ALL OF CUBA A WAR FIELD.

THE PATRIOTS COOL AND DETERMINED TO FIGHT TO THE DEATH.

Spanish Blundering and Nervousness—Strict Military Discipline in the Insurgent Camps—Desperate Measures They Will Resort To if Found Necessary.

HAVANA, March 24.—The recent fights between two Spanish columns were due primarily to the wofully incompetent officers in the Spanish army; secondly, to the fact that whenever the Spanish troops see a head they shoot at it. At Marianao they frequently kill cows in the night because they do not halt when ordered. The Spanish troops seem to be looking for burglars under the beds all the time.

When a person approaches a Spanish picket he is halted at about 300 feet. Then the order to advance is given; the person advances, with the picket pointing a rifle at his head. When the person gets within speaking distance the rifle is lowered and he is interrogated as to his business, whence he came, and where he is going.

When a person meets or approaches an insurgent picket he is halted at about the same distance, but the picket then rides right up, no matter if there is one or a half dozen persons in the party. His first question is: "Have you got any arms? If you have, will you please give them to me?" If a person has arms he had better give them up.

Weyler is still organizing his forces in accordance with his present policy. Col. Garcia Gonzales was appointed Military Alcalde of the district of Nueva Paz during Martinez de Campos's time. After Gomez first passed by that place an insurgent camp was established near there. Col. Gonzales had a good supply of arms that the insurgents coveted. The railroad to Havana had been destroyed and telegraphic communication was cut off. The patriots besieged the town. On Jan. 18 they tried to assault the front, but having no cannon they were repulsed. The siege was kept up for nearly six weeks, until the food of the village was about exhausted. Then relief came and the arms were saved from the insurgents. Col. Gonzales did not arrest the Cubans in the neighborhood, neither did he shoot any of them. Consequently he was not wanted. He was removed and a little fire-eater was put in his place. The morning after the new man was installed two citizens, one white, the other black, were brought in as prisoners. They were put on the train and sent toward Havana. Nobody knows what has become of them.

The railroad companies are between the devil and the deep sea. The Captain-General says that they must run trains. If they refuse he will take away their charter, and imprison the officers. The patriots say they must not run trains. If they do they will be destroyed, together with the track, bridges, and depots. Between Bejucal and San Nicolas, inclusive, all in the province of Havana, on the Eastern Railroad, there are eight stone depots destroyed.

Another reason the insurgents destroy the depots is because the Spanish troops use them for forts and shelter. The railroads run a pilot engine ahead. Attached to the engine is an armored car with troops. Attached to that is a flat car with rails, ties, and telegraph wire, and a crew of men for repairing. This crew lie down in the car and use the rails and ties for breastworks. For some distance east of Bejucal the trees are cut away from the railroad, presumably to prevent ambushes. There were only a few trees, and now the country is all cleared.

Gen. Martinez Campos was criticised for keeping troops to guard small towns, because it was said to be indiscreet to separate so many troops. If he was indiscreet, Weyler is profligate, for he has from 1,000 to 3,000 troops in every place along the railroad, and nearly every back town has a supply.

The churches here are all built of stone, with walls from two to three feet thick. Every little village has such a church. These churches are occupied by the Spanish troops as forts. The entrances all have stone forts built around them. The doors are heavy cedar two-inch plank about six feet wide. These all have port holes cut through at a convenient height for a man to stand up and shoot through. The windows have sugar bags filled with earth placed in them, so arranged that the troops can stand behind and shoot out. The steeples also have sugar bags in the windows and men are kept there as lookouts. At San Felipe the church has port holes drilled through the sides toward the depot. Before the depots were destroyed they were used in like manner for forts. Now at each station there are stone forts banked up with earth with a lookout at the top. At each end of the railroad bridges there are forts occupied by troops.

Near Los Palos there is an insurgent camp. It was established early in January. Originally it was a recruiting camp, but now it is used more as a military headquarters and a rendezvous. At one time there were 11,000 patriots in this camp. Now there are about 1,800, about one-third of whom have rifles. The Cuban volunteers are taught military discipline in this camp, and are carefully trained to patrol the country. Patrolling the country is one of the most important duties in the Cuban army. When the armies are on the march or when they are in camp the patrol is kept out. In this way the Cubans keep watch of the Spanish army.

The Cuban Generals take all the care their circumstances will permit to keep their men healthy. When they are on the march they always make it a point to reach some plantation or place that has buildings sufficient to give their men shelter for the night. In their camps they do not permit their men to sleep on the ground. Their camps are in the woods, and they swing hammocks with their blankets. They do not eat in camp. The men are marched off for each meal. This is to prevent offal accumulating about the camp. The camp is changed frequently, so as to keep the quarters in a sanitary condition. The camp near Los Palos has been moved four times in less than three months. It is now about three miles further west than the point at which it was first situated.

The Spaniards know all about the situation of this camp and the camp at Cuevitas, but they do not molest them. The Spanish officers cannot be prevailed upon to go nearer than within one mile of the woods. They always expect to be ambushed when they pass by a grove, and they are seldom disappointed.

The insurgents have been perfecting their organization, getting themselves in readiness for the summer campaign. They expect to have a great many poor families on their hands. They have appointed military and civil Governors over the whole island. The duties of the civil Governor now principally are to organize and prepare for the maintenance of the poor. Whole villages have to be built at points where they will be protected from the enemy. In some places now the poor go to the outposts of the insurgents and get food for their families. Orders have been issued not to permit vegetables or fruit to be taken to towns or cities that are not in sympathy with the patriot cause. This order is being more closely observed every day. Most of the town of Quivican has gone into the insurgent lines bag and baggage, men, women, and children.

The civil Governor of the eastern district of the province of Havana is Aurelio Betancourt. The military Governor is Pedro Dias. Their district is from San Felipe to Artemisa, the western boundary of the province of Havana.

The military Governor had a force of 2,000 men. When Maceo came into the province the Governor joined him. The civil Governor has an escort of fifty men. He is constantly moving from place to place perfecting his organization. At his table recently he had corn meal mush and plenty of vegetables, beefsteak, and pork chops for all. His guests were not of the royal family of Spain. His table cloth and plate were composed of banana leaves. It is too much trouble to carry plates. If any one thinks that this war doesn't amount to anything, he would do well to come down here and run up against the army that has been organized, out of nothing, in a year.

The military discipline among the insurgent forces is exceedingly strict. No distinction of color is made. Whites, blacks, and mulattoes serve together indiscriminately. Undoubtedly the officers or authorities are unable to determine to-day the number of colored men there are in the army. The question of color is not taken into consideration when a man presents himself for military service. To the question recently asked, "How many colored men have you in your army?" the answer was, "All we can get. We don't know." There are no exclusively white companies, unless there may be some in the province of Pinar del Rio, where the white population predominates, and where the enthusiasm is so great for the Cuban cause.

The military officers are appointed with regard to their fitness for the position, and the question of color is not taken into consideration. All serve together amicably.

Gen. Maceo received a royal welcome from the people of Pinar del Rio, who are most all white. He would have had an immense following, but he advised the people to wait until he could provide them with arms. They have been drilling and getting themselves in readiness for the time when arms will be provided for them. The number in that province that are waiting for arms is variously estimated at from twenty to thirty thousand. It is said that when the arms are provided about all the men of the province will move out in a body. Now, Gomez and all the white Generals are in the eastern part of the island, where there are more colored people than in the west, and Maceo, Bandera, and Dias, all mulattoes, are in the western part, where the colored people are comparatively few. These last three Generals are well educated and self-educated. Maceo and Bandera speak English.

The delay of the United States Government to recognize the Cubans as belligerents is a bitter disappointment to them. They are fighting without pay and unquestionably suffering great hardships, and desire to bring the war to a close quickly. The Cubans say that it is severe on them when they are trying to throw off the galling Spanish yoke to have all Europe refuse to permit them to purchase arms and to have the United States doing police duty for Spain. They have lost all hope of being acknowledged as belligerents by the United States. If they are not acknowledged soon, they will make their plans to carry on the war without assistance and will use the means at hand.

They say they will burn all property that will yield any revenue whatever to Spain, and they will burn every building that is large enough to furnish shelter to the Spanish troops.

The Spanish Ministry is now straining every nerve to collect taxes from the Cubans. The third quarter of the tax for the year 1896 is now made payable at the end of March. These people residing in the United States are notified that they may pay to Turnure, Lawrence & Co., of New York city. The first object will be to cut this revenue off entirely. The second object is to force the Spanish soldiers to sleep on the ground. That is death in this climate. Yellow fever, pernicious fever, and dysentery will put the whole Spanish army in the hospital and nine-tenths of it under the sod. The Cubans will swing their hammocks in the woods; they know the Spanish officers dare not take their men to the woods.

A Cuban was asked if he did not consider this desperate means to accomplish an end. He replied: "Of course it is desperate, but does the world at large expect us to stand idly by while Weyler is shooting our unarmed people? Under the circumstances we feel that it is our duty to use every means in our power to bring this war to a close, and if by burning cane and tobacco we can prevent Spain from realizing the sinews of war, and by burning buildings we can make a valuable ally of the climate, it is plain what we should do."

This statement of their plans has come from sources that seem to be unquestionable, and coupled with the fact that the insurgents are now burning everything around Havana and seven large sugar plantations have been wiped out with fire recently in the province of Santa Clara, there is no room left for doubt.

The recent arrival of expeditions may possibly change this plan. The Bermuda has arrived and landed her arms on the north coast of Pinar del Rio, between the port of Cabanas and Bahia Honda. The arms and ammunition are now in the hands of Maceo. Another expedition has landed also, the name of which could not be learned.

PATRIOTS WIN A VICTORY.

They Surprise a Large Force of Spaniards and Badly Worst Them.

HAVANA, March 31.—Intelligence has reached here of a bad defeat of Government troops. On March 24 an insurgent force of nearly 2,000 men, led by Varona, Sosa, and others, surprised and attacked the Wadras battalion between Guana and La Fe, in the province of Pinar del Rio. The battalion was convoying a train of army supplies. Five hundred patriots first attacked the vanguard of the Government force, and later 400 men attacked the rear guard, which was then reënforced.

Another attack was then made on the vanguard and left flank and the troops were compelled to form a square to resist the attack. Cavalry were also used in the attempt to hold the insurgents in check, but without avail. After a hot fight the troops were compelled to retreat. They lost many killed and wounded.

Throughout the fight and during the retreat of the troops the insurgents used their machetes with deadly effect. The greater part of the convoy fell into the hands of the patriots, many oxen that were destined for the use of the troops were killed by the extreme heat. With the convoy were seventy-four sick and wounded Spaniards. The official report says, of course, that the troops won the fight and that the insurgents lost thirty killed, among whom was an ex-sergeant of the Civil Guard.

The same battalion had an engagement with an insurgent force at Lazo Falado on March 14, in which the insurgents are said to have lost twenty killed and wounded.

No information has been made public concerning the movements of Maceo, who is still in the province of Pinar del Rio.

Gen. Barges reports that he has captured an insurgent camp near Guantanamo, province of Santiago de Cuba. In the fighting the patriots lost six killed and four wounded. Twenty-five prisoners were taken, twenty-one of whom were women and four men. Among them is the mother of the insurgent leader Perez. The women were acting as nurses. The troops destroyed all the equipments, medicines, and effects found in the camp.

Insurgents are said to have blown up the cable station near Cienfuegos with dynamite.

THE BERMUDA WILL TRY IT AGAIN.

She May Carry More Arms from This Port to the Cuban Patriots.

The mystery surrounding the movements of the steamer Bermuda, which left this port on March 15, presumably for Vera Cruz, Mexico, but in reality for Cuba with arms for the patriots there, has been cleared up. A cablegram to the Maritime Exchange yesterday, said that the steamer, after landing her cargo safely in Cuba, sailed for Puerto Cortez, Honduras, whence, after taking on a cargo of bananas, she left last Saturday for New York. The cargo is said to be consigned to James E. Kerr & Co. of Philadelphia, who owned the steamers Horsa and Laurada which were recently seized by the United States authorities off Fernandina. It is said the Cuban Junta purchased the Bermuda.

Although the Bermuda cleared for Vera Cruz, it is not believed here that any trouble will result for the steamer's failure to touch at that place. Capt. John O'Brien had clearance papers and the signature of the Mexican Consul-General on the invoices of the vessel's cargo.

A prominent Cuban said yesterday that on the arrival of the Bermuda, which is expected to be Friday or Saturday, preparations will be made at once by the Junta to send more arms and ammunition to the Cuban patriots on the same steamer.

ANOTHER CUBAN EXPEDITION.

Rapid-firing and Machine Guns to Be Taken to the Patriots.

PHILADELPHIA, March 31.—It is reported that another large expedition will soon sail for Cuba. The port of departure and the time of sailing are not known definitely, although it is said that the vessel may get away within the next forty-eight hours. The vessel which will take out the expedition is reported to be a large steamer recently purchased by the Cuban Junta in this country.

It is further said that the steamer will be strongly manned, and that she will mount several heavy rifled guns, with which she could cope in combat with any of the Spanish cruisers patrolling Cuban waters. Besides small arms and ammunition the vessel will carry out for the insurgents rapid-firing and machine guns. The expedition is said to be the most formidable one that has yet been fitted out.

WEYLER WANTS MORE TROOPS.

It Is Said He Has Asked for 40,000 and that They Will Be Supplied.

MADRID, March 31.—A despatch from Havana to the *Imparcial* says there is reason to believe that Captain-General Weyler has asked for 40,000 more troops, and that Señor de Azcarraga, Minister of War, has approved the requisition.

The *Imparcial's* despatch says that the Spaniards have defeated the rebels under Maceo at Tenerias Guanes, killing seventy-two and wounding 300.

A Call for Action in Dygart's Case.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—Senator Cullom of Illinois called on Secretary Olney to-day in the interest of Walter Dygart, the young American confined at Guines, Cuba. Another telegram urging Consul-General Williams to expedite the decision in Dygart's case has been sent by the State Department, and it is expected that the answer of the Spanish authorities regarding the disposition they intend to make of the case will be received here in a day or two. It is believed in Washington that Dygart will be released.

Proceedings Against the Commodore.

WASHINGTON, March 31.—The Collector of Customs at Charleston, S. C., has informed the Treasury that he has secured sufficient information in his opinion to justify proceedings against the alleged filibuster steamer Commodore for violation of the navigation laws, and has requested the United States District Attorney to prosecute the case and have the vessel forfeited.

Weyler Won't Resign.

MADRID, March 31.—The report that Captain-General Weyler will shortly resign is without foundation. He has rejected offers from several insurgent bands for conditional surrender.

A Rumor that Gomez Is Dead.

HAVANA, March 31.—It is again reported here that Gomez, the insurgent Commander-in-Chief, is dead. Proof of the truthfulness of the report is lacking.

Fire at the Morristown Driving Park.

MORRISTOWN, N. J., March 31.—Eighty box stalls of the stables at the Morristown Driving Park were burned early this morning. The eight horses were taken out uninjured. Sire Brothers of New York own the park, and Frank Class, the pigeon shot, is the lessee. The damage is $4,000 and the insurance $2,000. The fire was started, Class thinks, by a careless groom who was smoking a pipe.

Now for Vaughan's Seeds, 26 Barclay St. Catalogue free. Sweet peas free with each purchase.—Adv.

CHANDLER INJURES REED

NEW HAMPSHIRE DELEGATES NOT SURE FOR THE MAINE MAN.

The State Convention Instructs for Reed or McKinley—Chandler's Attack on the McKinley Managers Aroused Sympathy for the Ohio Candidate—The Platform.

CONCORD, N. H., March 31.—The New Hampshire Republicans declared to-day for Reed or McKinley. Reed was named first, and so it is fair to assume that he is first choice and will receive the votes of the delegates for at least one ballot. That Reed was not the sole choice of the Convention is due to Senator Chandler's recent attack on the McKinley managers.

The State Convention developed such a McKinley sentiment as almost to overcome the natural preference of the delegates, and under certain contingencies it is not impossible that the entire delegation may swing into line for McKinley on the first ballot. Up to the time of Senator Chandler's attack upon the McKinley managers there was hardly any perceptible sentiment in favor of the Ohio man in this State. No canvass had been made in his behalf, and it was the general expectation of the Republicans in the State that the Conventions would declare unqualifiedly for Reed.

Nothing Chandler has ever done has angered so thoroughly the Republicans of New Hampshire as his insinuations against the McKinley men. Spontaneously the delegates developed a McKinley sentiment as a rebuke to Senator Chandler. If he had not already been selected by the State Committee to preside, in accordance with an established custom, he could not have been elected to that place to-day.

At the preliminary meeting of the delegates and State Committee last evening to perfect an organization for to-day's Convention Senator Gallinger and others were called on for speeches, but not a voice was raised for Senator Chandler, although he was present. One year ago he was supreme in this State; to-day he is almost without political influence.

The desire for harmony in the Convention to-day prevented an open outbreak, but it was a costly affair for Reed, and if the New Hampshire delegation should join the McKinley column on the first ballot, Reed must hold Senator Chandler responsible. The First Congress district, where delegates will be elected to-morrow, is strongly a manufacturing centre, and it would not be surprising if the delegation should be instructed directly for McKinley. Certainly this will be the wish of the Manchester delegation, which will have a potent influence in the vote of the Convention.

Senator Chandler was Chairman of the Convention. He unhesitatingly declared for Reed as his preference. The Convention was called to order at Phœnix Hall at 11 o'clock this morning by State Chairman Jewett. Every seat in the hall was occupied.

Senator Chandler was received with enthusiasm. In his address, after giving the history of the Republican party, the Senator said:

"President Harrison in four years reduced the national debt $236,527,666; President Cleveland in three years has increased the interest-bearing bonded debt $262,602,245. In 1894 there was a Republican uprising which gave greater majorities against the Democracy than ever had been known since the organization of the Republican party, and to-day there is a settled determination in the minds of the American people to restore, in November of this year, the Republican party to more complete power in State and nation than it ever yet possessed; all this, we hope and trust, to be accomplished under the banner of our energetic, strong, positive, and magnificent New England leader, Thomas B. Reed.

"Our victory will mean the settlement of the currency question. Precisely in what way it will be settled I have no right positively to assert. This Convention may utter its views; the National Convention will lay down its platform; the President and Congress to be elected will carry out the national principles. For my own part, I may be permitted to say that I am against the gold monometallism of President Cleveland, Secretary Carlisle, and their faction of the Democratic party. I am also opposed to the other extreme, namely, the unlimited coinage of this time of the United States alone of silver bullion, which would send gold up to a premium and destroy that parity between the two metals to which the Republican party and the Congress are solemnly pledged.

"Gentlemen of the Convention, besides restoring prosperity at home, the coming Republican victory will give to the United States a new foreign policy, based upon sound principles and upon considerations tending to the interest and honor of the nation. Under President Cleveland there has been vacillation from one extreme to another extreme very remote. Led by Blount of Georgia, the President determined and endeavored to restore the dusky Queen of Hawaii to her lost throne in order that she might seize her subjects—Americans who had gone to her island to make her people intelligent and prosperous—and put them to death by beheading them. On the other hand, under the lead of Olney of Massachusetts, the President has championed the cause of little Venezuela, defending her indisputable right to control the mouth of the great Orinoco River. Back again from this spasm of true Americanism he stands to-day as the obstacle to Cuban independence.

"In recent years we have been trying to get back upon the ocean with our ships in the foreign trade, to regain as much as possible commerce with foreign countries, but we find few markets for our exports in Europe, sending there but little besides breadstuffs, and we cannot hope for a great increase of trade across the North Atlantic. Where are we to look for markets for our products? Mainly to the nations of the Western hemisphere. Who are trying to keep us away from those markets and to control them as our rivals? England principally, and some other European nations. How, then, can we hope to increase and establish and firmly maintain trade and commerce with these American nations if we do not place ourselves unmistakably on their side in case of unjust encroachments upon them by European powers, and freely and willingly, and as part of a national policy, protect them, whenever they need assistance, from all assaults coming from the colonizing nations across the ocean? To adopt such a policy is a part of our duty to ourselves if we are again to become and are to remain a first-class power among the nations of the world.

"To present duties are before us in this relation. For the first time since we urged the French to evacuate Mexico, and in consequence of our demand our sister republic was enabled to destroy the Maximilian monarchy, an opportunity has come to give indispensable aid in protecting an American republic from European aggression. Venezuela is in a contest with England in which we are bound to befriend the republic. This is not a question of 'civil engineering,' as the Rev. Mr. Parkhurst sneeringly calls it; it is not 'a petty boundary dispute,' as the New York Chamber of Commerce most wrongfully characterizes it; it is the question whether or not, with no decent color of right, the mouth of the great Orinoco River, the key to all the commerce of Venezuela, shall be seized and controlled by the all-grasping English-speaking nation of the Eastern hemisphere. Here is an opportunity which may not come again in half a century.

"By a regard for the Monroe doctrine, which is a traditional principle of the American Government, by a consideration, not so very remote, of what is due to our own safety and peace, and, above all, by our just and reasonable duty to Venezuela herself, in whose capital city of Caracas stand together the statues of Bolivar and Washington, we are bound to espouse the proper cause of the little republic against the overgrown nation which threatens her, and to bind that republic and all the other South American republics firmly to ourselves by ties of indissoluble obligation and gratitude.

"Again, as to Cuba, what is our duty? We have waited fifty years for our opportunity properly and safely to aid in establishing Cuban independence. There lies the great island, almost within sight of our coasts, in the hands of a European power, a perpetual menace to the United States. It has been for three-quarters of a century almost a universal American sentiment that whenever the right time came we should see Cuba released from the cruel dominion of Spain.

"In 1878 Cuban independence would have been recognized had it not been for the pendency of our Alabama claims against England, which made Gen. Grant and Secretary Fish act with conservatism. Eighteen years more of misrule and oppression have brought on another insurrection. The whole island is in revolt, almost as one man; and Spain is resorting to atrocities forbidden by civilized warfare. We are not asked to do what I would gladly see done—to recognize and maintain the independence of Cuba; we are only asked to recognize Cuban belligerency, which, after 18 years of flagrant war, Spain is more entitled to do than Spain was to recognize the Southern Confederacy early in 1861. Upon that recognition by the United States all the other independent republics of Central and South America will also recognize belligerency, and the freedom of Cuba will be assured beyond the possibility of suppression. Now is the time and now the hour for action. The opportunity long waited for may not soon come again."

The platform recited the history of recent national conflicts, dwelt on Democratic "misrule," the increase of the national debt, and concluded:

"We demand the enactment of currency laws that will provide a circulating medium in gold, silver, and paper, which will always be interchangeable at its face value, because each and every dollar of it is of the same purchasing power as a gold dollar; liberal appropriations for an adequate navy and coast and harbor defence, and internal improvement; fair, generous treatment of the Union veteran; a foreign policy characterized by sturdy Americanism, including the assertion of the Monroe doctrine, and the moral and material support of the Cuban patriots, if they have not already achieved their independence; and an immediate return to all the policies in which the Republican party has so successfully illustrated the soundness of its principles and to the methods by which it has demonstrated its ability, and apply those principles in the administration of the Government.

"We recognize as the most conspicuous among candidates New England's noble and illustrious son, the Hon. Thomas B. Reed of Maine, and that pure and able statesman and champion of protection, the Hon. William McKinley of Ohio. We will give the electoral vote of New Hampshire to any nominee who worthily represents the party, but we prefer one of these, because either is in himself a platform."

On motion of the Hon. R. H. Burnham of Manchester, the following were unanimously elected delegates at large to the National Convention by acclamation: Stephen S. Jewett, Laconia; Frank S. Streeter, Concord; James A. Wood, Acworth; Charles T. Means, Manchester. Alternates were elected as follows: G. A. Clark, Manchester; S. H. Gale, Exeter; O. C. Hutch, Littleton; Hezekiah Carter, Newport.

The Hon. F. W. Rollins of Concord, President of the State Senate, caused surprise by offering as an amendment to the financial plank of the platform a resolution favoring monometallism. Mr. Putney returned to the platform and supported the adoption of the report of the committee, evidently with the sympathy of the Convention. Senator Gallinger followed in the same line, arguing that the report of the committee was a definite and clear exposition of Republican faith and belief in honest money. The Hon. J. G. Crawford of Manchester also opposed Mr. Rollins's substitute. It was rejected by an emphatic viva voce vote.

Before announcing the result on the adoption of the platform Senator Chandler said the only criticism he would make of the document was a failure to arraign the Democrats. The Convention then adjourned.

At the Second Congress District Republican Convention Gen. John H. Brown of Bristol and the Hon. John A. Spalding of Nashua were elected delegates to the National Convention by acclamation and Frank W. Maynard of Claremont and Thomas C. Rand of Keene alternates.

QUAY MEN BOLT IN PITTSBURGH.

A Lively Time in One of the Conventions—Magee a St. Louis Delegate.

PITTSBURGH, March 31.—The Republicans of Allegheny county held eight legislative and two Congress District Conventions in Pittsburgh to-day to nominate delegates to the State and National Conventions. C. L. Magee and Senator Flynn were nominated delegates to the National Convention from the Pittsburgh districts, and Congressman Stone and Robert McAfee from Allegheny, the latter being favorable to Senator Quay, the former to Major McKinley.

The fight in the legislative districts for delegates to the State Convention was between the Quay and Magee factions. The Magee crowd carried all districts except the First, Second, Seventh, and Eighth, and the only fight of consequence was in the last-named district. There were several contests in this Convention, and as the temporary organization was controlled by Magee, the Quay delegates were unseated and the members of the press were barred from the meeting of the Committee on Contested Seats, where the evidence of contest was presented.

The Quay forces objected to this, and bolted the Convention. They went to Reform Republican headquarters and organized a separate convention, having a representation of nearly 600 more than necessary for a choice. A separate set of delegates were nominated, and the Pittsburgh leaders were endorsed. Senator Quay was endorsed for President. Several of the Conventions controlled by the Pittsburghers adopted resolutions denouncing Senator Don Cameron's silver views, and pledging the delegates to oppose his nomination by the State Convention for delegate at large to the National Convention. A special county caucus nominated W. E. Harrison of McKeesport for Congressman at large from the Allegheny county portion of the Twenty-fourth Congressional district, on the prospect of getting the State Convention to recommend an extra representative for this district.

Reed Massachusetts Delegates.

BOSTON, March 31.—The Republican Convention of the Eleventh district to-day chose Reed delegates to the St. Louis Convention.

The Republicans of the Eighth Congress district this afternoon selected John Hopewell, Jr., of Cambridge and A. F. Winship of Somerville as delegates to the St. Louis Convention, with Stanley Rudin (colored) of Boston and E. S. Crockett of Boston, alternates. The delegates were not instructed, but they are Reed men.

Harrison First, Reed Second.

CHARLESTON, S. C., March 31.—At a meeting of the regular Republican Convention for the First Congress district of South Carolina, held here to-day, George I. Cunningham and R. C. Brown were chosen as delegates to St. Louis. Both men are said to favor Harrison for first and Reed for second choice.

W. & J. SLOANE

We are offering in large varieties new styles of high-class lace curtains at moderate prices.

Swiss Muslin,
Galatea Laces,
Frilled Laces.

BRUSSELS, IRISH POINT AND RENAISSANCE, suitable for town and country residences.

BROADWAY, 18TH AND 19TH STS.

April

With its spring showers and sunshine, gives the promise of buds and flowers in May and June. But in April the atmosphere is loaded with dampness and disease germs which threaten health. Unless you defend yourself against these dangers, the spring time will give you little pleasure. You need a good

Spring

Medicine, like Hood's Sarsaparilla, to purify, enrich and vitalize your blood and build up your system to resist these dangers. This is the cleansing season, and your blood needs cleansing now because it is sure to be loaded with impurities. The best spring

Medicine

Is Hood's Sarsaparilla because it is the best blood purifier. It makes rich, red blood whenever it is faithfully used. That is why it cures so many diseases. That is why it has made its unapproachable record and is used almost to the exclusion of all other blood purifiers.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Is the One True Blood Purifier. All druggists. $1. Be sure to get HOOD'S and only HOOD'S.

Hood's Pills cure liver ills; easy to take easy to operate. 25 cents.

Hard to fit?
Let us try.
If we fail
No harm is done.
George G. Benjamin,
Broadway, cor 26th St.

Easter neckwear in great variety; exclusive styles and high qualities at moderate prices. A stylish overcoat at a modest price—our Covert coat at $10.

SYMPOSIUM ON MORTON.

The Big Four and Deacon Hackett Boom Him in a Magazine Article.

T. C. Platt, Chauncey M. Depew, Warner Miller, Edward Lauterbach, and C. W. Hackett, Chairman of the New York State Republican Committee, contribute to the April number of the *North American Review*, to be published to-day, a symposium on Gov. Morton as a Presidential candidate, in the course of which they set forth the Governor's claims upon the Republican party for a nomination to the Presidency.

Mr. Platt utters a warning against the confidence felt by many Republicans that the nominee at the St. Louis Convention, whoever he may be, will be elected.

"It is not safe for the Republicans," he says, "to assume that they are going to have a walk-over at the Presidential election in November. Manifold as the blunders of the Democratic party have been, combined with the imbecility and incompetency of the present Administration, they will not prevent the Democracy from making a hard struggle to retain control of the Government, and they will not keep the mass of the Democratic voters from going to the polls next November and voting their ticket straight. It is, unfortunately, a confirmed habit with Democrats to support their party, right or wrong."

In response to the objections urged by some to Gov. Morton on the score of his age, Mr. Platt points to the fact that the great statesmen of Europe are mostly old men, and he expresses confidence that, after careful and deliberate consideration of the situation, the St. Louis Convention will give its decision in favor of Gov. Morton.

Mr. Depew points to the Venezuela question as demonstrating the value in the Presidential office of diplomacy.

"Gov. Morton," he says, "while maintaining the rights of America and strongly and intelligently enforcing her impregnable position upon the Monroe doctrine, would have done it in a message so clearly and decisively as to raise no question of argument upon the language of his paper as to the American position upon that doctrine, and at the same time to leave the ultimate question of war where the Constitution places it, among the representatives of the people."

Mr. Depew urges that the United States needs a business Administration and would get it under Morton.

Warner Miller regards Gov. Morton's record as a public officer as a sure guarantee that in his hands all the interests of the country may be securely trusted and will be absolutely safe.

"He is known to be a thorough protectionist and a sound money man of the strongest character. If he is nominated and elected President there will no longer be any doubt in the minds of our people, or in any foreign countries, as to what our financial policies will be, and our securities everywhere will be taken without hesitation and without fear that they will be paid in money other than the best money of the world. Our credit will be restored to the condition it was in when Gen. Harrison turned the Government over to the Democrats. At that time we were able to borrow money at 2½ per cent."

Mr. Lauterbach puts special emphasis on the claims of New York State on the Republican party. He says:

"The Republicans of the Empire State have been modest and self-sacrificing. To them, since the creation of the party, has not been accorded the privilege of the selection of the nominee for this proudest office in the gift of any people."

Mr. Hackett, in the course of his remarks, says that for the first time in the party's history a nomination is deemed nearly equivalent to an election, and that therefore every business interest in the nation unites in an appeal to the delegates to the St. Louis Convention to place a safe man in nomination, and to give the business men a candidate for whom they can cast their ballots with the serene confidence that they are not taking a leap in the dark. Gov. Morton in every way answers the requirements of the hour."

MR. LELAND'S AMBITION.

He Wants to be Chairman of the Republican National Committee.

TOPEKA, Kan., March 31.—Cyrus Leland, Jr., is a candidate for Chairman of the Republican National Committee, and it is asserted by his friends in Kansas that he consented to stand for the position at the request of ex-Gov. McKinley, who wishes him to manage the campaign in case of his nomination for the Presidency. Leland has been a member of the National Committee from Kansas for twelve years, and the State Convention instructed the delegation to the St. Louis Convention to elect him for another term. He was Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee and redeemed the State two years ago from Populist rule. When the Marquette Club tendered a banquet to ex-Gov. McKinley in Chicago recently, Leland was requested by telegram to meet him there, and it was then, it is asserted, that McKinley informed him that he desired him to manage the campaign in case of his nomination at St. Louis.

IS IT NINA PERDEN'S SHOE?

A Discovery Which Suggests that She May Have Been Murdered.

SMITHTOWN, March 31.—Nina Perden, a colored woman, mysteriously disappeared nearly two years ago from her little cottage by the Nissequogue River. She lived with a white man, named Warren Terrill, as his wife. Terrill had been sent to the county jail for theft. A man named Ryder, who was passing the house the day following Terrill's incarceration, heard the moanings of a child and pushed open the door. He found five children, including a baby about a year old, alone and starving. The mother was gone, and she never reappeared. Terrill was communicated with at the jail, but he declared that he left the woman at home on the night of his arrest. When his term of sentence expired he disappeared and has not since been seen in Smithtown.

Lately a shoe was hauled out of the river on a trout hook by a Mr. Lewis of Brooklyn, who is staying at the Riverside Hotel. Nothing would have been thought of it but for a peculiarity of shape. Lewis used to reside in Smithtown and occasionally employed the woman in his house. He was familiar with the appearance of her feet, and knowing of the circumstances of her disappearance he took the shoe to Landlord Spurge, who also recognized it. Supervisor Smith was notified and soon the colored people became interested and several of them positively identified the shoe as having been worn by the missing woman. A party has been organized to search the river bottom.

New Armory Sites.

The Armory Board approved yesterday the report of the Committee on Sites in reference to the location of a new armory for the First Battery, on Sixty-sixth street, between Columbus avenue and Central Park West, opposite the St. Nicholas Rink. When the report came up fixing the location of the new Sixty-ninth Regiment armory on the site of the College of the City of New York, Twenty-third street and Lexington avenue, Judge Ernest Hall, as counsel for the property owners of that vicinity, entered a protest.

$370,000 for the New Court House Site.

Clifford A. Hand, Charles Stewart Smith, and ex-Judge William G. Choate, commissioners appointed to appraise the value of property at Twenty-fifth street and Madison square to be taken for a site for the Court House of the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court, made their report yesterday. They find the property of Henry C. Miner worth $283,000 and that of Dr. Edward H. Peaslee $87,500. The total award is $68,500 less than the average valuation as estimated by the expert witnesses examined on behalf of the owners.

Sidney Smith on Trial for Counterfeiting.

Sidney Smith, one of the William E. Brockway and Dr. Orlando E. Bradford gang of counterfeiters, was placed on trial before Judge Brown in the United States Criminal Court yesterday. He is the man who, when the gang scattered, was captured in Fourteenth street on Aug. 3 last, plates for printing $100 notes of the Bank of Montreal and a quantity of fibre paper being found in his possession. Smith is an engraver.

"M'KINLEY AND M'ALPIN."

ORIGIN OF A BOOM FOR THE "DOUBLE MAC" TICKET.

The Adjutant-General Says He Has Not Sanctioned Any Deal with the M'Kinley Managers and that He Is For Morton—S. A. Phillips's Doings in the West.

ALBANY, March 31.—Adjt.-Gen. McAlpin denied emphatically to-night that any foundation whatever existed for the report to the effect that he and his friends have entered into negotiations with McKinley's managers with a view to causing a stampede for McKinley in this State at the price of McAlpin's nomination for the Vice-Presidency.

Gen. McAlpin arrived in Albany late this afternoon from a Western trip, which began a week ago last Sunday. He said that the only cities he had visited were St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Chicago. He added that he had had no conversation with any of McKinley's managers in any of these places. In Gen. McAlpin's grip-sack was a Cleveland paper of last Sunday, which contained practically the same story that was published in New York to-day. It was, however, more circumstantial, and stated that McAlpin's operations had been begun after he had talked with Gov. Morton and secured his consent. It stated that the arrangements had been completed over the telephone by Mr. Hanna in Cleveland, Mr. McKinley in Canton, and a prominent Republican leader in New York city. The paper containing this story was handed to Gen. McAlpin in Chicago yesterday just as he was leaving town. All of the statements contained in the story are denied by Gen. McAlpin to-night.

"I have not entered into any such negotiations," he said. "No friends of mine have done so with my knowledge, and I am confident that they would not do so without my knowledge. If anything of the kind were contemplated my first move would be to resign my present commission. It is also untrue that I have ever talked with Gov. Morton regarding such a plan. I am for Morton first, last, and all the time, and I believe that he will be nominated. But if he should go down in defeat I will go down with him."

According to information received from Ohio by Gov. Morton's friends here, it was S. A. Phillips of this city who went West about ten days ago in the interest of Adjt.-Gen. McAlpin to negotiate with the McKinley boomers for second place on the ticket should the Ohio man be nominated.

Mr. Phillips is the editor of the *National League Leader*, the organ of the National League of Republican Clubs, of which Gen. McAlpin is President. He is a personal friend and great admirer of the General and has been warm in his advocacy of Mr. McAlpin for the Vice-Presidential nomination. Word which reached Gov. Morton's friends was to the effect that Phillips had been at Cleveland and had succeeded in making a combination with the McKinley managers. This seemed to be substantiated by an article published in a Cleveland newspaper on Sunday announcing that such an arrangement had been made.

Ever since he was elected President of the National League of Republican Clubs Gen. McAlpin has been talked of as a candidate either for Governor or for Vice-President or for appointment as Secretary of War under a Republican President. A warm personal friend of the General said yesterday that he knew that any one of these places would suit Mr. McAlpin's present ambition, and that the General was somewhat disappointed when Gov. Morton's candidacy seemed to interfere with the first of these ambitions. He said that he could not believe, though, that Gen. McAlpin would make a combination directly against Gov. Morton's interest as that which is said to have been made with McKinley's managers.

S. A. Phillips is the publisher of the *Mercury*, as well as the editor of the *National League Leader*. He said last night:

"It is true that I have been West and have visited Cleveland. I just returned from there. It is not true, though, that I was making up a combination with McKinley's managers which would result in Gen. McAlpin's nomination. Everybody knows that Gen. McAlpin is a candidate for Vice-President if Gov. Morton has no chance for the nomination, and there are very few fools who think he has a chance. The General's friends have been advocating his nomination for Vice-President, but the General