in a scuffle early yesterday morning. Thomas Leary, a private of Battery N, 5th United States Artillery, stationed at Fort Hamilton, is locked up on a charge of felonious assault. He was taken to the hospital last night, and Watson identified him as the man who had caused the injury.

The accident happened in a peculiar manner. Watson and Leary were drinking together in the Dewey Hotel, at Fourth-ave. and One-hundred-and-first-st. Shortly after midnight the men got up and started making passes at each other. At any rate, Watson had just struck Leary when the latter came back with a wide swing with his left arm. The men were standing close together, and the swing missed Watson's head, and Leary's arm caught his opponent around the neck. The soldier tightened his grip around Watson's neck, it is said, and tried to throw him. Watson fell to the ground and seemed unconscious. Leary and others tried to help the man to his feet, but found that he was helpless and could not stand. Watson was carried to the home of his brother George, at Ninety-fifth-st. and Fifth-ave. Dr. John Corish found that the cords from the spine in the back of the neck had been seriously wrenched and partly ruptured.

Yesterday about noon the injured man was taken to the Norwegian Hospital, where an operation was performed.

Leary, when arrested, said that he had had no intention of injuring Watson and was much affected when told that the patient might not recover.

Dr. Corish said last night that from what he had learned he believed that the scuffle between the two men had been an entirely friendly one.

PERIL OF A SHIP'S CREW OFF ALASKA.

WATER TURNED THEIR BALLAST TO MUD, AND IT WAS PUMPED OUT OF THE BILGE.

Victoria, B. C., Dec. 24.—Captain Ewart, of the lost bark Colusa, who arrived with his wife and thirteen men of the ship on the steamer Cottage City, this afternoon, tells the following story of their experience:

The Colusa left Kahului, where, as will be remembered, she went ashore on entering that port on October 21, and sailed for Esquimault to be repaired. She was off Cape Flattery on November 4, while a heavy southeast gale was raging, which continued until the 22d. The vessel was then within three miles of Vancouver Island shore, above Flattery. A heavy sea was running, and the vessel was forced to carry more sail, notwithstanding the gale. She labored heavily, and by reason of the bulk of water in her bilge the ballast was turned to mud. Pumps were kept going continuously. On the 25th the gale increased in force, driving the ship before it at the rate of eleven knots an hour. All spare sail and sacks that could be obtained were used to keep the mud in.

The whole crew then came aft and requested me to abandon the ship and take to the boats. We, however, continued to pump, and brought up great quantities of ballast, giving the ship a heavy list to port. By December 10 she had been driven toward the entrance of Sitka Bay, and an effort was made to work her into the bay, signals of distress being made continually. On the 12th the wind freshened and she was driven to sea again. The crew then again came aft and demanded that we abandon the ship while near land, before the storm increased. Seeing no further hope of saving the vessel, boats were put over and the ship left to her fate. Half an hour later we lost sight of her, and believe that she foundered or capsized. Sitka was reached after four terrible days in a boat, in which time several men were frozen, but there were no casualties.

FRANCE AND AMERICA.

THE NEW TREATY A TOKEN OF THE FRIENDLINESS OF THE NATIONS.

Paris, Dec. 24.—The "Journal des Débats," in the course of a long article favoring the Franco-American reciprocity treaty, says:

Some are opposing the treaty because they have become the dupes of English newspapers, which are spreading the idea that the United States is only a branch of Great Britain. The Americans, however, have affirmed their determination to be independent. President McKinley's message showed their ability to disentangle themselves from English embraces when these became compromising.

As for ourselves, until there is some proof to the contrary we must regard the Americans as our allies and friends. Their conclusion of a treaty with us was a friendly act, and must be considered as such. Our only desire should be the ratification by our own Chamber of Deputies and the American Senate of an agreement so significant and precious for the maintenance of the traditional relations between the two countries.

NOTES OF INTEREST FROM BERLIN.

NO PANIC, AS IN LONDON AND NEW-YORK—EXPORTS TO AMERICA INCREASING.

Berlin, Dec. 24.—The advance in the Reichsbank rate to 7 per cent had a great effect upon the security of the market. Values declined only moderately. There was nothing in the nature of a panic, as occurred in New-York and London. Notwithstanding the fact that the advance in London exchange continued, reaching yesterday four pfennigs above the gold point, gold exports have hitherto been only moderate. The Berlin joint stock banks are doing all in their power to prevent exports.

The correspondent of The Associated Press was informed to-day by persons in the highest banking circles that the continued rise in London exchange is due to the fact that New-York has sent large amounts of three months' money bills here for discount, taking in return London exchange. A further cause assigned is the heavy purchases of American railway securities by Germany, payment for which is now due in London. These shares are chiefly Canadian and Northern Pacific.

Private discount is declining. Call money is rising. The outlook for business remains excellent, excepting that of dear money. It is impossible to raise money on mortgages, owing to the decline in house building, which is expected eventually to react upon the iron trade.

Western Germany's car shortage, amounting to five thousand cars daily, is obstructing the coal trade. Nevertheless, the Boerse takes an optimistic view of coal prospects. As a result of this, coal shares are firm.

Exports to the United States are brisk. United States Consul General Mason predicts an increase of $250,000 at the Berlin Consulate for this quarter. Chemnitz manufacturers report heavy American orders and bright prospects for yarns at rising prices.

Experiments with Russian petroleum are causing increasing imports of that article. Sixty-nine thousand tons were imported during the first nine months of the current year, as against thirty-one thousand for the corresponding period last year.

The Hamburg-American Steamship Company will introduce crude petroleum from Borneo as fuel for its East Asian steamers.

The North German Lloyd Steamship Company has bought out the Scottish Oriental Steamship Company's steamers, fourteen in number, and will continue the service to Hong Kong and Singapore with increased sailings. This is the second instance of the purchase of a British by a German line within a few months.

To-day Berlin has had ideal winter weather, with a slight snowfall toward dusk.

This afternoon Emperor William left New Palace, following his custom for several years, his pockets filled with gold and silver, and strolled through the parks at Potsdam and the poorer quarters, distributing Christmas gifts to the needy. This evening gifts were distributed among the employes in the royal factories, those of the higher rank receiving 100 marks each.

Next Saturday the ceremony of nailing new colors for a number of regiments will be performed in Berlin in the Emperor's presence.

It is asserted in well informed quarters that the Russian Government will soon create a new Ministry of Commerce and Industry, which is significant as bearing upon the phenomenal rise of Russian industry.

On New Year's Day direct telephonic communication will be opened between Berlin and Paris.

COAL TRADE PROSPECTS.

Philadelphia, Dec. 24.—"The Ledger" in its weekly review of the coal trade to-morrow will say that the anthracite coal trade has been checked somewhat in demand by the continuation of mild weather. This curtails orders, and has prolonged the conditions reported as ruling last week from similar causes. At the same time, about all the coal is moving for which cars are available, this being generally done in filling old orders. There is rather less working at some of the collieries, the managers finding that their coal is not moved away with sufficient rapidity, so that the output for the remainder of the year will not be forced so much as has been the case heretofore. The Christmas holidays will also curtail output for this and next week. Prices are maintained and cheerfulness continues throughout the trade.

DIED SUDDENLY ON A TRAIN.

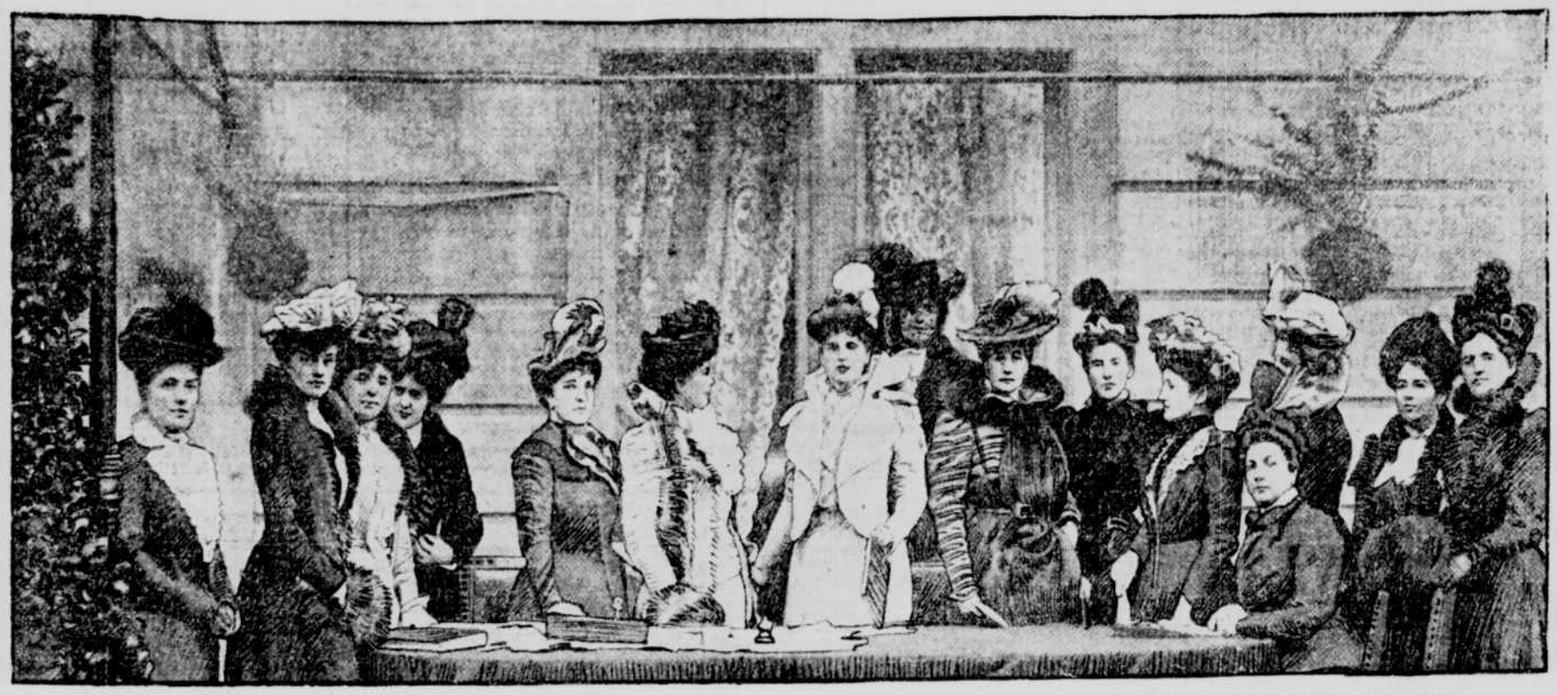
EZRA B. SCHOFIELD EXPIRES FROM HEART DISEASE WHILE ON HIS WAY HOME.

Ezra B. Schofield, forty-eight years old, died yesterday while on a New-York Central train returning from Larchmont. Heart disease caused his death.

Mr. Schofield and his wife had been visiting his mother, who is eighty-eight years old and lives in Larchmont. He seemed in excellent health as he bade her goodby and promised to make another visit soon. When the train was half way to this city he became ill and died in a few minutes.

Mr. Schofield lived with his wife and a son at No. 48 West One-hundred-and-thirty-second-st. He was in the jewelry business and had a shop at No. 35 John-st. The son is in the publishing business at No. 8 Murray-st.

The Coroner's office issued the necessary permit and the body was taken to the West One-hundred-and-thirty-second-st. home.



MRS. GRIFFIN. MRS. RONALDS (HON. TREASURER). MRS. BROWN POTTER. MRS. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN. MRS. A. A. BLOW (HON. SECRETARY). MRS. VON ANDRE.

MRS. F. C. VAN DUZER. MRS. MORETON FREWEN, THE COUNTESS OF ESSEX. LADY RANDOLPH CHURCHILL (PRESIDENT). MRS. ARTHUR PAGET. MRS. T. L. FEILD. MRS. TAYLOR. MRS. DONALD C. HALDEMAN.

A MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MAINE HOSPITAL SHIP FUND.

THE KENTUCKY CONTEST.

BELIEF THAT GOEBEL AND BECKHAM HAVE NO CHANCE BEFORE THE LEGISLATURE.

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 24 (Special).—Goebel and Beckham, the defeated Democratic candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, are as certain to be defeated in their contest before the Legislature as they were at the polls. Goebel has based his hopes in the contest on the fact that the Legislature has a Democratic majority of thirty-two on joint ballot, but it will be impossible to hold them together on a strictly partisan vote. In fact, it is now believed that the anti-Goebel forces will be able to organize both House and Senate if necessary, though they are likely to divide on party lines in this preliminary work.

The Senate has thirty-eight members, and the Brown Democrats claim to-day that seven Senators out of the twenty-six Democrats have already declared themselves against Goebel, making the Senate a tie, with the casting vote in the hands of the Republican Lieutenant Governor. These are Senators Hay and Alexander, of Louisville; Gillespie, Triplett, Roberts, Connelly and Crenshaw, most of whom have declared themselves in print. In addition, there are three Senators who have declined to commit themselves on the matter, and it is believed they will vote against Goebel.

In the House the situation is not much better. There are fifty-nine Democrats and forty-one Republican members, but from ten to fifteen Democrats are said to be opposed to Goebel, and it is known that at least ten are already pledged. The leader of the anti-Goebel forces will be Representative Orr, of Owen County, assisted by Representative Grider, of Bowling Green, who was elected on a platform of opposition to Goebel.

To offset the majority against him Goebel has had contests instituted by eleven defeated candidates for Representative and two candidates for Senator. These depend on a partisan Election Board, but Governor Taylor claims the constitutional right to fill the two vacancies on the Board left by the resignations of Pryor and Ellis, and former Governor Bradley maintains that this position is correct. Mr. Bradley will manage the contest for the Republicans. It is believed the Legislature will repeal the Goebel law.

MEMORIAL WINDOW DEDICATED.

IT IS IN HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, AND WAS GIVEN BY LEANDER H. CRALL.

A window erected by Leander H. Crall in memory of his wife was dedicated with impressive ceremony yesterday in Holy Trinity Church, Lenox-ave. and One-hundred-and-twenty-second-st. The Rev. Henry Nichols, pastor of the church, officiated. Many intimate friends of the Crall family were present.

The window is of opalescent glass. It is built into the north transept, and is twenty-three feet high by seven feet wide. The subject is the "Adoration of the Magi." Thirteen life sized figures are shown. The Virgin and Child are portrayed seated on a raised platform, while back of them St. Joseph stands. The interior of the stable with the heavy timbers is shown. In the clouds above there is a group of angels singing the hymn "Glory to God in the Highest."

In the sky above is the crescent moon, while below and over the stable is the Star of Bethlehem. The wise men kneel in the foreground.

The window was designed by Francis Lathrop, and is one of seven depicting scenes in Christ's life, which it is intended to erect from time to time in the transepts of Holy Trinity.

WRECK OF THE LAURA MARION.

OWNER, CAPTAIN AND ENGINEER LOST THEIR LIVES—TWO BODIES WASHED ASHORE.

Newburyport, Mass., Dec. 24.—From wreckage which came ashore during the night and the washing ashore of two bodies to-day, it became positively known that the small steamer Laura Marion, of this port, was wrecked in attempting to cross Newburyport bar last night, in the unusually heavy sea that was running. Captain F. W. Sargent, of Groveland, her owner; Engineer Nathan Johnson, also of Groveland, and Captain William J. Pettingell, of this place, who were on board at the time, all perished, the bodies of the first two named being washed ashore in the surf at a late hour last night. The body of Captain Pettingell has not yet been recovered.

Captain Sargent had been engaged in business on the river for years. He leaves a wife and two children in Groveland. Johnson, who was employed as engineer of the steamer, was known to be a skilled mechanic. He was unmarried. Captain Pettingell had seen service for the last ten or fifteen years as a pilot and was regarded as a faithful and thoroughly reliable man. He leaves a widow and three children.

KANSAS CITY, PITTSBURG AND GULF.

REORGANIZATION PLAN DECLARED OPERATIVE—PROPOSED DIRECTORS.

Philadelphia, Dec. 24.—The Philadelphia Reorganization Committee of the Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf Railroad Company and its terminal company has formally declared operative the modified plan for the reorganization of the properties mentioned. Pursuant to the requirements of the Stock Listing Committee of the New-York Stock Exchange, all of the depositaries of the Reorganization Committee will receive deposits of any of the securities included in the plan without penalty until January 6, 1900. The total amount of securities reported to have been deposited under the modified plan of reorganization was $51,048,823, out of an issue of $58,010,000.

The Reorganization Committee has announced in an unofficial way the names of fifteen proposed directors of the new railroad company when it shall be reorganized as follows: J. W. Gates, John Lambert, L. L. Ellwood, William Edenburn, Max Pam, John T. Mutchell, of Chicago; Edward H. Harriman, Otto Kahn, James Stillman, Herman Sielcken, of New-York; William F. Harrity, Samuel R. Shipley, of Philadelphia; Julius Walsh, Alfred Clifford and James Hopkins, of St. Louis.

COAL MINE TO RESUME WORK.

Shamokin, Penn., Dec. 24.—The Union Coal Company officials at this place have announced that work on the Scott shaft, which was stopped on account of the coal trade depression two years ago, will be resumed in a few weeks, and that when in operation fifteen hundred men and boys will get employment. It is expected the coal veins will last fifty years, and that the shipments every working day will be about three thousand tons. A modern breaker will be erected at the mine.

VIENNA CHESS TOURNAMENT.

Vienna, Dec. 24.—All the adjourned games from previous rounds of the National Masters' chess tournament were finished to-day. Maroczy disposed of both Korto and Alapin; Brody beat Albin and Popiel and Zinki drew.

Owing to Christmas Day there will be no round played to-morrow, but the contest will be resumed on Tuesday.

The scores of all the competitors up to date follow:

Players.	Won.	Lost.	Players.	Won.	Lost.
Alapin	2	3	Popiel	2½	2½
Albin	2½	2½	Prock	0	6
Brody	4	1	Schlechter	3½	1½
Korto	2	3	Schwarz	2½	2½
Marco	1½	3½	Wolf	3	2
Maroczy	4	1	Zinki	2½	2½

MONEY FOR LAWTON FUND IN ST. LOUIS.

St. Louis, Dec. 24.—Charles Parsons, who was selected to receive and forward money given to the Lawton fund, has telegraphed $1,200 to Adjutant General Corbin, as the result of the first day's subscriptions. Most of the sums subscribed were in amounts of $50 and $100. The work will be continued next week.

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Worn Out?

TRY VIN MARIANI