The Sun.

Partly cloudy; light southeast winds.

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BLACK TO GO TO SARATOGA

THE GOVERNOR WILL TAKE CHARGE OF HIS OWN FORCES.

Not Settled Yet Whether He Will Go Into the Convention to Advocate His Own Renomination—Platt Men Favor the Renomination of Lieut.-Gov. Woodruff—One of Superintendent Aldridge's Friends May Go on the Ticket—Payn Angry Because Aldridge Seems Lukewarm to Black—Col. Morgan Slated for State Comptroller—Serene Payne and Senator White Are to Be Chairmen of the Convention—A Forecast of the Platform.

SARATOGA, N. Y., Sept. 25.—The Hon. Edward Lauterbach and the Hon. Abraham Gruber, the little giants of the Black camp, arrived in this charming village this morning. They started originally from New York city, but they dropped off at Troy last night and had a good old-fashioned talk with Gov. Black. The news that Mr. Lauterbach and Mr. Gruber brought to Saratoga this morning was that Gov. Black will arrive here to-morrow and take full command of his fight for a renomination. It has not yet been settled definitely whether Gov. Black will appear personally in the convention. That matter will be settled to-morrow after he has had a talk with his chief lieutenants, Superintendent Payn and Superintendent Aldridge.

Some of Gov. Black's lieutenants say to-night that they will advise the Governor to throw precedent to the winds and the dignity of his office out of the window and appear in the convention and from his seat demand that he be renominated. Other of Gov. Black's lieutenants advise against such a course on his part. Just what Gov. Black himself thinks about this matter is not yet apparent, but it is known that he telephoned from Troy to-night to Mr. Lauterbach asking Mr. Lauterbach to present his name in the convention. All along it has been the idea that Supreme Court Justice John Woodward would make the nomination speech for Gov. Black. Mr. Lauterbach replied over the telephone to Gov. Black that he would talk with him concerning his request when the Governor arrived to-morrow.

Mr. Lauterbach told his friends that he is ready and willing to make any sacrifice for Gov. Black and apparently so are Mr. Payn, Mr. Aldridge and Mr. Gruber. In a talk with several of Gov. Black's lieutenants they admitted that from the present outlook he would be defeated in the convention, and yet others are still hopeful and believe that at the last moment something will turn the tide in favor of the Governor. This is only a hope, however. The Governor's lieutenants who talked on this subject went on to say that if the Governor developed sufficient strength in the convention to entitle him to official recognition as a candidate for United States Senator, this recognition should be given for the sake of harmony and serenity in the party.

It should be borne in mind that the lieutenants of Gov. Black who said that a resolution naming him for United States Senator should be adopted in the convention said that they did so without the slightest authority from Gov. Black. They believe, though, and they were very positive in expressing their thoughts, that if Gov. Black has 300 or 350 delegates in the convention, the aforesaid resolution naming him as the convention's choice for United States Senator should be adopted for the sake of the future of the party, especially the immediate future of the party.

Senator Platt was spoken to to-night on this feature of the situation, and he did not seem to approve of it. Senator Platt's friends went on to say, ironically, that the proposition looked too much like a bargain or a deal, and other Republicans who have been prominent in advocating Col. Roosevelt did not view with complacency the possibility of Frank Black being United States Senator at Washington for six years and endowed with the power to do them political injury. Nevertheless, no man can tell to-night just what the result of Gov. Black's appearance here to-morrow will be. All hands agree that it is a most extraordinary step for the Governor to take, and the majority insist that it is the last star play in the dramatic episodes of the Republican situation in the State during the last few months.

Gov. Black's friends said that his arrival would not in any way reflect on the political judgment of Messrs. Payn, Aldridge, Collins, Eston, Lauterbach and Gruber, but that he wanted to head his forces himself and ride to victory with them or be crushed with them. The Platt people, as soon as they knew of the Governor's prospective visit, consulted as to what course they should take if the Governor at the last moment decided to appear in the convention and personally lead his forces in the fight for a renomination. They began to look around for a speaker competent to answer Gov. Black and to tell the convention why he should not be renominated. Up to this hour the universal sentiment of the Platt camp seems to be that Gen. Stewart L. Woodford should be selected for the purpose of confronting Gov. Black. Col. Abraham Gruber is preparing a speech also, and, from the present outlook, Tuesday's session of the convention will be one that will be remembered for many a day in the history of the Republican party of the State. Word came also that all the Black rooters from Troy and all the officeholders beholdened to Gov. Black will be in the galleries of the convention hall with calliopean voices and bellows-like lungs with which to make pandemonium.

Some fear to-night that the scenes in the convention may become more than boisterous if not almost disgraceful. Should Gov. Black appear in the convention there is not a doubt in the minds of all who have looked into this matter that he will meet with a crushing defeat. The Governor does not seem to mind about that so much, as he is bent upon keeping up the fuss and taking every step to precipitate what may become lasting trouble in his party. In the estimation of some Gov. Black's visit here to-morrow looks a little vindictive and almost malicious on his part. In the minds of others, who seem to understand Gov. Black thoroughly, his appearance here will be nothing extraordinary, for the reason that these men, who have studied Gov. Black, look upon him to some extent as an able man, but also as an exceedingly egotistical one, and, moreover, a man who cannot clearly perceive the political drift of his party against him. He tells his friends that he does not believe the stories that the Republican people of the State of New York do not desire his renomination. He is positive in his conviction that he has made a good Governor, and for that reason he does not see why he should be set aside for another candidate. He does not seem to care anything about changed conditions or the politics which have been played during the last few years. He insists upon a renomination because he believes that he personally deserves it. That is his doctrine, it was declared, and it is on this doctrine that he will appear here at the head of his delegates and insist upon a renomination.

The Hon. Hamilton Fish, the Hon. Frederick S. Gibbs, and all the other honorables in the Republican party in the background to-night said that they could not understand for the life of them why Gov. Black intended to come to Saratoga. These militant Republican warriors have had their ups and downs and have taken victory with quite as much complacency as defeat. They are more than political philosophers; they are political stoics, and they are quite aware that just as surely as the sun shall rise the day will come when political defeat will overtake any man who enters public life. There is no mortgage upon a public office, it was insisted; but, on the contrary, the well being and the substantial future of a great party is infinitely more to be considered than the whims and wishes of men.

A party, the political students went on to say, should be guided by principle, and the likes and dislikes of factional clashes should have but one end, the ultimate success of the party for the benefit of the people. This is very high sounding, it was added, but nevertheless, it was insisted, it is what the people, the voters who make and unmake men, demand of a political party.

Those acquainted with the history of the Republican party in the State of New York could not help observing that to-day for the first time in forty years Senator Platt and Louis F. Payn kept away from each other. These men have been in a hundred fights. They have been political comrades from youth. At all conventions they have visited each other's cottages and political headquarters. Mr. Payn had always been Mr. Platt's chief lieutenant both at State and National conventions. Mr. Payn, however, is here to-day as the leader of a faction against Mr. Platt, and he will remain leader of this faction until Gov. Black supplants him to-morrow.

Mr. Aldridge visited Mr. Platt to-day and had a long talk with him, and immediately afterward a story was started to the effect that Charles H. Babcock, one of Mr. Aldridge's old friends and neighbors in Rochester, could have the nomination for State Treasurer if he so desired. Mr. Aldridge did not desire the nomination for his friend Babcock, but nevertheless the very fact that he visited Mr. Platt's cottage at the United States Hotel, and the story concerning Babcock which was heard immediately afterward, seemed to disturb Mr. Payn, because it can be said on very high authority that Mr. Payn and Mr. Aldridge had a few ruffled moments not long afterward. There was no serious quarrel between the men, but it can be distinctly said that Mr. Payn, the old friend of Mr. Platt, objected very strenuously to anything which might look like a break in the Black column, and certainly Mr. Payn did not like the talk about Babcock, Mr. Aldridge's friend, taking a nomination for State Treasurer on the ticket which is to be nominated in the approaching convention.

Mr. Payn looks like a man very much in earnest. Mr. Platt looks like man who seems to regret that, after all these years of political and personal friendship, Mr. Payn has thought it advisable to array himself against Mr. Platt and his friends in a State convention. It is not always advisable, it was observed, for outsiders to meddle in the quarrels of men in public life. They are quite competent to settle their own differences, it was insisted, and yet there can be no harm, and, certainly, it is a matter of news that the episode between Mr. Platt, Mr. Aldridge and Mr. Payn be recorded.

Mr. Payn and Mr. Aldridge were the pink of fashion and the mould of form to-day. They give great attention to their attire, and, for that matter, so do all the Republican politicians of the higher rank. Collector Bidwell, President Quigg of the New York County Committee, National Committeeman Frederick Gibbs, the Hon. Hamilton Fish, the Hon. Timothy L. Woodruff, and men of that character, not forgetting Senator Platt, give great attention to their raiment. They were all dressed in their Sunday best to-day, and all worked like so many coal heavers in discussing candidates, the platform and the hundreds of details of a State Convention. Right here it should be said that the ticket which, it is believed, the convention will name, is completed up to a late hour to-night as follows:

For Governor, Col. THEODORE ROOSEVELT of Oyster Bay.

For Lieutenant-Governor, TIMOTHY L. WOODRUFF of the borough of Brooklyn.

For Comptroller, Col. WILLIAM J. MORGAN of Buffalo.

For Secretary of State, JOHN T. MCDONOUGH of Albany.

According to the political mathematicians Col. Roosevelt will have 700 votes to start with. This afternoon the Hon. Francis Hendricks of Syracuse made it known that he should no longer be considered for the nomination for Lieutenant-Governor. Early this morning William Berri, ex-Mayor Schieren, Michael J. Dady, George H. Roberts, Jr., Chairman of the City Committee of New York; Norman C. Dike, Gen. Wallace, Representative Hurley, Walter B. Atterbury and other Brooklynites called upon Senator Platt and announced that they desired the renomination of Lieut.-Gov. Woodruff. They notified Mr. Platt that the solid delegation of 132 members from Brooklyn were for Woodruff. There was a long talk over this matter, for the reason that Mr. Woodruff had publicly announced that he would stand by Gov. Black to the end and would vote for him in the convention if not a single member of the Brooklyn delegation followed him, and, furthermore, Mr. Woodruff had publicly announced that he would not be a candidate for Lieutenant-Governor on a ticket headed by any other candidate than Gov. Black unless he received the unanimous consent of Gov. Black's friends.

All this was made clear in the talk between the Brooklyn delegates, headed by Mr. Berri, and Mr. Platt. No decision was reached in the matter at that time. Later, however, President Quigg, National Committeeman Gibbs and Collector Bidwell called on Senator Platt, and said, in substance, that in their opinion the vast majority of the 188 delegates from the borough of Manhattan sustained Brooklyn's demand for the renomination of Mr. Woodruff.

It must be said in justice to Mr. Woodruff that he had no hand or part in this matter. He had not received the consent of Gov. Black's friends to be a candidate for Lieutenant-Governor on any other ticket than one headed by Gov. Black. The movement in Woodruff's favor was an individual one and came from the Republican politicians below the Bronx who believe that Mr. Woodruff should be renominated. The Platt people, from all that can be learned, are determined to go ahead in the convention and rename Mr. Woodruff. Mr. Woodruff said to-night:

"I shall vote for Gov. Black, and stand by him to the last. I had nothing to do with today's movement in my favor. All who took part in that movement will substantiate this statement."

Mr. Payn, however, was rather cross when he heard of the determined attitude of Mr. Woodruff's friends to bring about his renomination, and yet he smiled cynically and said that he had seen similar things in politics and had no complaint to make. The Platt people insist positively to-night that Mr. Woodruff is to be renominated.

It was announced after this on the highest authority that Col. Morgan of Buffalo is to be the candidate for Comptroller. This news very greatly pleased Comptroller Roberts, Col. Morgan, and the Erie county delegates. It was very disappointing to Addison B. Colvin and his friends. It was said that Senator Platt had sent for Mr. Colvin and requested him to withdraw from the race. This statement is not correct. Mr. Colvin's friends decided to-night to keep him in the field, for the reason that there are positive reports from eminent Republicans that they will at the last moment take most drastic measures to prevent the nomination of Col. Morgan. These men said that Col. Morgan's nomination could not be brought about by this convention. They declared that they would go to all extremes in an effort to prevent it, and whether these threats amount to anything or not the next forty-eight hours will determine. These men seem to be opposed desperately to Col. Morgan, and, moreover, they insist with emphasis that they can prevent his nomination, and that they will certainly make it clear to Senator Platt that Morgan's nomination will be most unwise.

Col. Morgan's friends did not seem to be greatly exercised over the stand taken against their candidate. They said that they did not believe anything could be brought against Morgan which would force his retirement. That may be all well and good, but if the threats that are heard to-night are carried out, certain well-known Republicans will stand up in the convention and throw a bomb which will retire Col. Morgan as a candidate for the nomination for Comptroller. It is admitted that a great many of the threats heard to-night against Col. Morgan come from personal feeling against him. Col. Morgan, it was said, has not been as amiable in the Comptroller's office at Albany as he might have been, and he has aroused antagonisms which are now approaching a head. Still, it was insisted, threats at a time like this may amount to little or nothing, especially when the men who say that they will prevent Col. Morgan's nomination at all hazards refuse to state the nature of the bomb they threaten to throw into the convention.

The selection of John P. McDonough of Albany to be the candidate for Secretary of State is considered to be thoroughly wise. He was a member of the Constitutional Convention, and since then he has been in a place which has enabled him to materially benefit the poorer people of all the cities in the State, and besides Mr. McDonough is considered to be a very able citizen.

Sunday slates are not always immaculate. Frequently they are broken, and so it may be said to-night that changes may occur to-morrow. Nothing definite has been decided concerning a candidate for State Treasurer, although the name of Mayor George E. Green of Binghamton is prominently mentioned for that place. Senator Malby had a long talk with Senator Platt to-day in the interest of ex-County Judge John M. Kellogg of St. Lawrence as a candidate for Attorney-General. So also did the friends of John C. Davies of Oneida talk with Senator Platt in behalf of Mr. Davies as a candidate for Attorney-General. It was said to-night that the indications are that the struggle between Kellogg and Davies will be allowed to go into the convention, and that the friends of the two men must fight it out in that body. If this is done the friends of Mr. Davies say that he will win in a walk. Mr. Davies is at present a deputy in Attorney-General Hancock's office at Albany. Strange as it may appear, no candidate has turned up for State Engineer and Surveyor, although the names of Edwin B. North and George E. Waring, Jr., of New York city have been mentioned.

Superintendent Payn assembled the friends of Gov. Black in his cottage at the United States Hotel to-night. The gathering was merely informal. No plan of action was decided upon and none will be until Gov. Black arrives to-morrow. Col. Griffith, the Governor's private secretary, is already here. The only prominent Black man absent to-night from Superintendent Payn's round-up was Superintendent Aldridge, and this fact revived the stories heard earlier in the day of trouble between Mr. Payn and Mr. Aldridge over the Babcock incident, when Mr. Aldridge met Mr. Platt in the latter's cottage. It was still insisted that no serious breach had occurred between Mr. Payn and Mr. Aldridge, and yet it may be set down as a positive fact that while Mr. Aldridge is loyal in every hair of his head to Gov. Black, he is not nearly so bitter in his comments against the Governor's factional adversaries as Mr. Payn.

Mr. Aldridge knows what it is himself to be set aside as a candidate for Governor. Two years ago in this very spot he had 284 delegates at his back, and yet, when Gov. Black was selected by the now famous Worden House conference, Mr. Aldridge retired and did not express a single sentiment of disappointment. No matter how he felt about the matter he kept his own thoughts, and certainly worked hard for Gov. Black. Still, while he is loyal to Gov. Black, he does not go out of his way to say unkind things of those who do not believe that Gov. Black would be the strongest candidate that could be named in the approaching State convention.

The Hon. Chauncey M. Depew is to make the speech which is to bring about the nomination of Col. Theodore Roosevelt. The Hon. Serene E. Payne of Auburn is to be temporary Chairman and the Hon. Horace White of Syracuse permanent Chairman of the convention. The Republicans who learned to-night that Senator Platt and Mr. Payn had kept away from each other all day long said that they would not believe for an instant that the old political and personal ties that have existed between these two men for nearly half a century had been severed. Mr. Payn's friends said that he seriously differed with Mr. Platt in the determination to nominate Col. Roosevelt instead of Gov. Black. Mr. Payn it was made known met Mr. Platt in New York early last week and protested for the last time against the nomination of Col. Roosevelt. Senator Platt in reply reiterated, it was said, what he has told all of his political visitors for the last month or two, that Gov. Black could not be re-elected.

Some folks are talking about a terrific split in the Republican party because Gov. Black is not to be renominated. This view of the situation is not seriously accepted by those acquainted with the facts. The only people who seem to be bitter at the present time are Gov. Black, Mr. Payn, Mr. Lauterbach, and Mr. Gruber. Sheriff Collins of Troy and Mr. Easton of Albany are also more or less ugly, but for all that it is not the opinion of those conversant with the situation that Gov. Black's followers, even if they had the disposition, could work any extended injury to the Republican ticket on election day.

Representative George N. Southwick of Albany is here on a mission which will delight the souls of every Albanian. Every hotel keeper, every man who has anything to sell, every fellow who can make a cent in Albany at the sessions of the Legislature, will be gratified to know that Representative Southwick is here for the special purpose of insisting that no plank in the platform shall be inserted which shall advocate biennial sessions of the Legislature. Gov. Black caused such a bill to be passed at Albany last winter. To be made effective and become a law the bill must be repassed at the session of the Legislature next winter and then submitted to the people as an amendment to the Constitution.

The thrifty Albanians are very much disturbed over this biennial session bill. They threaten to defeat, if possible, the Republican candidates for Congressman, Senator and Assemblymen, and do all sorts of havoc. Representative Southwick comes of old Albany Dutch stock, and has inherited his ancestors' notions of thrift, and so, if possible, the platform of this Republican State Convention will ignore Gov. Black's demand for biennial sessions, and, furthermore, it may be said that there is a movement already on foot looking to the repeal of the bill which was passed at Albany last winter.

The platform of the convention was completed to-night. It will make a short half column in THE SUN. This will probably be the briefest document that ever proclaimed the principles of a Republican State Convention. National issues will be dealt in chiefly. The administration of Gov. Black will be indorsed. The platform will review the acts of the Republican Legislature and point out the beneficent features of the last two sessions at Albany.

The platform will make no recommendation as to the immediate submission to the people of the question of voting the additional millions necessary to complete the canal improvements. The indorsement of President McKinley's Administration will be most enthusiastic.

The platform will take strong grounds as to the retention of the Philippine Islands and will insist that none of the conquered lands be returned to Spain or left without sufficient protection from the American Government to insure stable governments in these conquered lands. The platform will take a most advanced position regarding the money question and will recommend the passage of a currency bill which shall reorganize the national paper money on the basis of the gold standard.

Late to-night it was learned that Representative Southwick had been successful in his special mission to Saratoga. He had prevented, by his strenuous opposition, any indorsement in the platform of the proposed constitutional amendment in favor of biennial sessions, which was advocated by Gov. Black.

ROOSEVELT, OF NEW YORK.

PROOF AT HAND THAT OYSTER BAY IS HIS RESIDENCE.

He Lost His Vote in 1897 by Removing Thither Too Near Election and He Did Not Propose to Lose Another—Wrote to Have His Name Put On the Tax Roll.

The following statement of the facts connected with Col. Roosevelt's payment his of taxes for two years past was obtained yesterday on unimpeachable authority. The proof of all the assertions will be contained in the letters written to Col. Roosevelt's lawyer at the time Col. Roosevelt forwarded his affidavit from Washington. These letters will not be made public until the Republican State Convention meets, but they are considered to be irrefragable proof of Col. Roosevelt's eligibility as a nominee for Governor. According to Col. Roosevelt's case it is understood that the facts are as follows:

In the years between 1880 and 1889 Col. Roosevelt's legal residence during most of the time was at Oyster Bay, where he voted and paid taxes on real and personal property. When Col. Roosevelt was serving in the Legislature his residence was in New York city, but with the exception of these years his residence, as before stated, was at Oyster Bay. He continued to hold a legal residence at Oyster Bay after he was made United States Civil Service Commissioner, in which capacity he served from 1889 to 1894. During this time he really lived in Washington, but voted and paid his taxes in Oyster Bay. After being made Police Commissioner of this city in 1895 he changed his residence to the city and rented a house at 689 Madison avenue. Although he still kept up his country residence at Oyster Bay, he determined in 1895 to appoint New York city as his legal residence. At the elections of 1895 and 1896 he voted in the present Twenty-ninth Assembly district of New York county.

Col. Roosevelt's lease of the house at 689 Madison avenue expired on Oct. 1, 1897. In April previous he had been appointed Assistant Secretary of the Navy. He took a room in Washington after that, but his family did not move to Washington until the following November.

In July, 1897, which was before his lease expired in New York city, he was notified by the assessors of Oyster Bay of his assessment in that town, he having paid both real and personal taxes there for the year preceding. In reply Col. Roosevelt notified the assessors that he legally resided in this city and he made an affidavit to that effect which was forwarded to Oyster Bay and is on file in the Town Clerk's office. In consequence of this affidavit the assessors for Oyster Bay dropped his name from the rolls of the personal taxpayers. After the expiration of the lease of the house in Madison avenue Col. Roosevelt, although still really living in Washington, determined to make Oyster Bay his legal residence again. He went there several times after October 1, 1897, but was unable to cast a vote at the election of 1897, for the reason that he had removed from one county to another less than four months before election.

When the tax rolls were being prepared for New York city in the beginning of the year 1898 Col. Roosevelt was notified of his assessment as a resident of New York city. Prior to this he had removed his family to Washington, although not with the idea of giving up his legal residence at Oyster Bay. Accordingly, when he was notified by the New York city assessors of being taxed there he made out an affidavit in Washington to the effect that he was no longer a resident of New York city. At the time he gave explicit instructions to his attorney, John E. Roosevelt, and to Douglas Robinson, his brother-in-law, in whose charge he left his affairs because of his going to Cuba, that the affidavit should not be used if it would occasion any doubt about his residence. These instructions were contained in three letters which he wrote to these gentlemen and which have fortunately been preserved, although Col. Roosevelt made no copies of them himself. These are the letters at present in the hands of Elihu Root, which are to be made public when the convention meets.

In these letters he requested that his uncle, James A. Roosevelt, then a resident of Oyster Bay, see that his name was put on the tax rolls as a resident of Oyster Bay. His uncle, James A. Roosevelt, agreed to do this, but had not complied with the request at the time of his death in July, and the attorneys neglected to do it afterward. In one of the letters Col. Roosevelt very plainly states that he would rather pay taxes in both places than jeopard his right to a domicile in New York state.

At the time of sending on his affidavit from Washington he was exceedingly busy in finishing up his work as Assistant Secretary of the Navy, which was very heavy at the outbreak of the war. He was also at the time arranging for his regiment, which occupied a good deal of his attention. For these reasons he found it impossible to get on here himself, and immediately afterward he went to Cuba, where he remained all summer. As it had been agreed that Mr. James A. Roosevelt should see that his name was put on the tax rolls of Oyster Bay for 1898, Col. Roosevelt paid no further attention to the matter. This was the case even after his return from Cuba, and it was not until yesterday that he learned that his wishes had not been complied with, as, owing to the death of his uncle, the matter had been evidently forgotten. As a result, his name does not appear as yet on the tax rolls for Oyster Bay. The reason for a good deal of confusion in the payment of taxes, especially in Col. Roosevelt's case, is the fact that the tax rolls for New York city are made out at the beginning of the year, while in Oyster Bay they are not prepared until midsummer.

This would seem to remove all doubt as to the sincerity of Col. Roosevelt's motives for making affidavit that he was not a resident of New York city last spring. He was also very desirous of having no doubts arise as to his legal residence for the reason that he did not want to lose the right to vote for two successive years.

That Col. Roosevelt has not manifested any desire to dodge taxes is shown by the fact that in the two years, 1895 and 1896, though at that time, he declared his legal residence to be in New York city, he paid taxes on his personal property at Oyster Bay. This was brought out by an examination of the tax rolls for Oyster Bay which was made on Saturday. The payment was unnecessary, as Col. Roosevelt was at that time a resident of New York city.

Col. Roosevelt's property at Oyster Bay cost $20,000. In 1897 the Assessors valued it at $75,000, which was a ridiculously large figure, Col. Roosevelt's brother made a complaint, and as a result the assessment was reduced to $40,000, on which Col. Roosevelt was taxed.

When commissioned Colonel of the rough riders, succeeding Col. Wood, Col. Roosevelt wrote this letter to the Adjutant-General:

"FIRST REGT. U. S. VOL. CAVALRY,
IN CAMP NEAR SANTIAGO DE CUBA,
July 31, 1898.

"SIR: I herewith acknowledge the receipt of my commission as Colonel of the First Volunteer Cavalry, which I accept with pleasure. I was born in New York on Oct. 27, 1858, and have resided in New York ever since. Yours, very respectfully,

"THEODORE ROOSEVELT."

OYSTER BAY, Sept. 25.—Col. Roosevelt arrived here on the midnight train last night and remained here all day. He spent Sunday with his family. Several visitors arrived and were cordially received. In regard to the question raised as to his payment of taxes, he said that the matter was in the hands of Elihu Root, who would decide when to make his letters on the subject public. Col. Roosevelt admitted that he had filed an affidavit here in 1897 that he was not a resident of this place. This, he said, he had done in July of that year, and not in September as James I. Waldron, one of the Assessors said yesterday. It is Col. Roosevelt's intention to remain at his home to-morrow, although he may possibly go to the city should there be a demand for his presence there.

ACTOR BELL DISCHARGED.

Was Very Drunk on the Stage and Was Bounced When the Curtain Fell.

SAN FRANCISCO, Sept. 25.—Edward M. Bell, leading man of the Frawley Company, who was expected to open the season here at the Baldwin Theatre to-morrow night, has been discharged at Los Angeles for drunkenness. Frawley opened in Los Angeles on Thursday night in "An Enemy to the King" to a fine audience.

When Bell came on the stage he was very drunk, and with difficulty stumbled through his part. In the last scene in the duel he became greatly excited, and it was with difficulty that his antagonist saved himself from Bell's fierce lunges. When the curtain fell Mr. Frawley discharged Bell, and the next night took his part himself. Bell has been drinking heavily since his discharge.

FREE FOOD FOR CUBAN SUFFERERS.

Gomez Wants Land, Ploughs, Oxen and Money for His Soldiers.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

HAVANA, Sept. 25.—It is said here that the Red Cross steamer Comal, which was not permitted to land her cargo of provisions at this port, will arrive at Matanzas to-morrow, where part of her cargo will be landed for the reconcentrados. She will then proceed to Caibarien, and land provisions for the use of the Cubans under Gen. Gomez. Other Red Cross vessels are expected soon. They will land their cargoes at different ports of the island without paying duty.

Gen. Gomez is pressing the commission by letters and special envoys to solve the problem of importing food free of duty for the insurgent army. Gen. Gomez's plan for the future of the Cuban Army has been studied by the Commissioners. He wants some land, a plough, oxen and a little money to be given to each of his soldiers after they are honorably discharged. He suggests that the land be given from the vast properties of the State in the interior of the island.

The Cuban Army, though in a starving condition, continues to behave well. Gens. Betancourt, Menocal and Mayia Rodrigues have notified their men that they will summarily court-martial any of them who steal cattle or seize food from the farmers.

A second issue of *La Estrella Solitario*, an insurgent paper that is published without the sanction of the Spanish authorities, has appeared in Havana. The paper says that the true and only owners of this country are the soldiers of the insurgent army, and yet they starve when peace is already declared, and it adds that if this state of affairs continues they will have to procure food by force.

A letter from the insurgent General, Mario Menocal, addressed to Captain-General Blanco and sent to the American commission to be delivered to Gen. Blanco, was returned yesterday to Gen. Menocal, with a polite refusal from the commission to act as intermediary between the insurgents and Spaniards.

The surroundings of the Salon Trocha, at La Vedado, where the American Commissioners have their headquarters, are very unhealthy. An epidemic of malarial fever prevails there and several of the clerks of the commission are sick. Admiral Sampson came to Havana this morning to look for rooms in a more healthful locality. He was disappointed at not finding apartments in the city with a bathroom.

AUTONOMISTS GIVE PLEDGES.

Send a Pledge to Washington to Uphold Cuba's Future Government.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—The radical autonomist deputies in the Colonial House of Representatives of Cuba have signed the following document, a copy of which has been forwarded to Washington:

"The undersigned Deputies of the House of Representatives, in view of the situation caused by the relinquishment of Spanish sovereignty over the island of Cuba, hereby resolve as follows:

"To submit ourselves without reserve to the events which are being consummated in the relinquishment of Spain's authority and jurisdiction over the island of Cuba, accepting them as final, and swearing allegiance to the new political status. To defend within the limits of that status the absolute independence of the island of Cuba. To foster and encourage all movements which may have for their purpose the reestablishment of friendly relations between Cubans and Spaniards. To recommend to all autonomists the cordial indorsement of our platform, and that they should take an active part in the politics of the island, but without attempting or pretending to exercise a controlling influence or power in the management of political affairs which logically and justly belong to those who have always been the consistent supporters of the cause of independence; but that we be ready and willing at all times when we may be called upon to serve the interests of Cuba as best we can.

"GIBERGA, MESA Y DOMINGUEZ, ARCSTEG UI Y MARTINEZ, VIONDI ALVAREZ Y RUKILLAN, ROJAS, RAMELL, ALONSO DOLZ, PELLON, NEIRA, BETANCOURT, SMITH."

HABANA, Sept. 1, 1898.

GOMEZ APPEALS FOR FOOD.

His Commissioners Depict a Sad State of Starvation in Santa Clara.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—Telegrams received by the Cuban delegation at Washington from the Commissioners who arrived at Key West to-day, and who were sent by Gen. Gomez, depict the situation in the province of Santa Clara as most critical. The Cuban army there, they say, is starving. For over two weeks they had eaten no meat, the vegetables were almost gone, and the last mules and the horses had been killed to feed the sick. The children and old people are reported dying by dozens every day. Gen. Gomez makes an appeal for aid, and says his men are desperate.

FASHODA IS CAPTURED.

The Sirdar Plants His Flag 450 Miles South of Omdurman—Another Battle.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

LONDON, Sept. 25.—Mr. Horatio David Davies, Lord Mayor of London, has received the following despatch from Gen. Sir Herbert Kitchener, commander of the Anglo-Egyptian expedition in the Soudan:

"OMDURMAN, Sept. 24, 6:10 P. M.—I hope your Lordship will convey to the citizens of London our grateful thanks for your congratulatory telegram, which I received to-day on my return from establishing garrisons at Fashoda and on the Sobat River.

"We trust that the opening up of these extensive countries will benefit the city of London and British trade and commerce generally."

SUAKIN, Sept. 25.—Col. Parsons, Governor of Kassala, captured Gedaref, the last stronghold of the Dervishes, on Thursday, after three hours of severe fighting. Thirteen hundred Egyptian troops and 3,000 Dervishes were engaged. The latter were completely routed, with the loss of 500 killed. The British lost no officers, but the Egyptian battalion lost three officers wounded and twenty men killed and thirty wounded. An Arab battalion of 400 men and the irregulars had fifteen killed and twenty wounded. In the camel corps two men were killed and three are missing.

The Sirdar has evidently been improving his time to excellent advantage since he captured Omdurman on Sept. 3. He has established garrisons at Fashoda and the mouth of the Sobat River, which are respectively 380 and 450 miles south of Omdurman. Mahdism gave an enormous impetus to the slave trade in inner Africa, and it appears the Dervish garrison at Fashoda was very active in collecting slaves and forwarding them to Omdurman.

The Sobat is the largest river in Africa that is still practically unknown. It is a tributary of the right bank of the White Nile, and no one knows where it rises or what its course is above the lower part of the river. The solution of the Sobat problem will be one of the prizes for the explorer who reveals to the world the unknown country between Lake Rudolf and the White Nile.

After the fall of Khartoum and the death of the Mahdi, the Khalifa, who has now fled before the advance of Kitchener, decided to capture Abyssinia. The war was a bloody one, but he did not fulfil his ambition, though he succeeded in capturing Kassala and in killing King John of Abyssinia, who fell in battle. One of the events of this war was the capture of Gedaref by the Dervishes, and the town has been in their possession ever since until now, when we are informed that Col. Parsons has captured this last stronghold of the Khalifa's followers.

Gedaref is in the midst of one of the most fertile plains in the Soudan. Everything that thrives in a tropical climate grows in this plain, and there is never any lack of water. The Dervishes were driven out of Kassala by the Italians some years ago, and in December last the town was transferred to Egypt.

The present situation, as far as we know, is that the Dervishes have been driven out of the fine region to the east, between Omdurman and Abyssinia, the Sirdar has advanced his flag to the Sobat, 450 miles south of Omdurman on the Nile, and the Khalifa is seeking some place of refuge far to the southwest of his former capital.

KANG PROTECTED BY ENGLAND.

He Says the Dowager Empress Has an Understanding with Russia.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PEKIN, Sept. 25.—Kang Yu Wei, the Cantonese reformer, who is charged with conspiring against the Dowager Empress, has been declared an outlaw, and his arrest has been ordered.

Chang Yin Huan, a Cantonese enemy and rival of Li Hung Chang, has been arrested on the charge of harboring Kang Yu Wei, and has been stripped of all his offices. His removal means increased power for Li Hung Chang.

The officials welcome the return of the Dowager Empress to power, but the people are indifferent.

Kang Yu Wei was interviewed at Shanghai, where he is on board a British steamer which sailed for Hong Kong to-day. He says that he left Pekin on Tuesday in compliance with a secret message from the Emperor warning him of danger and urging him to endeavor to obtain the assistance of those interested in the country's welfare.

He added that the party of the Dowager Empress is bound by an understanding with the Russians, by which the latter, in consideration of the support of Russian interests, undertake to support Manchuria as the seat of the dynasty, and to maintain Manchu rule in China.

Kang further said that the Emperor's health is excellent, and that he has great capacity for work. His eagerness for progress is remarkable. He is convinced, however, that it is impossible to overcome the opposition without the assistance of Great Britain.

Kang urges British intervention to restore the Emperor to the throne. He declares that unless protection is afforded to the victims of the coup d'état it will henceforth be impossible for any native official to support British interests.

BUFFALO TO GO TO MANILA.

The Cruiser to Be Added to the Vessels to Reinforce Dewey.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25.—A still further increase in the already large fleet under command of Rear Admiral Dewey has been provided by the Navy Department in the decision to send the cruiser Buffalo to Manila. The Buffalo went in commission at the Brooklyn Navy Yard last week, and is practically ready to start for the Asiatic station. She is commanded by Commander Joseph N. Hemphill, who until recently was in charge of the enlisted men's branch of the Naval Bureau of Navigation. He tried very hard to get the cruiser in condition for sea service before the end of the war, but the overhauling required consumed more time than was estimated originally. Nearly all the officers have been assigned to the Buffalo, and her crew is now on board. It was at the personal request of Commander Hemphill that his ship was assigned to the Asiatic station.

The Buffalo was built at Newport News, Va., for the Morgan line, and was in the service of that company up to the time of the Brazilian rebellion of 1893. Then she was purchased by the Brazilian Government and fitted as a cruiser. Shortly before the Spanish-American war began the United States Government made arrangements to purchase her from Brazil, but hostilities had begun before she started north from Rio de Janeiro. She was not formally turned over to the United States until her arrival at Norfolk. The work on the vessel at the Brooklyn yard has been thorough, and the Buffalo is now a very serviceable cruiser, with a battery of rapid-fire guns. She will proceed to Manila by the South American route.

BERESFORD ON EASTERN TRADE.

China's Waterways Should Be Developed Under Military Protection.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

SINGAPORE, Sept. 25.—Rear Admiral Lord Charles Beresford, who is en route to China as the representative of the British Associated Chambers of Commerce, has arrived here. In a speech made by him yesterday before the Chamber of Commerce and the Straits Settlement Association, he urged that commercial treaties between Great Britain, Germany, the United States and Japan would insure peace.

He declared that the waterways of China should be developed under the protection of military police, and then railroads would follow. In conclusion, Lord Charles urged Great Britain to take a firmer and more definite attitude in regard to China.

HOBSON SAVES THE MARIA TERESA.

The Sunken Spanish Cruiser Towed Safely Into Guantanamo Harbor.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

SANTIAGO, Sept. 25.—The Spanish cruiser Infanta Maria Teresa has been raised by Lieut. Hobson.

She was towed, in the face of a coming storm last night, to Guantanamo harbor, where she was welcomed with the blowing of whistles and general rejoicing.

GEN. EAGAN INDIGNANT.

Denounces Statement That New York Troops Fare Badly at Honolulu.

UTICA, N. Y., Sept. 25.—Congressman James D. Sherman to-day received the reply of Charles P. Eagan, Commissary-General of Subsistence, to the alleged charges that the First New York Volunteers at Honolulu are suffering from lack of food. It is:

WAR DEPARTMENT, OFFICE COMMISSARY-GENERAL OF SUBSISTENCE,
WASHINGTON, Sept. 23, 1898.

Respectfully returned to the Assistant Secretary of War with the statement that the report of lack of sufficient food for the First New York Volunteers or any other regiment stationed at Honolulu is absolutely false. The troops at Honolulu are amply supplied with all articles of the ration and also vegetables. Attention is invited in this connection to the indorsed newspaper clipping which shows that Gen. Merriam denies the newspaper talk of insufficient food.

Gen. Merriam has but just returned from Honolulu. This is but a part and parcel of the journalistic knavery that pervades the country; statements made by irresponsible people; statements that will be denied whenever traced home, which can only rarely be done; statements false in themselves and made of whole cloth and purely for sensational purposes.

I denounce the statements as criminally false, as I know the troops are amply supplied with good, wholesome and sufficient food, including fresh meat, fresh bread and fresh vegetables.

CHARLES P. EAGAN,
Commissary-General of Subsistence.

The newspaper clipping refer