

made an extended speech, taking strong grounds in favor of free trade with Puerto Rico. He said it was not because the tariff would keep out or let in certain products that Congress should act, but because the almost universal opinion of the people should be heeded—a sentiment which, he said, had been kindled by the manner in which Puerto Rico had come into the United States. He thought there was no need to fear that in extending the Constitution over Puerto Rico it would mean like action when legislation for the Philippines was under consideration. Each island and group should be dealt with separately and independently. It would be time enough to consider the Philippine tariff when it was reached.

Senator Perkins, as well as other members of the Puerto Rico Committee, wanted the bill agreed upon without compromise or amendment. A number of Senators expressed the opinion that a majority would vote for the bill as reported, and took occasion to criticize the unstable policy which was being pursued, saying that the constant changing had done more to shake the faith of the country than anything else.

Senator Simon, of Oregon, whose position was not known, went further than any other Senator in declaring his unalterable position in favor of free trade with Puerto Rico. He said no right existed to tax dependencies, and that if it was not intended to treat the new acquisitions as other acquired territory had been treated, they should be retained. He saw no menace to labor, manufacturing or agriculture in free trade with the islands, but a promise of free trade increase of commerce.

Senator Mason also took strong ground in favor of free trade with the islands, if they were to be retained as possessions or a part of the United States. He said that the trouble was not with Puerto Rico, but with the Philippines. This could be easily averted by asserting a determination not to hold the Philippines, but to grant them freedom and assist them to form a stable government. It would not be difficult then to enter into satisfactory trade relations with them, and laboring men would not then be threatened with cheap Malay labor, which, he said, seemed to be troubling a great many advocates of the present tariff.

Senator Spooner urged party harmony, and believed that the Senators would find some common ground on which differences could be adjusted. He was for the committee bill, as was also Senator Hale, who spoke against what he called the dangers lurking in attempting to control and to legislate for the distant islands of the Pacific.

SENATE AND HOUSE MAY NOT AGREE. A good deal was said in the caucus regarding the reception that the free trade proposition or the compromise would meet in the House of Representatives, where the tariff provision was adopted by a narrow majority, after a hard and bitter contest.

It was urged in favor of free trade that it would not be difficult for the House to reverse its action, especially in view of the fact that a number of Representatives had supported it with more or less reluctance, and that the apprehensions of others had been aroused by the public clamor excited by that action. On the other hand, the advocates of the compromise argued that the principle of the House provision was preserved by their proposition, and therefore that body would not seriously oppose it.

Whatever the result may be, however, in the Senate, there will be stubborn opposition to either proposition in the House of Representatives unless present indications are wholly misleading—so stubborn, indeed, as to excite an apprehension that if the majority of the Senate should adopt either free trade or the half-way tariff proposed, the House would refuse to agree to it. Inquiries among leading Republican Representatives to-day disclosed bitter hostility to both plans.

MANY AMENDMENTS PROPOSED. A DAY OF INFORMAL CONFERENCES ON THE PUERTO RICAN BILL.

Washington, March 13 (Special).—When the Senate met this morning the legislation in regard to the pending Puerto Rican legislation appeared to be as mixed and uncertain as it was when that body adjourned yesterday. Leading Republican Senators had been in consultation most of the forenoon and various propositions had been discussed, but no agreement was reached. One of the propositions which found strong advocates provided that goods imported into Puerto Rico from the United States should be exempt from duty, and that on products imported into the United States from Puerto Rico 15 per cent or some other percentage of the Dingley rates of duty should be imposed. It was argued that Senator Hoar would support the first half of this proposition, and that the Senators from Minnesota and North Dakota would support it in its entirety on account of the first half.

Chairman Payne and Messrs. Dalzell, Long and several other members of the Ways and Means Committee; Chairman Cooper, of the Committee on Insular Affairs, and many other Republican members of the House of Representatives, came over to the Senate in the course of the day and held conferences with individual Senators respecting the various plans of settlement that had been suggested. They were especially emphatic in their disapproval of what was called the "jug handle" scheme to charge the Puerto Ricans \$1,000,000 or more a year for the privilege of selling their goods in the United States, and at the same time allow free entry of goods from the United States into Puerto Rico. "An idiotic scheme" was what one prominent representative called it. The suggestion or proposition was also strongly opposed in the informal discussions between Senators by a number of the more influential and experienced members of that body, who expressed the opinion that it could not be satisfactorily explained or defended before the country.

So much interest did Republicans take in these informal discussions that Senator Turner, who delivered a carefully prepared speech in opposition to the pending bill on constitutional as well as "moral" grounds, spoke to empty chairs, his audience not numbering more than half a dozen Senators at any time. Mr. Turner is an anti-expansionist of the most ultra type, and his arguments reminded one of many of the speeches delivered in the House of Representatives in the Puerto Rican debate.

Senator Hoar proposed an amendment to the bill so as to provide for the free admission into Puerto Rico from the United States of fish, fresh, salted or dried; boots and shoes, and agricultural implements.

Senator Proctor introduced an amendment authorizing the President to appoint an officer of the Army or Navy as Governor of Puerto Rico. The President is to make the appointment "in his discretion," and confirmation by the Senate is required. It is also provided that the appointment and service shall not extend beyond three years from the passage of the act.

THE COOPER BILL COMPLETED. The sub-committee of the majority of the House Committee on Insular Affairs, which has been holding daily sessions for the last ten days to review and revise the Cooper bill, providing a

form of government for Puerto Rico, has completed that task, and the bill will be laid before the full committee for its consideration at its next meeting. A good many changes have been made in the original bill, but most of them relate to form rather than substance. A few, however, are of considerable importance, and the provisions of the measure as a whole have been improved. This is especially true of the section in which the powers of the Insular Legislature are enumerated and defined. The amount of bonded indebtedness which may be authorized, either on account of the whole island or of any municipal division or subdivision, is carefully prescribed and limited, and full and adequate provision must be made for the regular payment of the interest and the extinguishment of the principal within a period not exceeding twenty years. The amount of bonded indebtedness, including existing indebtedness, must not at any time exceed 5 per cent of the assessed valuation of taxable property, and the amount contracted in any one year must not exceed 1 per cent of said valuation for any and all purposes whatsoever.

LABORERS STRIKE IN PUERTO RICO. San Juan, Puerto Rico, March 13.—Another strike began yesterday among the workmen on the military road, in the Arecibo division. Hitherto the men have been paid forty cents a day, and they want fifty. Six hundred left work, but thus far they have been ordered to return to work. The contractor declares that they will make no concessions, as there are workmen available to fill the places of the strikers. A special police detail has been sent to the locality of the strike.

BISHOP WHIPPLE ARRIVES FROM SAN JUAN. Among the passengers who arrived here yesterday on the steamer San Juan from San Juan, Puerto Rico, were the Right Rev. Henry B. Whipple, Episcopal Bishop of Minnesota, and a large party of excursionists.

NAVAL STATION FOR GALVESTON. THE CITY OFFERS TO PRESENT A SITE TO THE GOVERNMENT. Washington, March 13 (Special).—The city of Galveston has offered the Navy Department a site for a naval station in its harbor, which, with the completion of improvements to the channel now in progress, is the only harbor in the Gulf States accessible to deep draught battleships. Secretary Long has received from the Common Council of that city a copy of the resolutions adopted on February 28, which recite the gratification of the city that Admiral Farquhar's fleet has been ordered to spend four days there, and after extending an invitation to the Secretary to be present on that occasion, continue as follows:

Resolved, That, desirous of showing the appreciation of our people of the constant evidence of the kindly regard of the Government of the United States for Galveston as a port in the Gulf of Mexico, the City Council, with the consent of the Legislature, hereby tenders such portion of Pelican Island as might be by the Government of the United States required for military and coast defenses, it being the desire of the City Council to designate the required area for its purposes, whereupon an appropriate deed can be perfected and delivered to the United States without further consideration than the employment of the area so designated.

Pelican Island, which commands the entrance to the harbor, and which is now being examined by the Army with a view to establishing a large fortification there, is about two miles long and a mile broad. Strategically it is admirably adapted for the use of the Navy, and naval officers are anxious to secure half a mile square of its surface for coal wharves and repair shops. It would be an excellent locality for a drydock for large ships, and is absolutely cut out of and separated from the cash balance in the Treasury, and the available cash balance will hereafter show a reduction of \$1,000,000. The offer of the site, and the present stations at New-London and Philadelphia were presented to the Government.

NO MORE ADMIRALS TO RETIRE. KEMPF ACCEPTS APPOINTMENT AS SECOND IN COMMAND TO REMEY.

Washington, March 13 (Special).—Rear-Admiral Louis Kempf has cheerfully accepted the detail as second in command to Admiral Remy on the Asiatic Station, and under orders which were issued to-day by Admiral Remy and himself, according to their personal staff officers, will sail from San Francisco on March 21 on the Japanese mail steamer Hong Kong Maru. Admiral Remy has selected for his aide Lieutenant John H. Shipley as flag lieutenant and Lieutenant Reginald R. Belknap as flag secretary. Admiral Kempf has not yet named his staff.

Admiral Remy is expected in Washington in a day or two to consult the authorities on his way to Manila. He will then learn the advantages the Administration expects to secure by having two officers of high rank on the Asiatic Station. These include the obvious desirability of always having one flag officer at Manila, leaving the other free to inspect the other islands, and to make visits of courtesy to Chinese and Japanese ports. It also prescribes that the officers' cars shall be turned at Manila, which is not a very healthy port, while the other car shall be turned at the other island for recuperation. Interacting in this manner will probably rob the Asiatic command of many of its territorial and other responsibilities, and the amount of detail are regarded as too much for a single fleet command.

MORE MONEY FOR THE NATIONAL GUARD. REQUEST OF ADJUTANT-GENERAL APPROVED BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON MILITIA.

Washington, March 13.—A large delegation of the most prominent members of the National Guard of the States was before the House Committee on Militia to-day to advocate increasing the annual appropriation to the militia from \$60,000,000 to \$70,000,000. The delegation included the Adjutant-Generals and the high officers of thirty-eight State organizations, many of whom came with strong letters from the Governors, endorsing the proposed increase of appropriation. The merits of the proposition were presented by General George R. Geiger, of the Ohio National Guard, and others in the delegation. The members of the committee expressed approval of the enlarged appropriation, and there is no doubt that a favorable report will be made on a bill granting the increase. Later in the day the delegation was presented to the President by General George H. Hartley, of Washington.

ROCK PENETRATED IRON SIDE OF VESSEL. Philadelphia, March 13.—The German freight steamer Briskavia, which struck a rock in the channel of the lower Delaware River a short time ago, causing a bad leak, has been placed in the League Island Navy Yard drydock for repairs. The vessel is of iron, and is one of the largest that ever came into this port, being 450 feet in length. The drydock is 450 feet long, so the Briskavia completely fills the basin. It is believed that it will cost at least \$10,000 to repair the damage to the ship. For fifty feet along the starboard side she was crushed in like an egg shell. Her heavy iron plates seemed to have offered no more resistance to the rock than if they had been made of paper. Not only were bolts wrenched out and seams opened, but the hull was split and jagged plates had been torn in the middle of the hull, and a man could stand erect in the cavity that the rocks had made.

PERMISSION FOR BERKELEY INSTITUTE. The Berkeley Institute, in Lincoln Place, yesterday obtained permission from the Supreme Court to mortgage its property for \$75,000 to pay off existing indebtedness. The institute's property is valued at \$88,000.

GOLD BILL READY TO SIGN.

CONFERENCE REPORT ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE—PROVISIONS EXPLAINED BY SECRETARY GAGE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, March 13.—The last step in the enactment by this Congress of a complete and comprehensive measure of currency reform was taken to-day when the House of Representatives by a vote of 166 to 120 accepted the conference report approved ten days or more ago by the Senate. To-day's vote showed an increased majority of six over that given in the House on December 18 for the original Republican caucus measure. On that the division was 190 to 150. Many changes have taken place in the membership of the House in the interim, but the two majorities of 40 and 46 given to the currency reform and debt refunding measure through which the party in power has sought to fulfil the pledges made in the financial plank of the St. Louis platform fairly indicate the strength of popular sentiment which has sustained and still sustains this effort to place the country's currency and credit on a rational and unassailable basis.

Last December eleven Democrats broke away from their party organization to support the Republican caucus gold standard bill. They were Messrs. Clayton, Driggs, Fitzgerald, Ruppert, Wilson, Levy, Scudder and Underhill, of New-York; Denny, of Maryland; McAleer, of Pennsylvania, and Thayer, of Massachusetts. All of them but two—Messrs. Ruppert and Wilson—voted to-day to accept the conference report. Since December 18, also, two silver Democrats, from Virginia and Alabama, have been unseated by the House and their places filled by Republicans.

The debate which preceded the adoption of the report was spirited and interesting, but was marked by a consciousness on both sides that with to-day's final action the contentions which have raged for so many years in Congress over forms of currency and standards of value have now passed beyond the range of vital and active politics.

It remains only for President McKinley to sign the bill to make it a law. Mr. Overstreet will take it to the White House to-morrow, and the President's signature will probably be affixed immediately.

STATEMENT OF SECRETARY GAGE.

Secretary Gage to-day made the following statement in explanation of the provisions of the bill:

The Financial bill, which now awaits only the signature of the President to become a law, has for its first object what its title indicates, the fixing of the standard of value and the maintaining at a parity with that standard of all forms of currency in the United States. It reaffirms that the unit of value is the dollar, consisting of 25.8 grains of gold nine-tenths fine, but from that point it goes on to make it the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury to maintain all forms of money issued or coined at a parity with this standard. It puts into the hands of the Secretary ample power to do that. For that purpose the bill provides in Treasury Notes of Issue and Redemption and transfers from the general fund of the Treasury's cash \$150,000,000 in gold coin and bullion to the redemption fund, that gold to be used for the redemption of United States notes and Treasury Notes of Issue. That fund is henceforth absolutely cut out of and separated from the cash balance in the Treasury, and the available cash balance will hereafter show a reduction of \$1,000,000. The offer of the site, and the present stations at New-London and Philadelphia were presented to the Government.

ISSUE OF GOLD CERTIFICATES. The measure authorizes the issue of gold certificates in exchange for deposits of gold coin, the same as at present, but suspends that authority whenever and so long as the gold in the redemption fund is less than \$100,000,000, and gives to the Secretary the option to suspend the issue of such certificates whenever the silver certificates and United States notes in the general fund of the Treasury exceed \$100,000,000.

The bill provides for a larger issue of silver certificates by declaring that hereafter silver certificates shall be issued only in denominations of \$10 and upward, except as to the general fund of the Treasury. Rooms is made for this larger issue of silver certificates in the way of small bills by another provision, which makes it necessary as fast as the present silver certificates are high denominations are broken up into the smaller bills, to cancel a similar volume of United States notes of small denominations and replace them with notes of denominations of \$10 and upward. The bill also provides for a clause which permits National banks to have only one-third of their capital in denomination under \$10.

INDIAN BILL IN THE SENATE. Washington, March 13.—The Senate Committee on Indian Affairs to-day completed consideration of the Indian Appropriation bill, and Mr. Thurston reported it to the Senate. The bill as reported carries an increase of \$1,148,863. The principal increase is for the support of Indian schools. All the House legislative provisions were stricken out, the committee holding that the bill should carry only appropriations.

A CABLE TO ALASKA PROPOSED. Washington, March 13.—A bill was introduced in the Senate to-day by Mr. Foster authorizing the construction by the Government of a cable from some point on the coast of the State of Washington to Cape Nome and other points in Alaska.

SALE OF THE JAMES G. TYLER PICTURES. A collection of pictures of sea and shore by James G. Tyler will be sold at the Fifth Avenue Art Galleries, No. 36 Fifth-ave., on Thursday and Friday evenings at 8 o'clock. James P. Sileo is the auctioneer. The pictures will be on exhibition at these galleries until the sale.

COLONEL ASTOR'S NEW COACH. It was announced yesterday that Colonel John Jacob Astor since his return from Europe had ordered an electric vehicle of the size of a Fifth-ave. stage, which he will put in service from Rhinecliff station, on the New York Central, to Rhinebeck, where Colonel Astor's summer home, Ferncliff, is. The coach is to come from one of the electrical companies in which Colonel Astor is interested. The distance from the Rhinecliff station to Rhinebeck village is about two miles, over excellent roads, and it is believed that the vehicle will be a great boon to those who live in that neighborhood, as now there is nothing but old-fashioned country conveyances to transport the passengers who have no private equipages.

POLICY OF CONTROLLER DAWES.

Controller Dawes, when asked what his course would be in connection with requests for National bank charters under the law, said:

The question of the best methods of preventing the abuse of the new law, which authorizes the establishment of banks of \$25,000 capital in towns with not exceeding three thousand population, has had my careful consideration. The law places the power of granting National bank charters in the hands of the Controller, and it should be his duty to see that it is not abused. The Controller is peculiarly charged with the protection of the depositors, and should use all the powers of his office to prevent the establishment of a bank by a community from passing into unworthy and irresponsible hands.

In view of the large number of applications for charters of small banks, I shall institute special inquiry, in addition to the usual examination as authorized by Section 5,169 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, whenever there is the slightest ground to suspect the existence of improper motives on the part of those applying for charters under the National system.

This course will also be followed in the case of state banks applying for leave to convert themselves into National banks, a special examination being made, as at present, in the affairs of each State bank previous to conversion.

It is essential to the welfare of the community that great care should be taken in this matter, and this office will endeavor in every way possible to prevent fraud and to do its duty.

PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE.

POPULISTS STILL FOR SILVER—MR. TURNER AGAINST THE PUERTO RICAN BILL.

Washington, March 13.—Personal explanations were made in the Senate to-day by Mr. Allen, of Nebraska, and Mr. Butler, of North Carolina, of their positions on the financial question. Both announced their belief in the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1. The statements were called out by reports to the contrary which had gained some circulation.

Mr. Turner, of Washington, began an extended speech on the Puerto Rican bill, maintaining that the pending measure clearly was unconstitutional. He expressed his belief that it would be so held if passed upon by the Supreme Court.

CAPTAIN MCALLA PARDONED.

RESTORED TO HIS FORMER STANDING IN THE NAVY BY THE PRESIDENT.

Washington, March 13.—President McKinley has granted a full and unconditional pardon to Captain Bowman H. McCalla, of the Navy, now serving in the Philippines. In 1890 Captain McCalla, then a commander, was convicted by court martial of striking a mutinous sailor with the back of his sword, and was sentenced to be suspended from the rank of Captain for three years. In 1891 the unpardonable portion of the sentence was remitted by the Secretary of the Navy. In view of Captain McCalla's conspicuous services in the war with Spain and later in the Philippines, the President has granted him a full pardon, which will restore him to his former rank and position.

GUARDING AMERICAN INTERESTS.

WARSHIPS ON THE WAY TO THE EAST AND WEST COASTS OF NICARAGUA.

Washington, March 13.—A telegram was received at the Navy Department to-day saying that the flagship Philadelphia and the battleship Iowa had arrived at Santa Barbara, Cal. The Iowa is on her way up the Pacific Coast to Puget Sound, where she will be docked at the naval station for a general overhauling. The Philadelphia is bound to the west coast of Nicaragua for the purpose of guarding the interests of the United States in case of any trouble in that quarter, resulting from the threatened invasion of Costa Rica by a revolutionary party from Nicaragua. Rear Admiral Kautz, commanding the Pacific Station, is on board the Philadelphia, and will be in command of the American forces on the isthmus. The cruiser Detroit, originally selected for the duty of protecting American interests on the west coast of Central America, but it was found that she was not properly equipped for the service, and the Philadelphia was ordered south in her stead. The Maribhead has been ordered to the Mare Island Navy Yard for repairs. The cruiser Detroit, which has been ordered to look after American interests on the east coast of the British West Indies, is on her way to Greytown, which will be her headquarters while in those waters. As the Philadelphia will be on duty in the proposed Nicaragua Canal, the United States will be well represented in that quarter.

FOREIGN COMMERCE FOR FEBRUARY.

BOTH IMPORTS AND EXPORTS SHOW A CONSIDERABLE INCREASE.

Washington, March 13.—The monthly report of the imports and exports of the United States for February last shows as follows: Merchandise imports, \$68,774,159, of which nearly \$1,000,000 was free of duty. The increase for the month over January was \$1,400,000. Exports, \$115,765,782; increase, \$26,000,000. Gold exports, \$1,899,378; decrease, \$3,200,000. Exports of bullion, \$1,000,000; increase, \$1,400,000. Exports, \$4,552,641; increase, \$633,000. In the last eight months there was an increase in the imports of merchandise of \$127,877,734 compared with the corresponding period of last year. The imports of raw cotton from the West Indies, a decrease in the imports of gold of \$1,288,310 and an increase of \$12,628,800 in the exports of gold. The imports of silver show an increase of \$75,562 and the exports of silver a decrease of \$3,095,325.

THE FIRST DRAWINGROOM.

SEVERAL AMERICANS PRESENTED AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE—SHAMROCKS BECOME FASHIONABLE.

London, March 13.—The first drawingroom of the season was held at Buckingham Palace to-day by the Princess of Wales, in behalf of the Queen, this being the first Court function at which the Princess has appeared for nearly two years. The weather was bright and sunny, and immense crowds of people lined the approaches to the Palace. The Diplomatic Corps attended in force. Mr. Henry White, the United States Charge d'Affaires; Lieutenant-Commander J. C. Colwell, the Naval Attaché, and Colonel Samuel S. Sumner, the Military Attaché, representing the United States Embassy. The following Americans were presented: Mrs. Edwin Abbey, wife of the artist; Mrs. George Eastin, of Lexington, Ky.; Mrs. Hugh R. Griffin, president of the Society of American Women in London; Mrs. Sanger and Miss Caroline Drayton, both of New-York, the latter being the daughter of Mr. Coleman Drayton.

A large number of the bouquets carried, as well as those on the coats of the coachmen and footmen, contained shamrocks, which are not often seen at the Palace.

The Queen's recognition of the dash of the Irish soldier, her order to wear the shamrock on St. Patrick's Day, has been noted by the fashionable florists. A syndicate was formed a day or two among the Covent Garden market growers, and three agents were sent to Ireland with instructions to buy up as much shamrock as they could lay hands on, and ship it to London.

THE REVOLUTION IN COLOMBIA.

KINGSTON, JAMAICA, MARCH 13.—The latest news from Colombia is to the effect that the revolution will last for the next twelve months, as the Gov-

MISSING FOR MORE THAN A YEAR.

WILLIAM H. SPOWERS, IRON MERCHANT, DISAPPEARED ON OCTOBER 25, 1898.

It was made public yesterday that William Harvey Spowers, aged thirty, at one time an iron merchant in this city, disappeared on October 25, 1898, and that he has not been seen by his relatives or friends since that time. Although Mr. Spowers is said to have disappeared nearly one and one-half years ago, no public effort until now has been made to locate him. Mr. Spowers was the son of John J. Spowers, president of the Jersey City Galvanizing Company, and was at the head of the firm of W. H. Spowers & Co. of No. 20 West-st. He was married and had one child, a boy. His wife has apartments at No. 18 West One-hundred-and-fourth-st. He was last seen on October 25, 1898, entering an elevator in the old building at the corner of Broadway and Murray-st. No definite cause is assigned for his disappearance. He left a business said to be worth \$5,000 a year to him. The business is not running now. He is said to have made an assignment and to have drawn \$600 from a bank just before disappearing. It is said that the firm met all of its liabilities when its affairs were settled up. An effort was made to see Mrs. Spowers and Mr. Spowers last night, but neither could be found. Mr. Spowers, who has been living at the Empire Hotel this winter, started west a week ago for a prolonged trip to the Southwestern States. And Mrs. Spowers has not been seen at her apartments for several days.

NO CHANGE IN DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

RAILROADS WILL GIVE SAME RATES TO KANSAS CITY AS TO PHILADELPHIA.

Kansas City, Mo., March 13.—The sub-committee of the Democratic National Committee met again to-day and resumed the discussion of plans for the National Convention in July. It was decided that when the committee adjourns its meeting here it will be to some time in May. Discussion of the subject with the local railroad committee, the sub-committee decided that it could not change the date for holding the convention from July 4 without the consent of the entire committee, and the opinion was expressed that no change of date will be made. The rate submitted by the railroad committee was passed upon in an effort to stamp out the same as that given to the Republican National Convention at Philadelphia.

Yan Governor William J. Stone, a member of the committee, when asked by a reporter regarding the possibility of Benjamin Harrison contesting with President McKinley for the Republican nomination, said: "That's all stuff and nonsense. McKinley will be renominated by acclamation. No other candidate will even be mentioned. Then we'll beat him."

HONOLULU PLAGUE SITUATION.

BIG SUGAR STORES MAY HAVE TO BE BURNED BY REASON OF INFECTED FROM RATS.

San Francisco, March 13.—The steamer Gaelic, from the Orient via Honolulu, brings advices from Honolulu under date of March 3, to the effect that no new cases of plague had developed for three days. One new case had been reported from Kahului, Maui. The situation in Honolulu was better than it had been for a month.

The big Hawaiian Commercial and Sugar Company's store at Kahului, containing \$125,000 worth of merchandise, besides a large amount of lime fertilizers and cement, together with all the warehouses at Kahului pertaining to it, are under guard, awaiting the determination of the health authorities whether it will be burned or not. All the employes and their families are in quarantine. This has been done as the result of finding plague infected rats in and about the store and warehouse and the presence of large numbers of rats there. At a meeting of the representatives of the various insurance companies and their attorneys, it was decided not to pay losses on buildings destroyed by the civil authorities in an effort to stamp out the plague. This action on the part of the insurance companies will result in many claims being made against the Government for the losses sustained in the fire.

FRENCH TREATY PROSPECTS.

FRANCE PREPARED TO EXTEND THE TIME FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE MEASURE.

Paris, March 13.—The French Government has not yet received a request from Washington to extend the time for the ratification of the commercial treaty, but it is willing that more time shall be taken if America wishes it.

It was said at the Foreign Office that France fully appreciates the Senate's complete freedom of action, and did not see in the proposed reference of the treaty to the Finance Committee any step inimical to its prospects. On the contrary, the French Government is confident that the same good will would be shown in the Finance as in the Foreign Relations Committee. Meanwhile, however, no action will be taken here, because little doubt is felt that the treaty can be ratified in Paris in time if its ratification is assured in Washington.

NEWFOUNDLAND'S LEGISLATIVE MUDDLE.

GOVERNOR MCALLUM PREVAILS UPON THE LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION TO TAKE OFFICE.

St. John's, N. F., March 13.—Mr. Bond, leader of the Opposition in the Legislature, held another conference with Governor McCallum this afternoon, when, it is understood, a compromise was arranged. Mr. Bond is said to have agreed to take office to-morrow if his followers confirm the arrangement, on condition that the Governor grant a general election in November, instead of May.

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KINGSTON, JAMAICA, MARCH 13.—The latest news from Colombia is to the effect that the revolution will last for the next twelve months, as the Gov-

ernment is obstructing the Liberals in every conceivable way, and at the same time advancing its to its treasury. Business is at a standstill in every part of the republic, and there is very little hope in the market. It is reported that on March 4 an officer and a soldier on duty at Cartagena quarrelled, and the former struck off the latter's head with his sword.



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