New-York Tribune.

VOL. LXIII....No. 20,862. To-day, cloudy and warmer; rain or snow at night. To-morrow, rain or snow; fresh east to south winds. NEW-YORK. TUESDAY. DECEMBER 29. 1903.—FOURTEEN PAGES.— Copyright, 1903, by The Tribune Association. PRICE THREE CENTS.

BOND ISSUE BY JAPAN.

GUARANTEE OF £10,000,000.

To Hasten Seoul-Fusan Line and Cover Military Expenses.

Tokio, Dec. 28.—An extraordinary meeting of the Privy Council to-day approved the issue by the Cabinet of an emergency ordinance authorizing the guarantee of the principal and interest of an issue of 10,000,000 yen debentures for the purpose of expediting the work on the Seoul-Fusan Railway, which is expected to be finished by the end of next year.

The ordinance also provides for all possible military expenses for the protection of the railway and other interests.

It is believed that unless Russia modifies her reply Japan will immediately safeguard Corea, though such a step will not necessarily mean war with Russia.

NEW ULTIMATUM RUMOR.

Report That Russia Must Reply to Japan Before January 10.

London, Dec. 29.—Rumor continues busy with the Russo-Japanese crisis. The latest report credits Japan with insisting that Russia shall reply to the last note before January 10 on the ground of the rapid approach of Russian naval reinforcements to the scene of action. Inquiry in the best informed Japanese quarters, however, fails to find support for this statement.

Baron Hayashi, the Japanese Minister, paid a long visit to the Foreign Office yesterday. When seen afterward he said he had no further information.

According to "The Daily Chronicle," the Japanese government outbid the Russian government, and purchased the warships Moreno and Rivadavia, both of which are now nearing completion at Genoa.

Other papers print a report that the Japanese Ministerial Council has demanded to transfer $25,000,000 from the educational fund for emergency purposes.

"The Daily Telegraph's" Tokio correspondent says that after the meeting of the Ministerial Council the Emperor entertained the councillors at luncheon. The Cabinet then held a meeting, which was prolonged until late at night. The correspondent states that the Finance Minister on Sunday entertained the leading bankers at dinner, for the purpose of discussing with them the best means of meeting the emergency, and says:

The Japanese officials have already taken over control of the Seoul-Fusan Railway. The president of the railway has been dismissed and been replaced by M. Furnechi, chief of the Japanese Railway Board. The Japanese fleet has been organized and disposed in divisions and squadrons, prepared to check any Russian movements from Vladivostok or Port Arthur.

The correspondent adds that Baron de Rosen is still confined to his house by illness.

"The Daily Mail's" Peking correspondent sends an unconfirmed report that in case of war China will join forces with Japan and that Japan will send an army corps to Peking.

RUSSIA IN MANCHURIA.

M. Lessar Replies to Superfluous Chinese Questions.

Peking, Dec. 28.—Lien Fang, First Secretary of the Board of Foreign Affairs, visited the Russian Minister, Paul Lessar, to-day and requested information concerning the intentions of the Russian government regarding the evacuation of Manchuria.

M. Lessar in reply said that nothing could be done at present with a view to evacuation for two reasons. In the first place the minister pointed out that the cold weather made it impossible to remove the troops from their present position, there being no barrack accommodations to be had elsewhere, and in the second place it would endanger Russian interests to undertake evacuation while negotiations were going on between Russia and Japan for the reason that Japan might seize the opportunity to invade Manchuria.

The Chinese government is so alarmed at the prospect of becoming involved in the seemingly prospective war that it would prefer that Russia should remain in control of Manchuria. As an alternative the Foreign Office has indicated to the ministers that a settlement satisfactory to China would be that Russia and Japan should retain their respective treaty rights in Corea and Manchuria if they agree not to attempt to obtain further advantages in either country.

The Russian commander imperatively requested the Tartar general to disband his militia men and to disarm them. The Tartar general issued an order in accordance with this request, but it is understood the men are concealing their arms with the Tartar general's connivance.

BRITISH RESERVE ORDER.

Naval Officers and Men Warned of Active Service.

London, Dec. 28.—An Admiralty order issued at Portsmouth requires the officers and men of the British naval reserve to inform the authorities of the addresses where telegrams can be sent in case of emergency, should the men be required for active service. The order is generally connected with the rumors that the fleet in the Far East is to be strengthened. The authorities profess ignorance, however, concerning such a move.

ITALY EXPECTS NO WAR.

Russia Thought Unprepared—The Influence of the United States.

Rome, Dec. 28.—Following the receipt of reports from the Far East, a rather optimistic view concerning the difficulties between Japan and Russia is entertained in official quarters here. It is not believed that a conflict will take place soon, not only for climatic reasons, but because Russia is unprepared for war.

It is believed that Russia will first consolidate her warships in the Far East with the volunteer fleet in the Mediterranean, which now numbers [illegible] vessels. The vessels of the Mediterranean fleet have been purposely kept apart so that no idea might be given of the character or strength of the squadron.

In political circles the opinion prevails that the attitude of the United States government will have a definite influence in solving the situation, whether it sides with Japan and Great Britain or remains neutral.

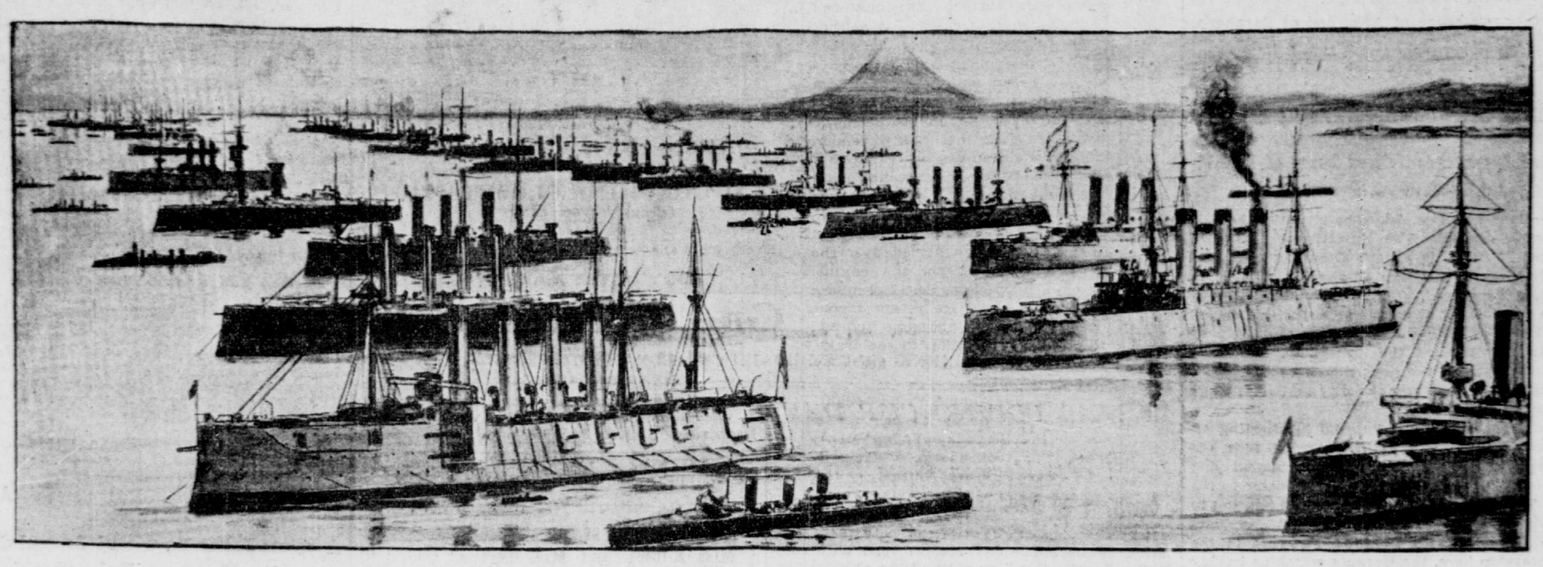
JAPAN WANTS TWO CRUISERS.

London, Dec. 28.—Japan is negotiating for the purchase of two Argentine war ships, the Moreno and the Rivadavia, now building at Genoa.

The Moreno is an armored cruiser of 7,700 tons displacement, 13,500 indicated horsepower, and hav-

Continued on fifth page.

JAPAN FACING RUSSIA—THE FLEETS OF THE TWO POWERS COMPARED.



THE RUSSIAN FLEET. THE JAPANESE FLEET.

Will there be war? Russia has established herself at Manchuria and made a new Sebastopol of Port Arthur, and now wishes to control Corea and be predominant in Northern China. At the moment, Port Arthur is, however, not fitted to deal with the needs of a fleet returning crippled from a naval action. There is a basin which will accommodate a dozen large ships, with a great shear-legs capable of lifting 80 tons. Fully £1,250,000 has been spent in deepening the harbor and approaches, and the place bristles with powerful modern guns. In January last the tonnage of the Russian Pacific squadron stood at 87,000; to-day it stands at 178,000. —(The Sphere.

STATE PLURALITY 27,647.

Assembly Vote Figures Show Republican Strength.

The Republican State Committee has compiled figures for members of Assembly last November, which show that the Republican plurality in the State was 27,647. The actual Republican plurality outside of New-York City was 112,535.

If the vote for Smith (independent Republican) in Fulton and Hamilton counties is added to that of Wood, the regular Republican candidate, and the normal Republican plurality of the IId Assembly District of Jefferson County be taken, the result shows a plurality of 107,694, outside of this city.

In 1898 the plurality for Roosevelt outside of this city was 102,316, and in 1902 the plurality for Odell was 133,389.

The showing is flattering to Republican prospects next year, when the up state counties can be relied upon, it is believed, to increase materially the majorities which they gave last November, an off year with no State ticket in the field.

Below are the figures by counties:

County.	Rep.	Dem.
Albany	6,142	——
Allegany	3,560	——
Broome	3,839	——
Cattaraugus	3,189	——
Cayuga	2,920	——
Chautauqua	5,816	——
Chemung	867	——
Chenango	2,172	——
Clinton	2,402	——
Columbia	502	——
Cortland	1,265	——
Delaware	779	——
Dutchess	331	——
Erie	3,799	——
Essex	1,651	——
Franklin	2,112	——
Fulton and Hamilton	‡1,567	——
Genesee	1,387	——
Greene	48	——
Herkimer	1,913	——
Jefferson	9,527	——
"	‡3,771	——
Kings	——	16,476
"	——	*1,380
Lewis	882	——
Livingston	43	——
Madison	2,885	——
Monroe	5,244	——
Montgomery	478	——
New-York	——	63,362
"	——	*56,503
Niagara	813	——
Oneida	——	736
Onondaga	6,557	——
Ontario	2,269	——
Orange	2,044	——
Orleans	2,464	——
Oswego	2,942	——
Otsego	1,532	——
Putnam	863	——
Queens and Nassau	——	4,909
Queens	——	*5,157
Rensselaer	1,816	——
Richmond	*261	141
Rockland	93	——
St. Lawrence	6,844	——
Saratoga	3,346	——
Schenectady	1,937	——
Schoharie	——	845
Schuyler	245	——
Seneca	218	——
Steuben	2,962	——
Suffolk	1,516	——
Sullivan	821	——
Tioga	2,149	——
Tompkins	1,021	——
Ulster	1,493	——
Warren	125	——
Washington	1,274	——
Wayne	2,408	——
Westchester	1,804	——
Wyoming	1,825	——
Yates	1,023	——

*Mayoralty plurality Greater New-York.
‡Combined vote of Wood and Smith.
‡Taking normal plurality for IId District.

SUMMARY.

Plurality as shown by the vote for Assemblyman in each Assembly District of the State..Rep. 114,116 Dem. 86,469 — Rep. 27,647

Plurality as shown by combining the vote for Wood and Smith in Fulton and Hamilton, as against Darling, considering the normal plurality in IId Assembly District of Jefferson, where there was no Democratic candidate in the field, and considering the vote for Assemblyman in Greater New-York ..... Rep. 109,275 Dem. 86,469 — Rep. 22,806

Plurality as shown by the vote for Assemblyman, except in Greater New-York, where the vote for Mayor is taken..Rep. 114,116 Dem. 64,370 — Rep. 49,746

Plurality as shown by combining the vote for Wood and Smith in Fulton and Hamilton, as against Darling, considering the normal plurality in IId Assembly District of Jefferson, where there was no Democratic candidate in the field, and taking the vote for Mayor in Greater New-York..... Rep. 109,275 Dem. 64,370 — Rep. 44,905

MACEDONIANS IN ARMS.

Rumor of Plans for Winter Campaign Against Turkey.

Salonica, Dec. 28.—The authorities are informed that four thousand Macedonian insurgents, under the leadership of eighty Bulgarian officers, are ready to invade Turkish territory. An order was issued here to-day requesting the Turkish officers to exercise extreme vigilance. It is rumored that the Second Army Reserve will again be called out.

UNION MEN FINED FOR CONSPIRACY.

Chicago Court Clerk Sentenced for Falsifying Records.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Six members of the Electrical Workers' Union were found guilty to-day of charges of conspiracy before Judge McEwen in the Criminal Court and all of them were fined. The indictments were returned by the grand jury for connection in an alleged plot to keep witnesses out of the jurisdiction of the court and to prevent them from testifying against Harry L. Pelkus and John Gallagher.

Pelkus, formerly a clerk in the office of the clerk of the Criminal Court, was remanded to the county jail to serve a three months' sentence for falsifying the record to show that Gallagher, known as a professional "slugger," who had been held to the grand jury, had been discharged.

BANK OFFICERS GUILTY.

Twining and Cornell Falsified Accounts of Monmouth Trust Co.

Freehold, N. J., Dec. 28.—Albert C. Twining, former president, and David C. Cornell, former treasurer, of the Monmouth Trust Company, of Asbury Park, were convicted to-day of falsifying the accounts and minutes of the company.

Samuel W. Kirkbride, of Asbury Park, who was on the stand when court adjourned last Thursday, was called in rebuttal when the trial began. He said that the Athletic Association of Asbury Park had turned over its property to James A. Bradley. It had previously been testified that Mr. Twining had drawn $500 from the Athletic Association's account to make up a deciency in the Mills estate account.

Mr. Twining was asked by Prosecutor Foster what authority he had for using $500 belonging to the Athletic Association to meet the note of the Mills estate.

Mr. Arrowsmith here interrupted, saying that that the Trust Company had overdrawn the Mills account, and that Mr. Twining took $500 of the Athletic Association's money to make up the deficiency.

Mr. Foster asked why so much had been taken when the deficiency was only about half the sum appropriated. Mr. Arrowsmith objected to the question and was sustained.

Before counsel for the defendants began their closing arguments Mr. Foster was asked to outline his summing up for the State. In response the prosecutor said the defendants were charged with embezzling a large portion of the funds of the Mills estate. "We have shown," he said, "that Twining was president and Cornell treasurer of the Monmouth Trust Company, which was the executor of the Mills estate. Twining testified that Cornell drew all the checks of the company. We have proved that $12,000 was taken from the Mills estate and only $5,000 put back. Now, we ask, where did the missing $7,000 go to? I contend that only Twining and Cornell had anything to do with the money."

At the end of the prosecutor's remarks John Hawkins, counsel for Cornell, said the defendants were not charged with keeping accounts incorrectly, but were accused of using a large amount of the funds of the Mills estate. He told the jurors to remember that no witness had testified that the defendants ever used any of this money for their own benefit. The principal evidence, he said, had been given by Bank Examiner Fredenburgh, who had testified that the books of the company had balanced to a cent. Mr. Hawkins contended that Cornell had a right to draw the transfer checks and to make them out to Twining, as the latter was president of the Monmouth Trust Company.

Mr. Hoffman, counsel for Twining, said the prosecutor had said he would prove that the defendants were thieves and robbers and that they had robbed the dead. He thought the State had failed utterly to prove these allegations.

Prosecutor Foster in his summing up produced various exhibits introduced at the trial, including the "Twining Specials." Judge Heisley delivered a brief charge.

The verdict was reached on the first ballot. The defendants were allowed to go home under bail, to await sentence. There are eleven other indictments against them, all of which go over until the January term.

OVER HORSESHOE FALLS.

A Man, Not Identified, Seen in a Boat Waving His Arms.

Buffalo, Dec. 28.—A special to "The News" from Niagara Falls says:

A boat containing a man passed down the river and over the Horseshoe falls this afternoon. The identity of the occupant of the boat is not known. The man could be seen standing up and waving his arms.

TIMID ST. LOUIS REPORTERS.

They Flee for Their Lives from a Pocket Electric Lamp.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

St. Louis, Dec. 28.—Circuit Attorney Joseph W. Folk, who in the last year has had indicted more than twenty persons for boodling, thought for a time this morning that some one was seeking revenge. Consternation prevailed when what looked like a new brand of infernal machine was pulled out of his voluminous mail. Newspaper men who were in the Circuit Attorney's office fled for their lives.

When the mysterious package was opened it was found to contain a pocket electric searchlight from an unknown Boston admirer, and a broad smile overspread Mr. Folk's face.

MORMONS URGED TO BREAK STRIKE.

Cannon, at the Tabernacle, Calls on Them to Take Miners' Places.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Salt Lake City, Dec. 28.—Angus M. Cannon, in an address at the Mormon Tabernacle, has called on the Mormons to fill the places of striking coal miners of Carson County, and thus break the strike. Cannon asked the bishops to repeat his words at the ward meetings, and give the widest possible publicity to the call for men. He said that the Utah Fuel Company wanted four hundred miners and told the wages offered. He urged young Mormons to heed the call and go to the mines.

The Mormons have been quietly fighting the United Mine Workers in the coal camps for the last few weeks, but until Cannon's address the Church did not openly take sides.

The tribute of the sweetest flowers from Sunny France is conveyed in Deletrez Perfumes.—(Advt.

MOB THREATENS JAIL.

Wants to Lynch Two Negroes Charged with Assaulting Women.

Council Bluffs, Iowa, Dec. 28.—A crowd is around the county jail, threatening to lynch two negro prisoners who are held for an alleged assault on two women on Friday night.

Most of the Council Bluffs policemen have failed to disperse the crowd. Mayor Morgan is attempting to induce the excited men to leave the jail.

The Council Bluffs militia company has been called out. The mob has battered down the doors of the jail.

Council Bluffs, Dec. 29, 1:30 a. m.—The mob is dispersing, having failed to secure the prisoners.

OPERATOR FOILS GANG.

Darkens Office—Summons Aid—Thieves Flee When Train Comes.

Phillipsburg, N. J., Dec. 28.—J. B. Gray, a detective, of this place, returned to-day with the story of an attempt to enter the Jersey Central telegraph and signal office west of Glendon, Penn., by two men who are believed to be members of the gang that has been robbing railroad stations, telegraph offices and switch towers, and holding up the men in charge.

The office near Glendon is in charge of J. H. Gear. He said that he first saw two men about the office about 1 a. m. yesterday, and shortly after heard them trying to get in. He seized his revolver, put out the light in the building and telegraphed the office at Mauch Chunk for help. It was slow in coming and after a time he groped his way to the keys and sent a second message, saying he must have assistance at once. Mauch Chunk then sent a message to Easton, advising those in charge there to send aid at once. A drill crew was sent to the scene of trouble and they found that the red lamps had been taken from the targets by the robbers and placed on the tracks signalling those in both directions. Shortly after the first drill crew arrived, four others, with Detective Gray, reached the spot.

The men made a thorough search for the robbers, but failed to capture them. They tracked them in the snow through a long gully up the hill from the railroad to a wagon road, where they lost the trail. The men who reached the scene first say that they saw the robbers running off in that direction.

Gear weighs 180 pounds and is an athletic looking young man. He came from Washington, D. C., and boards at Bethlehem, where his brother is attending Lehigh University, and is left tackle on its football team. When assistance reached Gear he was badly frightened, and only consented to work the night out when Detective Gray promised to stay with him.

NEW HEAD FOR SEABOARD

J. S. Williams to Resign, According to Baltimore Story.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Baltimore, Dec. 28.—John Skelton Williams will retire from the presidency of the Seaboard Air Line to be succeeded by James M. Barr, first vice president of the company, according to a man prominently identified with the company. Mr. Barr is regarded as one of the foremost operating railroad officials in the country. He made a great reputation with the Norfolk and Western, and the rehabilitation of that property is credited to his ability. Previous to going to the Norfolk and Western, he was superintendent of the Chicago and Evanston and Chicago and Council Bluffs division of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railway.

Richmond, Va., Dec. 28.—The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Seaboard Air Line Railway was held to-day in Portsmouth, Va., practically every share of the stock being represented in person or by proxy. The acts of the directors for the previous year were ratified and approved. The following board of directors was then elected: John Skelton Williams, Thomas F. Ryan, James A. Blair, J. William Middendorf, S. Davies Warfield, C. Sidney Shepard, T. Jefferson Coolidge, jr., James H. Dooley, John B. Dennis, James M. Barr, George W. Watts, Ernst Thalmann, Norman B. Ream, Nathaniel Thayer, B. F. Yoakum and H. Clay Pierce. The old board was re-elected, with the addition of George W. Watts, of Durham, N. C.

The annual report of the company for the year ended June 30, 1903, which was submitted to the meeting, showed gross earnings of the system of $12,706,527, an increase of $1,126,712; net earnings, $3,387,748, a decrease of $47,846; surplus over interest and fixed charges, $832,480, $12,224 increase.

KANSAS WANTS TO LEAD LIST.

Republicans Will Have Early Convention to Indorse Roosevelt.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Topeka, Kan., Dec. 28.—Chairman Albaugh has issued a call for the Republican State Committee to meet here on January 5. At this gathering the time and place for the State convention will be selected. Topeka, Wichita, Hutchinson and Fort Scott are after the convention, which will be held early in March. The committeemen have practically decided on the date in order to be the first State convention of 1904 to come out strong for Roosevelt.

THE CZARINA'S ACCOUCHEMENT.

London, Dec. 29.—"The Daily Telegraph's" St. Petersburg correspondent says that the imperial family expects the accouchement of the Czarina next summer.

WILL SELL THE ALTON.

Deposits of Preferred Stock Asked for by Kuhn, Loeb & Co.

Plans are under way for the transfer of the Chicago and Alton Railway Company to some other road, as appears from the following official statement, issued last night:

Holders of the preferred stock of the Chicago and Alton Railway Company are informed by Kuhn, Loeb & Co. that a large amount of that stock has been deposited with them, subject to an agreement authorizing the sale thereof on or before September 30 next, upon such terms and at such price as may be approved by a preferred stockholders' committee, consisting of John A. Stewart, Edward H. Harriman and John J. Mitchell. Holders of preferred stock who desire to participate in any sale which may be made under this agreement are requested to deposit their certificates at once with the bankers, who reserve the right to terminate the privilege at any time. Depositors will receive transferrable receipts entitling them to a pro rata share of the net proceeds of any sale, and in case no sale is made before September 30, to the return of their stock without expense.

Asked for further details, a leading interest in the Alton said:

I think the circular is self-explanatory. Of course, a definite purchaser is in view, but it would serve no good purpose to say at present who it is.

The syndicate which in March, 1900, purchased the control of the Chicago and Alton Railroad Company (now the Chicago and Alton Railway Company) was composed of E. H. Harriman, representing the Union Pacific interests; George J. Gould, president of the Missouri Pacific; James Stillman, representing the Rockefeller interests in the Missouri, Kansas and Texas, and Jacob H. Schiff, of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., as the representative of the Baltimore and Ohio.

Mr. Harriman, who is a member of the preferred stockholders' committee named in the present circular of Kuhn, Loeb & Co., is now, as he was in 1900, the head of the Union Pacific system. Mr. Stewart, the second member of the committee, is the ex-president of the United States Trust Company, which is closely identified with the National City Bank and Rockefeller interests. Mr. Mitchell, who is president of the Illinois Trust and Savings Bank of Chicago, acted for President Blackstone and his associates in negotiating the sale of their controlling holdings in the road to the Harriman party in 1900, and has since then been a director of the Alton.

An interest not represented on the preferred stock holders' committee which is to pass on the terms at which the preferred stock is to be sold—it may be fairly assumed that a majority of the common stock is already in the hands of Mr. Harriman and his friends—is the Missouri Pacific, and in view of that fact and of the further fact of the lack of harmony between Mr. Harriman and Mr. Gould during the last year or two, the inference may be drawn that the Missouri Pacific is not the intending purchaser of the Chicago and Alton. The indications rather point to the Union Pacific or one of the other so-called Harriman roads as the system of which, if the pending negotiations be successfully carried out, the Alton will become a part. The eastern termini of the Union Pacific are at Omaha and Kansas City.

The acquisition of the Alton would mean the direct extension of the Union Pacific system from Kansas City to a connection with the eastern trunk lines at Chicago, with entrance also into St. Louis. Kansas City, too, is the northern terminus of the Kansas City Southern road, which since October, 1900, has been under the control of Mr. Harriman and his friends.

This road, originally the Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf, extends to Port Arthur, on the Gulf of Mexico, and as far back as 1898 rumors were frequent that it would be combined with the Chicago and Alton to form a through line between the Gulf and the Great Lakes.

The Kansas City Southern is hardly in a position to purchase a line like the Alton with cash or with its own low quoted stocks, nor indeed would it be generally believed that the Union Pacific was entirely prepared to carry through such an operation. It is not inconceivable, however, that resort may be had to the modern device of issuing collateral trust bonds, for which the Alton stock would be security, and which would be given as the largest part of the consideration.

Chicago and Alton common stock, which went as low as 18½ in September, closed yesterday at 35⅝, less than 2 points under the high level of the year, touched in January. The preferred sold up to 74¼, its highest price in 1903, and closed at 73½, a net gain for the day of 2 points.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Chicago, Dec. 28.—All that can be obtained from John J. Mitchell to-night regarding the Chicago and Alton sale is that he, E. H. Harriman and J. A. Stewart, the New-York banker, were appointed a committee recently by the Harriman interest, which now holds 50 per cent of the Alton preferred stock, to get the larger part of the remaining 50 per cent of the preferred.

The plan is to merge with the Kansas City Southern Road, already owned by the Harriman syndicate, and thus get an outlet to the Gulf of Mexico. Mr. Mitchell says the sale was kept quiet, necessarily, until a few days ago, when the Harriman syndicate committee began energetic efforts to acquire more of the preferred stock. As to the details of the immediate plans Mr. Mitchell declined to say anything.

This indicates that Mr. Mitchell, who is Mr. Harriman's right hand man in the West, is not offering Alton stock to any other road, but is buying it, and that the much rumored merger of the Alton road with another line is that stated—with the Kansas City Southern and in the interest of the Harriman syndicate. SThe fact that Mr. Mitchell was willing to talk at all at this time about the plans is significant, and indicates that the committee of which he is a member with Messrs. Harriman and Stewart has about secured all the additional Alton preferred that is required for the deal with the Kansas City Southern.

MR. BEAUPRE AT COLON.

THE OLYMPIA'S VOYAGE.

No Hostility Shown to Americans at Cartagena.

Colon, Dec. 28.—Admiral Coghlan's flagship, the cruiser Olympia, arrived here this afternoon from Cartagena, bringing Arthur M. Beaupré, United States Minister to Colombia, and Mrs. Beaupré. Mr. and Mrs. Beaupré arrived at Cartagena from Bogota last Saturday, and boarded the Olympia on her arrival yesterday afternoon. The Olympia immediately sailed for Colon. Minister Beaupré will sail for New-York on the steamer Yucatan to-morrow.

The reception of the Olympia at Cartagena was friendly. The naval authorities here received instructions from Washington on Christmas Day not to send the Atlanta, the Mayflower and the Castine to Cartagena with the Olympia, as previously intended. The Olympia arrived off the Boca Chicha entrance to the big lagoon on which Cartagena is situated early yesterday morning. As she ran in toward the entrance the Colombian cruiser Cartagena was seen four miles distant making every effort to enter the lagoon ahead of the Olympia, which she succeeded in doing.

The Olympia steamed slowly to the tortuous entrance between the old Spanish forts, which were apparently deserted, and found that the Colombian cruiser had taken up a position a short distance inside, but commanding the entrance. It was learned subsequently that the Cartagena had grounded there and that she was towed into port. The Olympia passed the Colombian warship and proceeded to Cartagena, which is eight miles from the entrance.

SALUTING COLOMBIAN FLAG.

Anchoring about a mile from the town, the Olympia hoisted the Colombian flag at her main and fired a salute of twenty-one guns. The Colombian battery at the edge of the town returned the salute. Admiral Coghlan then sent a boat ashore to communicate with the United States Consul, Mr. Orr, but it was learned that Mr. Orr had left Cartagena about a fortnight ago for Barranquilla. The British Vice-Consul at Cartagena, who is very ill and is hardly expected to live, had undertaken to look after United States interests pending the arrival of Mr. Orr's successor.

Admiral Coghlan then paid an official visit to Dr. José Insignares, the Governor of Bolivar. The admiral was accompanied by Captain Harrison G. O. Colby. A big crowd gathered at the docks to meet them and silently followed the carriage containing the officers through the streets to the palace, where another big crowd had assembled.

Governor Insignares, surrounded by a large number of secretaries and aids, received Admiral Coghlan in the large salon of the palace, to which the people were admitted, being separated from the officers by a railing. Admiral Coghlan and Governor Insignares exchanged the customary formalities, the crowd listening attentively. The Governor said he would return the visit immediately, whereupon Admiral Coghlan returned to the Olympia.

CARTAGENA'S PEOPLE QUIET.

The officers were in no way molested or annoyed by the crowd, which followed them closely all the time. Neither by words nor looks did the populace show any hostility. The Colombian battery fired a rear admiral's salute as Admiral Coghlan started for the Olympia.

At 3 o'clock in the afternoon Governor Insignares, accompanied by a large staff, boarded the Olympia for the return visit, and remained for fifteen minutes. When the Governor and his retinue were disembarking the Olympia fired a Governor's salute of seventeen guns, and immediately thereafter hoisted anchor and steamed out of the lagoon.

While Admiral Coghlan and other Americans were treated civilly and courteously, and while their visit was not marked by the slightest unpleasant or untoward incident, it was evident that the authorities at Cartagena were not glad to see the Olympia, and were pleased when she took her departure.

It is believed that the Bogota government had spies in Cartagena who were carefully watching for any sign of disloyalty, since the Cartagenan authorities evidently desired to avoid all unnecessary friendliness with the Americans. Governor Insignares kept himself surrounded by his staff of secretaries during his interview with Admiral Coghlan.

No political references were made in the interviews, except by the chief of the Cartagenan customs, who, while aboard the Olympia, proposed with great earnestness a toast to the continuance of the friendly relations between the United States and Colombia.

COLOMBIA'S FORCE NEAR ISTHMUS.

Comparatively little information as to the general situation could be gained at Cartagena. There are probably thirty-five hundred troops there, and there are reported to be five thousand at Barranquilla. The government is doubtless slowly concentrating troops at Barranquilla and moving them toward Titmuati in small numbers. There are probably twelve hundred Colombian soldiers at Titumati to-day, and this number is gradually being increased.

Minister Beaupré had a good trip down the Magdalena River, and was greatly gratified to find that the Olympia had been sent to Cartagena to meet him. The Bogotan authorities extended every courtesy to the minister, who left Bogota in a special train and was carried down the river on a special steamer. He made the trip from Bogota to Cartagena in seven days.

The minister emphatically declined to talk of the political conditions, but said he thought that any trouble between the United States and Colombia was improbable, and that the Americans in Colombia—of whom there were very few, there being only about ten in Bogota, and some prospectors in Antioquia and other places—were in no danger of molestation.

General Rafael Reyes has been bitterly criticised at Bogota for having invited the Panaman Commissioners to breakfast when here aboard the Canada. The general's action in this matter is considered undignified and a sign of weakness. The general's continued absence at Washington is resulting in a slight weakening of his influence.

It can safely be said that the influence of time and a calmer consideration of the situation are bringing about, though slowly, a greater readiness on the part of Colombia to accept the inevitable and to get all she possibly can from the Republic of Panama by diplomatic means.

REINFORCING FLEETS AT ISTHMUS.

Several Warships on the Way There, and More to Follow.

Washington, Dec. 28.—The fleets of warships on both sides of the Isthmus of Panama will shortly be reinforced by several vessels now on their way to that quarter. The gunboat Topeka, of the Atlantic training squadron, left Key West yesterday for Colon by way of Kingston as convoy of the torpedo boat destroyers Truxtun and Stewart, which have been assigned to patrol duty on the Caribbean coast of the isthmus. The gunboat Castine ar-

DEWEY'S WINES ARE PURE.
Special assorted cases for Holidays. A very acceptable present. Send for descriptive price list. Dewey's, 138 Fulton Street, New York City.—Advt.