# COMPROMISE PROBABLE.

## *REPUBLICAN CONFERENCE ON PUERTO RICAN BILL.*

TARIFF'S OPERATION MAY BE LIMITED TO TWO YEARS—COMMITTEE OF TEN TO REPORT A PLAN.

Washington, Feb. 24.—The Republicans of the House of Representatives met in conference at 8 o'clock to-night in the hall of the House to consider the situation on the Puerto Rican Tariff bill. Unusual interest attached to the meeting, owing to the division of sentiment which has developed on the bill. About one hundred Republican members were present, which was regarded a good attendance in view of the inclement weather. Those present included Speaker Henderson, Chairman Payne of the Ways and Means Committee, Representatives Grosvenor, Dolliver, Hopkins, Dalzell, Russell, Tawney, Hepburn, Steele, Cannon, Hitt and other well known figures in the House. The opposition element was represented by Messrs, McCall, Littlefield, Powers, Lorimer and others. Mr. Cannon acted as chairman and Mr. Loudenslager, of New-Jersey, as secretary.

Speaker Henderson took an active part in the conference and made the first speech of the evening. He spoke in a conciliatory spirit, urging that the differences be reconciled by the exercise of tolerance on both sides. The first definite proposition came from Mr. Pearre, of Maryland, who suggested a compromise fixing two years as the limit of the operation of the proposed tariff. Mr. Pearre supported this in a speech indicating no purpose to make an issue against the bill, but rather a disposition to secure united action by compromise.

DESIRE FOR HARMONY SHOWN.

Mr. Powers, of Vermont, was the first to give voice to the opposition sentiment. He said, however, that he had come to the conference in the hope and expectation that differences would be adjusted. His remarks were regarded as tending toward a harmonious adjustment.

Chairman Payne spoke at considerable length, and, while always in good temper, he manifested much feeling at times. He disavowed any pride of opinion in the bill, as he had not drawn it, although, as chairman of the committee, it had fallen to his lot to present it. Members gathered from what Mr. Payne said that the Secretary of War and War Department officials most familiar with Puerto Rican affairs had drawn the bill. Mr. Payne also conveyed the impression that the President was not opposed to the bill, certainly not on the constitutional question involved, although he carefully refrained from any direct statement as to the attitude or wishes of the President.

Mr. Grosvenor, of Ohio, was expected to make a statement more directly indicating the President's desires, but he carefully refrained from so doing. He said that he had recently attended a dinner where he was expected to "speak from the throne," but he had a prepared speech, which wholly omitted any authoritative statement. So to-night, he said, he did not intend to "speak from the throne." He said that the proposition limiting the operation of the bill to two years was as far as the measure should be changed.

The speechmaking became general, Representatives Hitt, Cannon, Sperry, McCall, Brown (Ohio), Fletcher, Lacey, Tompkins and Littlefield succeeding each other. Mr. Lacey brought forward a compromise giving to the President full authority to act. For a time the discussion turned on this proposition, but it failed to develop much strength.

M'CALL AND LITTLEFIELD FIRM.

The speeches of Mr. McCall and Mr. Littlefield attracted much interest because of the positive attitude they have taken. Mr. McCall spoke calmly, but did not abate any of his opposition to the bill as a whole, and showed no disposition to accept anw of the compromises sunggested. Mr. Littlefield was more vehement declaring that he could not surrender his views against the bill as a whole, although he felt disposed to turn the subject over to the President, as had been proposed. Mr. Littlefield also suggested that free trade be given to Puerto Rico, with a distinct declaration that this should not operate as a precedent applicable to other insular possessions.

This was met with a counter proposition from Mr. Throop, of Pennsylvania, that the 25 per cent rate as provided by the original bill be retained, with a declaration that this should not operate as a precedent. Neither proposition was favorably entertained, and they were not pressed.

Up to midnight none of the propositions had been voted upon, and members began leaving the hall. The feeling prevailed, however, that the two year limitation would be agreed on, as a basis of compromise, and that with this change the bill would receive pretty general, although not unanimous, support.

As the attendance was rapidly diminishing it became apparent that no final action could be reached to-night, and the plan of a committee of ten—five from each side—to go over the subject and report some middle ground, was unanimously accepted by all present.

Chairman Cannon was authorized to make public the results, and at 12:15 o'clock the conference adjourned until Monday night, when the report of the committee of ten will be received.

MR. CANNON STATES RESULTS.

Representative Cannon, after the conference made the following statement:

The conference was in good temper, and a real effort was made to harmonize differences of opinion concerning the Puerto Rico Tariff bill. It looks as though this effort would be successful. After full discussion, the conference by unanimous consent agreed to the selection of a committee of ten members, five of whom were to be appointed by the chairman of the caucus, from among those in favor of the bill, and five were to be appointed from those who do not agree to the bill, in whole or in part, the appointments to be made by a committee of three consisting of Representatives Powers, of Vermont; Crumpacker, of Indiana, and Lorimer, of Illinois. This committee is to report their conclusions and recommendations to a Republican conference, to be held in the hall of the House, Monday evening next, at 8 o'clock. In accordance with the resolution, I have named Messrs. Payne, Dalzell, Hopkins, Russell and Dolliver, and the other five are to be handed to Chairman Payne to-morrow.

## *DEBATE ON TARIFF BILL.*

MR. TAWNEY MAKES A CAUSTIC REPLY TO MR. LITTLEFIELD.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Feb. 24.—There were indications when the House assembled to-day that the general debate on the Puerto Rican Tariff bill had about exhausted itself. Interest revived, however, as soon as members came in who had been busy in conferences between the Speaker and other Republican leaders and Messrs Powers, Crumpacker and Lorimer, representing the Republican opposition to the bill. Mr. Tawney, of Minnesota, who spoke first in favor of the bill, paid his respects to Mr. Littlefield, of Maine, in a lively fashion, and then proceeded to deliver a carefully prepared argument in favor of the proposition that the Constitution does not automatically extend to newly acquired territory. He contributed some new and pertinent facts and strong arguments to that phase of the subject, and was rewarded by close attention and generous applause.

The chief speech in opposition to the bill was that of Mr. Powers, of Vermont, who has constitutional scruples respecting the authority of Congress to legislate for newly acquired territory irrespective of the provisions of the Constitution. Mr. Powers commanded the attention of the House, by the members of which he is highly respected. Whether his scruples will prevent him from voting for the bill or lead him to vote against it, even after his speech of to-day, is regarded as somewhat uncertain by some of the leading advocates of the bill.

Among the other speakers to-day was Mr. Tompkins, the young Representative from the XVIIth New-York District, who privately suggested yesterday that the pending bill should be so amended as to make the act a temporary one, expiring by limitation at the end of two years. Mr. Eddy, of Minnesota, who has been claimed as a member of the Republican opposition to the bill, made a speech in favor of it. Mr. Clayton, of Alabama, and Mr. Broussard, of Louisiana, also spoke, as did Mr. Thayer, of Massachusetts, a Gold Democrat, who defeated Joseph H. Walker, former chairman of the Banking and Currency Committee, for Congress in 1898. Mr. Thayer is an ardent anti-expansionist, and, of course, will vote against the bill.

THE DEBATE IN DETAIL.

Mr. Clayton, of Alabama, was the first speaker of the day, presenting a legal argument against the bill. He maintained that Puerto Rico was as much a part of the United States as the Territory of Arizona.

TAWNEY ARRAIGNS LITTLEFIELD.

Mr. Tawney, of Minnesota, a member of the Ways and Means Committee, enlivened the debate by a sharp attack on Mr. Littlefield for his speech of yesterday against the bill.

"I have been profoundly impressed," said Mr. Tawney, "with the great importance of the questions involved in this discussion. Until yesterday these questions had been considered by gentlemen on both sides of the House with the utmost sincerity, with earnestness, and with that dignity becoming questions of so great importance and the dignity of the forum in which they are to be tried. I regret that it was left for the gentleman from Maine to play in this great debate the part of a buffoon for the benefit of the Democratic party and for the amusement of the galleries.

"The Democratic applause with which that peculiar affectation of voice was received on yesterday would not have greeted a speech made upon the pending bill by that late peerless American statesman and always loyal Republican predecessor of the gentleman from Maine. The hope of notoriety or the existence of legal technicalities would not have induced that gentleman (Mr. Dingley) to have left the ranks of the Republicans and joined the ranks of the Democrats simply because his judgment did not coincide with the judgment of his associates upon the Ways and Means Committee or upon the floor of this House respecting party policy. Nor could he have been induced to have exhibited that want of decent courtesy toward the members of that committee or his colleagues upon the floor of this House which the gentleman (Mr. Littlefield) exhibited in the course of his remarks.

"What is the excuse which the gentleman has for this unusual and, I might say, unprecedented course? What is his justification? He tried to make this House believe that it is because we are attempting to impose a tax upon the people of Puerto Rico, and also because, according to the peculiar logic of this backwoods lawyer, as he calls himself, this bill is unconstitutional. In the course of his remarks he told this House that if this bill is enacted into law the spruce lumber men of Maine, carrying their lumber to Puerto Rico, would be obliged to pay a duty of 50 cents a thousand on all the rough lumber which they take to that island. Who is it that is complaining of that tax of 50 cents a thousand? Not the people of Puerto Rico, but the lumber barons of the State of Maine. That is the reason why the gentleman is here saying that he cannot agree with his party associates in imposing a duty upon American products going into Puerto Rico, when he knows that every dollar of that duty is paid over to the people of that island for their benefit.

"And if this theory, which he has always advocated and which the Republicans have always claimed to be correct—if the theory that the man who imports pays the duty—then all of this tax upon the products going to Puerto Rico from the United States is paid by the people of the United States. It is not, therefore, the tax upon the people of Puerto Rico that constitutes his real objection, but because the fishermen of New-England and the spruce lumber men of Maine want to get their products into the ports of Puerto Rico for 25 per cent of the existing tariff on goods when imported into the United States from foreign countries."

Mr. Littlefield listened to the speech, but made no effort to reply.

ON THE MERITS OF THE CASE.

Mr. Tawney then devoted his attention to the merits of the bill, speaking in part as follows:

It may not be out of place to refresh our recollection as to the source and responsibility for the great problems confronting this Congress. They are the direct and unavoidable consequence of a foreign war, instituted in defence of National honor and in obedience to the universal demand of the people, regardless of party or section, and upon the unanimous vote of their representatives in both branches of the LVth Congress. Now that we are called upon to face the incidents of that war and solve in a practical way the problems thus bequeathed to us, we find the people's representatives in this Congress divided. Those upon the other side of the chamber, whose responsibility for the existence of these problems is equal with ours, are striving to evade their share of that responsibility by opposing everything which they think contemplates the permanent retention and government of the territory acquired as one of the incidents of a war initiated to accomplish the grandest purpose that ever moved a nation to arms. Instead of sharing manfully and courageously this new responsibility, they present to the country and to the world the humiliating spectacle of advocating the policy of abandonment—a policy they themselves would have been ashamed of and would have denounced as cowardly and dishonorable could these same consequences have been seen the day we declared war as clearly as they now appear.

So far as it is claimed that this bill or any other act on the part of the Republican party or its representatives affords evidence of a purpose to hold permanently and forever govern our newly acquired territory by an unrestrained or despotic power, or without reference to the future capacity of these islands ultimately to share with us all the blessings of political freedom and the beneficent advantages of Statehood, I must emphatically deny it. There are a few distinguished leaders of the Democratic party who fondly cling to the notion that this ghost, which they call imperialism, may yet be vitalized and made a living issue upon which to divide the American people and obtain for their party control of the Government. To accomplish this, however, you must employ something more than mere assertion or bombastic declamation; you must find something more tangible than the evidence furnished by the pending bill—a bill which merely contemplates the raising of sufficient revenue to enable the poor, distressed people of Puerto Rico to maintain under the authority of the United States Government and secure for their children and themselves the necessary means of acquiring a common school education.

Since acquiring these islands there has been no authoritative party utterance nor declaration on the part of the Government or the Administration that could be construed into a purpose, or the evidence of a purpose, of holding in any other way or under any other form of government our insular territory than that under which we have always held territory belonging to the United States, and for almost half a century have held and governed the territories of Alaska, New-Mexico and Arizona. The territorial extent of a nation's domain does not constitute imperialism. Imperialism is the forcible, despotic rule and dominion over States originally separate, whereby through vast provinces people are subjected to the rule of a despot. It is this that strikes terror to the minds of so many at the mere mention of the word "imperialism." Imperialism, in the sense of despotic rule, can never have a place in our Republic except by the destruction of the Republic itself and the extirpation of the American ideal. With such imperialism Republicanism is relentlessly at war. The conditions that necessarily produce imperial despotism cannot and never will be tolerated in our American life. But I will tell the gentlemen what can be done, what the American people are doing and will ever continue to do: We can and we will make an imperial domain a republic.

Mr. Eddy, of Minnesota, said that all the dolorous predictions made against the bill would soon be relegated to the Democratic chamber of horrors for use at some future time, when a great emergency arose. He would support the bill, he said, believing it to be the best measure attainable to establish a sound fiscal system in Puerto Rico.

A NEW-YORK REPUBLICAN'S OPPOSITION.

Mr. Tompkins, of New-York, announced that he was not in accord with the majority of his Republican associates on this bill. He failed to see in it, he said, that justice and fairness which characterized the policy of the Republican party. He believed, with his party, in the doctrine of protection, but that party did not uphold a protection unjust or discriminating against particular States or Territories. He insisted also that even if Congress had the power to act in this way, the circumstances in Puerto Rico would make such an act a flagrant injustice and a repudiation of promises to the Puerto Ricans.

Mr. Tompkins declared that the conditions in Puerto Rico had not changed since the President's Message, except for the worse. If we desired to retain the respect of the world we should keep steadily in mind our promises and our obligations to these island people.

Mr. Powers, of Vermont, said that the issues involved were the most momentous since the Civil War. As such the issues should be met as American citizens, not as politicians, as he who served his country best served his party best. After reviewing the constitutional questions involved Mr. Powers declared that the acquisition of Puerto Rico had brought to the island the same rights and privileges as Arizona, New-Mexico or any of the other Territories.

Mr. Broussard, of Louisiana, opposed the bill and disputed the figures given by Mr. Payne, particularly in reference to sugar and rice. As to the latter article he said that Puerto Rico afforded a large market for the American product which should be retained.

DEFENDING ANTI-IMPERIALISTS.

Mr. Thayer, of Massachusetts, closed the day's speeches with an energetic protest against the attacks made on the anti-imperialists as copperheads and traitors. He declared that if the Government announced its purpose to give independence to the Filipinos not another shot would be fired. "Can we afford," he asked, "to ignore the aspirations of ten million people for self-government?

"We are not ashamed of the company we keep," exclaimed Mr. Thayer. "In all matters pertaining to the welfare of the country, the prosperity of our people and the perpetuation of American institutions, we prefer the counsel and advice of Boutwell, Hoar, Hale and Fuller to that of Hanna, Platt, Quay and Beveridge."

Mr. Thayer paid an eloquent tribute to the American flag, and said there was only one thing that could happen to the flag worse than having it hauled down, and that was to have its glorious message stultified.

At 5 o'clock the House adjourned until Monday.

## GOVERNMENT FOR PUERTO RICO.

REPRESENTATIVE COOPER INTRODUCES A BILL ON THE LINES OF THE FORAKER MEASURE.

Washington, Feb. 24.—Chairman Cooper of the House Committee on Insular Affairs to-day introduced a bill providing a government for Puerto Rico. It follows in the main the bill on that subject prepared by Senator Foraker, with a more detailed statement of the constitutional guarantees against ex post facto laws, for free speech, free religion, etc. The bill fixes the capital at San Juan and establishes a Governor and a staff of island officials, a legislative branch of two houses and a judicial system, similar to the general provisions of the Foraker bill, with additional restrictions on the legislative powers and procedure.

Mr. Cooper says the bill is introduced on his individual responsibility and is not a committee measure.

## TO ADMIT BOOKS AND WORKS OF ART FREE

Washington, Feb. 24.—An amendment to the Puerto Rican bill was introduced in the Senate today by Mr. Culberson, permitting the free importation into Puerto Rico of works of art and scientific and literary works from Spain for ten years.

## *MONTANA RIVALS FACE TO FACE.*

SENATOR CLARK AND MARCUS DALY BEFORE THE ELECTIONS COMMITTEE—THE LATTER DOES NOT TESTIFY.

Washington, Feb. 24.—Senator Clark and Marcus Daly, the rival millionaires of Montana, faced each other the greater part of to-day before the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections in the investigation of Mr. Clark's election to the United States Senate. Mr. Clark sat behind his attorneys and Mr. Daly on the opposite side of the room. Mr. Daly wore a pleasant smile throughout the day, and Mr. Clark maintained an entirely unruffled countenance. It had been expected that Mr. Daly would be called to the witness stand, but he was not. The day was given up to J. R. Toole, an especially close friend of Mr. Daly.

Mr. Toole's testimony covered the Senatorial contest from the Daly side of the question. He also related many particulars concerning the capital contest, placing the total expenditure in behalf of Anaconda in that fight at from $350,000 to $450,000.

W. C. Conrad also testified. He was a candidate for the Senate in opposition to Mr. Clark. He said that he spent no money in the Senatorial campaign proper.

## *NEW PHILIPPINE COMMISSION.*

FOUR OF THE FIVE MEMBERS HAVE BEEN SELECTED.

Washington, Feb. 24.—It was officially announced late this afternoon that four of the five members of the new Philippine Commission had been selected. They are Judge Taft, of Ohio; General Luke E. Wright, of Tennessee; Henry C. Ide, of Vermont, and Professor Dean C. Worcester, of Michigan. The fifth member will be announced later. It is generally believed he will be Bernard Moses, of California. The personnel of the Commission, therefore, will probably be as follows:

Judge WILLIAM H. TAFT, of Ohio, president.
Professor DEAN C. WORCESTER, of the present Commission.
General LUKE E. WRIGHT, of Tennessee.
HENRY C. IDE, of Vermont.
BERNARD MOSES, of California.

General Luke E. Wright is a well known lawyer of Memphis, a veteran of the Civil War, and a friend of Judge Taft, the head of the Commission, before whom he has practised. He was formerly a partner in practising law with Senator Turley, of Tennessee.

Henry Clay Ide was born in Barnet, Vt., on September 18, 1844. He was educated at St. Johnsbury Academy, and was graduated at Dartmouth College in 1866 at the head of his class. From 1866 to 1868 he was principal of the St. Johnsbury Academy, and in 1869 was principal of the Arlington (Mass.) High School. He was admitted to the Vermont bar in 1870, and a year later began the practice of law in St. Johnsbury, which has since been his home. He is regarded as one of the leading lawyers of Vermont. He is a Republican in politics. He was State Attorney for Caledonia County in 1876-'78; State Senator, 1882-'86; president of the Republican State Convention in 1884 and delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1888. In 1891 he was nominated as Chief Justice of Samoa by the United States, and was confirmed by Great Britain and Germany, the other parties to the treaty. He rendered valuable service there for over a year, but the failing health of his wife, who remained in St. Johnsbury, caused his resignation in the summer of 1892.

Bernard Moses has been professor of history and political economy in the University of California since 1876. He was born in Burlington, Conn., on August 27, 1846, and was graduated at the University of Michigan in 1870. He won the degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Heidelberg in 1873. Among his published works are "Politics" (with W. W. Crane), "Federal Government in Switzerland," "Democracy and Social Growth in America" and "The Establishment of Spanish Rule in America."

## LAWTON'S PLAN FOR PHILIPPINES.

A FORCE OF NATIVE POLICE TO REPLACE REGULAR TROOPS.

Washington, Feb. 24.—Just before his death, after giving much thought to the subject, General Lawton had worked out a plan for the maintenance of order in the Philippines after the close of actual war, which was submitted to General Otis, and presumably is the plan which will commend itself to the War Department when the time comes to replace the Regular troops by other forces competent to preserve order. General Lawton's idea was to create a force of native police, whose officers, at first in all grades, and finally, as conditions improve, in the upper grades alone, shall be Americans. Some such force as this is now successfully employed in Cuba by General Wood under the title of Rural Police. Owing to the racial differences among the inhabitants of the Philippines, it was General Lawton's idea that there would be no difficulty in securing police who would be proof against disloyalty in the districts apart from those of their nativity to which they might be assigned.

That this theory was well founded is indicated by the successful use of the Macabebe tribe by General Lawton himself and by General Young later on in his chase after Aguinaldo in the north of Luzon. The natives, by their acquaintance with the country and the inhabitants, would be of great assistance in running down lawbreakers. Because of the similarity of feature and figure of the Tagals, the American troops have had great difficulty in distinguishing one individual from another, or in telling friend from foe. Indeed, there is a story in circulation among some of the Army officers who have just returned to Washington from Manila that the Army actually captured Aguinaldo in Cavité Province, put him in jail for fifteen days as a suspicious amigo, and then released him only to hear of his identity after he got away. The ability of the Philippine leader to make himself up as a Chinaman, or "Chino," as they are called in the Philippines, is said to be remarkable, and only a native is able to penetrate such a disguise.

## *DEMOCRATS AGAINST THE SHIPPING BILL.*

Washington, Feb. 24.—An informal conference of the Democratic members of the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries was held to-day in reference to the Minor Shipping Subsidy bill. It was the general agreement that neither of the bills proposed by the majority was satisfactory. Representative Fitzgerald, of Massachusetts, proposed several amendments extending the time within which Americans can purchase ships abroad, allowing vessels to be purchased anywhere and operated under the American flag, and requiring for every ten of foreign shipping brought in an equivalent in American shipyards.

# PACIFIC CABLE SURVEY

A THOROUGHLY PRACTICABLE ROUTE FOUND BY THE NERO EXPEDITION.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Feb. 24.—Rear-Admiral Bradford has received the final report of the Pacific cable survey made by the collier Nero under his direction, and from the soundings obtained he is now having a map of the ocean bed made by the hydrographic officers of his bureau. Lieutenant-Commander Hodges, who commanded the Nero most of the voyage, relieved Commander Belknap at Manila, and is one of the principal cable experts of the service. In his official report he expresses complete satisfaction with the feasibility of the route selected by Admiral Bradford. This involves a landing at Midway Island, the only habitable spot in the Pacific Ocean between Hawaii and Guam, except in Germany's Caroline group, which could not be used for an American cable.

The results of the Nero's expedition are given in the following brief extracts from the voluminous report of Commander Hodges:

From the date of sailing from San Francisco, April 22, 1899, to date of arrival at same, February 11, 1900, a total of 288 days 19 hours, the ship has steamed 29,283 knots. She has been at sea 240 days, 5 hours, and at anchor 48 days 14 hours. I took command of the Nero on August 8, 1899, at Manila Bay. As soon as the coal in the main hold had been turned over, on account of having been on fire—and I considered I could control it all, as the other holds could be flooded—the ship sailed on August 15 for Dingala Bay, east coast of Luzon, and arrived on the morning of August 19 and took up the survey where left off by beginning to run the traverse over the direct line back to Guam. This was completed, except a few soundings, to be taken on coming out, on September 7, having met with no obstacle that would obstruct a cable. As I believed my first duty was to run the direct line to Yokohama as soon as possible, before the northeast monsoon set in, I did not delay at Guam to take coal on board; also, I could not take coal without mixing it with that already on board, and I did not deem that prudent, as our coal had been on fire, and was still showing symptoms; and by the time we would reach Yokohama the main hold would be about empty, and fresh coal could be taken.

No obstruction was met between Guam and the Japanese coast, and October 10 the Nero started back and traversed the direct line to Guam, developing an eminently satisfactory, practical route. Captain Belknap was satisfied that Tarafofo was the best landing place for a cable at Guam. I took on board twelve hundred tons of coal at Guam, and, on the morning of November 12 proceeded to finish the sounding around the island. The southern route did not prove to be made longer by the offlying shoals, and I am satisfied it is far more practicable than a route around the northern end of the island could be, from the soundings that have been taken. The twenty fathom and one hundred fathom marks have been established at Tarafofo and San Luis d'Apra, as far as practicable. The drop off at the mouth of the harbor of San Luis d'Apra is so abrupt that, though I took a sounding as close in as was prudent in this ship, it fell to 234 fathoms.

SOUNDING RECORDS BROKEN.

I then proceeded to try to find a southern route to connect with our direct line to Midway, but struck the Nero Deep again, and am convinced that it cannot be got around with a cable. Here the two deepest casts and the two deepest temperatures ever taken were recorded. The depths are 5,160 fathoms and 5,269 fathoms, and the temperatures are 35.9 at 5,070 fathoms and 38 at 5,101 fathoms.

I then proceeded back to the vicinity of Tarafofo and began to traverse and develop the direct route to Midway. I will not attempt to go into details of the soundings, for they are all shown minutely on the forms for sounding record and the plotting sheets. I believe it to be sufficiently developed to make a satisfactory and practical route, and no doubt the most direct and satisfactory one that can be found.

We reached Midway on January 3, 1900. It was found as described in the sailing directions. Sand Island may have changed some in dimensions and form, but it is not noticeable to the eye. That a light frame building is still standing about the middle of the northern side, which was apparently built some years ago, goes to show that the elements do not treat it very severely. It seems as though the island could certainly accommodate a sufficient plant for a relay station. It has occurred to me that a vessel with proper plant could be moored there sufficient to accommodate the necessary persons until the shore plant could be made ready. There are no inhabitants. There is no food besides the fish, which abound, unless the sea birds and eggs and a few plover and curlew could be utilized. I would not recommend the water, even if it should become sufficiently freshened by standing in holes dug in the sand, but would most strongly recommend an evaporator. No doubt the soil could be utilized in time to raise some vegetables and articles of food that could be transported there and cultivated, and that some of the vegetation growing on similar soil at Guam, for instance, might be transplanted. Eastern Island might be made more fertile, from appearances. I believe the island to be a practicable site for the necessary buildings.

FROM MIDWAY TO HAWAII.

The traverse was continued from Midway to Waimea Bay, Oahu, Hawaiian Islands, which is an admirable landing. Nearly all the positions of the soundings are practically definite from the ordinary navigation point of view, though they are not so marked when a run of any consequence comes in. Every means and device known and available at sea has been used, and, as finally corrected on the forms and plotting sheets, after the last checks in the chronometers at Honolulu, they are as absolute as possible at sea.

To the best of my knowledge I do not believe a cable route was ever so extensively and thoroughly surveyed and developed. Not long after leaving Guam our provisions began to spoil from the effects of the climate. I was afraid at one time our flour and bread would have to be condemned and that it would be necessary to put for Honolulu for stores, and return to go on with the work. But we have been able to hold out, though every one is feeling the trial upon his stomach.

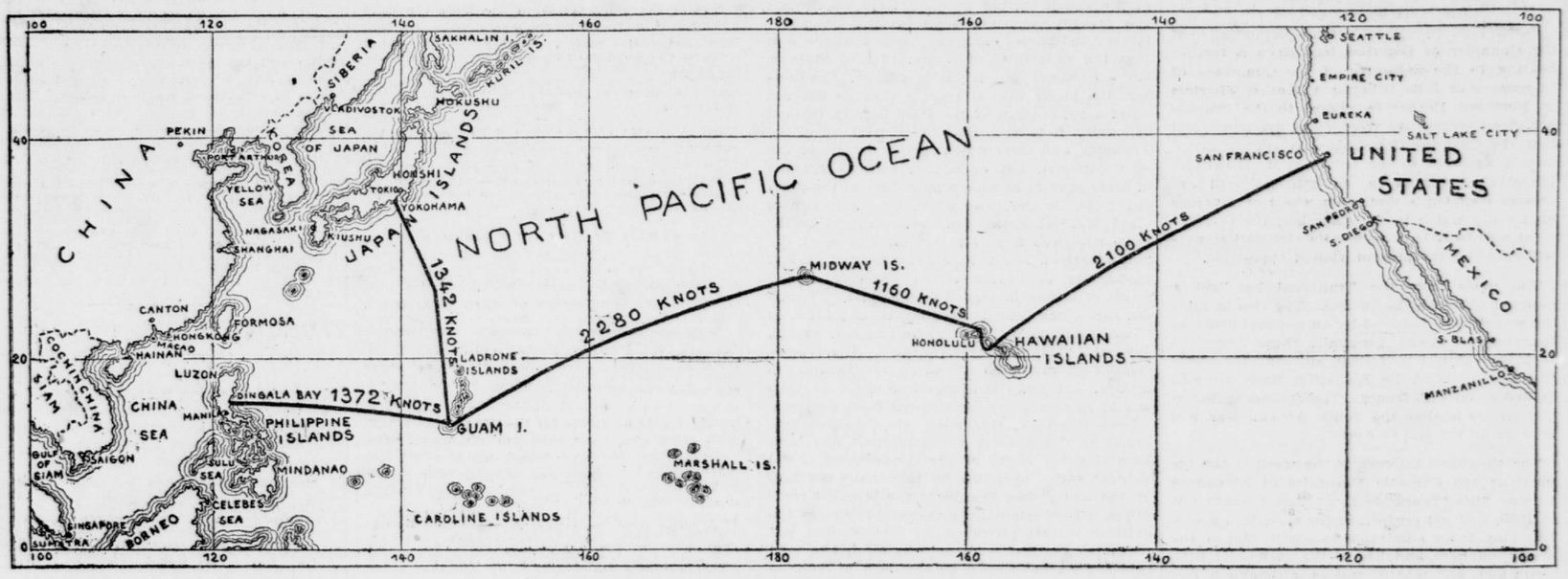
Before concluding, I not only wish to mention, but to emphasize, the patient and faithful manner the officers as well as the crew, with few exceptions, have carried on the work under the longest, most trying, tedious times as regards climate and food I have ever experienced at sea, but above all I wish to make most favorable mention of the untiring zeal and energy and excellent judgment of Lieutenant J. Hood, whose services have been most valuable.

Surgeon McCullogh, of the Nero, who went ashore and made a careful examination of Sand Island, reports in part as follows:

On the highest portion of the island and not more than thirty yards from the beach a one room house was constructed many years ago by the Pacific Mail Steamship Company, at a time when they intended using the island as a coaling station. A placard within announces that the writer thereof, the commander of a schooner, had been wrecked on the island in September, 1888, and had remained there until February, 1890; that during that time he had buried four of his crew. He also stated that by digging four feet at an indicated point water, "and good water, too," could be obtained. It was near this house that the daikon was growing, and there was a number of the plants growing near by. From this I infer that with care and fertilization many vegetables of economic value could be grown. In 1867 it was reported that on the adjacent Eastern Island about five acres of a vegetable mould of a foot in depth existed, and it would be well worth transporting a sufficient quantity of it to improve the soil of this part of Sand Island, which I regard as the most suitable for habitation. Eastern Island is apparently much more luxurious in vegetation, and would probably repay careful investigation.

## *BABY DRINKS CARBOLIC ACID.*

The eighteen months' old son of Alfred S. Schayer, of No. 78 Union-st., Newark, while playing in his father's barn yesterday afternoon, found a bottle containing carbolic acid, and drank out of it. He died shortly after.




ROUTE FOR A PACIFIC CABLE SURVEYED BY THE NERO EXPEDITION.


## THRONG OF GRIP VICTIMS.

**Bellevue Dispensary Has a Record-Breaking Day with Patients.**

Yesterday was a record day in Bellevue Dispensary. More than 800 prescriptions were filled and almost as many patients had their ailments diagnosed and treatment given by the fifty physicians who were present from 7 in the morning till 5 at night.

Dr. A. Burney Cannon, who has charge of the dispensary, said the majority of the cases were those of grip, hard colds and other pulmonary and bronchial troubles. Grip, he said, was prevalent in the city at present.

# "77"

**breaks up**

# GRIP

**Colds that hang on.**

**"Seventy-seven"** breaks up hard, stubborn Colds that hang on known as Grip.

"77" restores the checked circulation (indicated by a chill or shiver), starts the blood coursing through the veins, and breaks up a fresh Cold in one day.

## White and Gold.

Dr. Humphreys' Manual, Edition de Luxe, mailed free. Tells about the care, treatment and cure of the sick. A chapter especially on the Diseases of Children.

Humphreys' Homeopathic Medicine Co., Cor. William & John Sts., N. Y.


## Financial.

## *The Financial World.*

Two topics have principally engaged attention in the Street the past week; one, the war; the other, Third Avenue affairs. The former seems to exert about as much visible influence on the market as would a yacht race or a football game; the latter has very considerably contributed to give us a mixed up condition of things among large moneyed interests which has made trouble. An irregular and generally lower market has been the consequence. It would be too much to say that the Third Avenue trouble was alone the cause of the unsatisfactory market we have had. It was not. But it was a powerful contributing cause. When people whose operations are large enough to influence prices, get working at cross purposes, the effect extends beyond the immediate circle of disturbance; as other people, not directly involved, hold off until the trouble becomes less acute. Yesterday, Third Avenue stock dropped to 74½, and closed very near that figure. The interpretation the Street put upon this collapse was that a receivership was impending, and that it might be announced over Sunday. It usually happens that when a stock drops and drops as Third Avenue has been dropping, it strikes its lowest with the shock of the receiver's appointment. This may be the case in this instance.

Probably it makes no great difference whether the reorganization of the finances of this much mismanaged company be done through the customary medium of a receivership, or by syndicate operations without one. Something must be done, and that speedily, to protect the property, considering the number of unsecured creditors it has, who will want to protect themselves by putting liens on it. This might be a fruitful cause of trouble in the final settling up; hence a receivership may, under the present circumstances, be the easiest method of procedure. Had the managers of the company stuck to Kuhn, Loeb & Co., the way out would have been clear. Why they did not, has not at this time become known publicly; but the common impression is that whoever was responsible for the break away, is sorry he did it. The fact is much commented on, as an example of the reckless mismanagement of the company, that a dividend could be declared on the stock within ten days of mechanics liens being filed on the property.

Mr. Keene's name has figured considerably in the papers in connection with the business, and he is reputed to have been a large loser through loans made on the stock when it was selling above par. Those who know that gentleman's quickness of operation, however, take leave to doubt whether he could be much of a loser, seeing he had time to discover how things were going after he had made the loan and before the market for the stock had become demoralized. But that the impression does prevail in certain quarters that he has been a heavy loser, may be inferred from the vehement remark of one of the Metropolitan people—"We have given him a dose of the medicine he gave us last December." This remark lets in a little light on the cross currents running in the market. When Mr. Keene was told of it, he smiled dryly, and said he hoped his friends would not waste sympathy on him.

While Third Avenue has been going down, there has also been a decline in Brooklyn Traction, Manhattan and Metropolitan. Some sympathetic heaviness in these stocks would be natural under the circumstances; but the real cause is undoubtedly the apprehension that the State Board of Tax Commissioners may assess the franchises of these companies at such figures as will greatly increase the taxes upon them. The Board has been increasing the valuations of corporate franchises in the smaller cities of the State, and will begin their work in this city the coming week. The Consolidated Gas Company is equally involved with the traction companies. People's Gas went down several points, quite rapidly one day, from above par, but found support when it struck 98. Bear points on it came hot over the wires from Chicago, when it was said that every politician was selling it short. There seemed to be a little too much bear company. The selling was accompanied by rumors that the Ogden Gas Company—the opposition concern—had been able to raise money to enable it to branch out. People's Gas may go lower, but the company is earning over 6 per cent on its stock; and this ought to be a purchase on all soft spots at any figure below current quotations.

Among the prominent industrials, an advance and subsequent decline is to be noted in American Tobacco; and a weakness the latter part of the week in the steel stocks, which is not to be accounted for by any known conditions of the steel industry. A raid on Leather common one day was set down by the smart guessers as part of the "medicine" which was being dosed to Mr. Keene. Sugar hangs about 111 to 112, without much doing in it. On Wednesday, March 7th, the directors act on the dividend—that dividend which Mr. Havemeyer at the last meeting intimated might be in danger. "It will be 6 per cent or nothing," is a prediction credited to an active operator. The stock does not at this time act as if it would be either, but if either comes, Sugar will furnish the traders with some lively movements to chase eighths and quarters on.

The coal stocks have been exceptionally firm in a generally weak market. This is natural. The prosperous condition of the coal trade was set forth in this column last week; also the views of leading bankers and railroad managers on the outlook for it, and more especially for the bituminous trade, this coal being now in growing demand from all parts of the world. Practically, the state of the trade now is, that sales of coal are only limited by the capacity of the seller to deliver. Of course it could not be that the bituminous trade should be so active without the anthracite trade being the same. The annual reports of the anthracite companies just published, show that it is. Deficits in earnings have become surpluses; surpluses have swollen enormously. These things are bound to tell on the prices of the stocks of properties whose earnings are made wholly, or largely, on the carriage or mining of coal; and this includes not only the coal companies proper, but the stocks of large systems, the Pennsylvania for example, which have a great coal business. The new contracts which go into force on April 1st, will be at a large advance in price per ton over those now prevailing. For the moment, the market is in a mixed and somewhat disordered state from causes which are local, and to a certain extent personal; but they do not affect trade conditions, nor the earnings of the companies, railroad or industrial; and it is well to keep these facts in mind, because as the market straightens itself out, the big earnings will carry up the stocks of the companies making them.

The possibility of higher rates for money again, is brought up by the immense expansion of loans and the weekly decreasing surplus reserve. This expansion is without precedent, and it is certainly not due to operations in Wall Street. The bank men all concur in the assertion that it is mercantile borrowing, a result of the general expansion of trade and the higher prices for everything the merchant or manufacturer has to buy. If he lays in the same stock he did a year ago, he has to borrow more because of its higher cost; which he will recoup when he sells at the advanced prices. The new currency bill, now about to become a law, will supply an amount of fresh currency which the experts variously estimate; but which will assuredly be enough to meet all legitimate requirements. It is interesting to note that the quick-on-the-trigger traders of the Street are already dealing in the proposed new 2 per cent bonds, "deliverable when issued."

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