ENGLAND'S DANGER IN WAR

HER DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTS FOR A FOOD SUPPLY.

House of Commons Rejects a Proposition to Recognize This in the Address to the Queen — National Granaries Not Considered Favorably as a Solution.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—In the House of Commons to-day Mr. Henry Seton-Karr raised the question of Great Britain's dependence for the necessaries of life upon foreign imports and the danger arising therefrom in case of war. His query took the form of an amendment to the address in reply to the Queen's speech. It called attention to the necessity for taking some measures to lessen the dependence of Great Britain for her food supply on foreign powers.

Mr. Hugh Arnold-Forster, member for the West Division of Belfast, recommended the establishment of a system of national insurance of all war risks. The Government, he said, should undertake to reimburse shipowners for their losses by capture in time of war.

The Right Hon. C. T. Ritchie, President of the Board of Trade, said he saw great difficulties in the way of establishing a national insurance system. He added that he regarded the establishment of national granaries, as had been advocated by some persons, as impracticable. If the British Navy was kept sufficiently strong to protect the trade routes and the shores of the country there was not the remotest chance of starvation, though corn would probably advance in price. He did not think that the United States and the other nations would remain quiescent if corn was made contraband of war. In conclusion Mr. Ritchie declared that the suggestion of paying bounties on home-grown corn was outside of practical politics.

The Right Hon. James Bryce, ex-President of the Board of Trade, agreed that the various suggestions that had been made for the prevention of a scarcity of corn were futile. He thought it was practically useless to speculate as to what would be England's exact position in the event of war, and that under any circumstances that might arise there would be no danger of a famine.

Mr. Seton-Karr's motion was defeated without a division.

Mr. John Redmond, the leader of the Parnellites, introduced an amendment to the address to the effect that the establishment of local self-government in Ireland only intensified the demand for home rule. He said he moved the amendment because of the many declarations from members of the Liberal party repudiating home rule, and in the hope of extracting some clear pronouncement from the Liberal leaders regarding their attitude toward home rule. Mr. Redmond quoted from speeches that were made by Sir Henry Fowler and Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the latter being the leader of the opposition in the House, but both these gentlemen denied the accuracy of his quotations. Mr. Redmond said that they should have an opportunity to explain, and if their declarations resulted in the repudiation of the principles of the alliance between the Nationalists and Liberals, as laid down by Mr. Parnell, the outcome would be the immediate revival of national feeling in Ireland.

Mr. Redmond's motion was rejected by a vote of 300 to 43.

MAINE CEREMONIES AT HAVANA.

Our Troops March to the Cemetery and Put Flowers on the Graves of the Victims.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

HAVANA, Feb. 16.—The graves of the victims of the Maine interred in the Colon Cemetery were decorated yesterday afternoon with impressive ceremonies. Commodore Cromwell, Captain of the Port of Havana, with the crews of the cruiser Brooklyn and the auxiliary cruiser Resolute, marched from the United States Club to the cemetery, followed by a number of Cuban clubs and several wagons loaded with wreaths. After these came the Seventh Cavalry headed by a band of music, followed by upward of 3,000 people. Shortly before the arrival of the procession at the cemetery the soldiers and sailors were joined by the entire staff of Major-Gen. Brooke. Arriving at the cemetery, the sailors passed before the tomb of the Maine heroes, each one depositing flowers thereon. Later Gen. Fitzhugh Lee arrived with the First Maine, Second Illinois and Third Nebraska Infantry. A religious ceremony was held in the forenoon in the Merced Church under the auspices of the municipality. The wreck of the Maine was decorated with wreaths, flowers and ropes of evergreens by persons who visited the wreck throughout the day.

The Cuban Generals Menocal, Rivas and Rosas called at the house of the widow and sons of Gen. Calixto Garcia yesterday and tried to see them, but they were not received. The family continues to protest against the attitude of the Cuban Assembly on the occasion of Gen. Garcia's funeral. Gen. Carlos Garcia is receiving large numbers of despatches sympathizing with the family and denouncing the course taken by the Assembly.

The committee of the Cuban Assembly appointed to investigate and report whether there was really any just cause of complaint against Gen. Brooke's course at the funeral of Gen. Garcia has reported that Gen. Brooke's action was perfectly right, and that the unfortunate affair was due wholly to the mistake of an American officer, whose name is not known to the committee. The Assembly accepted the report as entirely satisfactory.

GERMANY'S SUGAR TRADE WITH US.

Baron Von Thielmann Says Cuban Competition Will Not Be Dangerous This Year.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

BERLIN, Feb. 16.—At the sitting of the Budget Committee of the Reichstag to-day Baron von Thielmann, Minister of the Imperial Treasury, spoke against the declaration made by Baron von Hammerstein-Loxten, Prussian Minister of Agriculture, in the Prussian Landtag recently, that the exportation of sugar from Cuba to the United States under American exploitation would greatly increase the danger threatening the German beet-sugar industry. Baron von Thielmann estimated that Cuba would not produce more than 500,000 tons of sugar in 1899 and 800,000 tons in 1900. Not before 1902 or 1903, he said, would the island produce 2,000,000 tons and be able to supply America's requirements.

Herr Frese and Dr. Paasche confirmed Baron von Thielmann's statements, basing their estimates upon expert information.

SPAIN'S COURT-MARTIAL SCHEDULE.

Commanders of All Vessels Destroyed by Us Must Stand Trial.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

MADRID, Feb. 16.—The steamers Bosnia, San Ignacio and Montevideo, with Spanish soldiers from Cuba on board, have respectively arrived at Barcelona, Cadiz and Vigo.

It is announced that the commanders of all of the Spanish war vessels destroyed by the Americans at Manila and Santiago are to be court-martialled.

TO SEARCH FOR ANDREE.

Prof. Nathorst and Explorer Brun Plan to Start North in June.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

STOCKHOLM, Feb. 16.—Prof. Nathorst, the Swedish geologist, has arranged to start in search of Andrée in June on board the ship Antarctic. He will be accompanied by the Danish explorer, Brun.

The Czar Interested in Prof. Schenck's Sex Theory.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

VIENNA, Feb. 16.—The Vienna Medical Council is discussing the question whether Prof. Schenck's discovery determining the sex of an unborn child is charlatanism or a genuine scientific discovery. This action is being taken by the council in view of Prof. Schenck's submitting his plan to the Emperor of Russia, who is desirous of hearing the council's opinion.

German Comment on the Chambers Letter.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

BERLIN, Feb. 16.—The *Lokalanzeiger*, commenting upon the letter of Chief Justice Chambers, giving his version of the troubles in Samoa, says the communication is even more comical than the London *Times's* Melbourne despatch on the same subject.

CUBANS MAY REFUSE $3,000,000.

Assembly Hears from Washington That More May Be Secured for the Army.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

HAVANA, Feb. 16.—A sensation was caused in the Cuban Assembly by the reading of the following telegram from Washington:

"Don't accept the proposal of Porter to pay $3,000,000. I can make a better offer when I arrive there Saturday. FARRES."

The Assembly decided to await the arrival of Farres, and cabled to him that it would agree to nothing concerning the payment of the troops until he arrived and explained his telegram. There will probably be a conflict between Gen. Gomez and the Assembly if the latter hears of Farres's interference in Gomez's agreement with Mr. Porter.

Gen. Monteagudo appeared before the Assembly and announced that he came in the name of Gen. Gomez to answer the communication in which the Assembly threatened to court-martial Gen. Gomez for not coming to Havana. Gen. Monteagudo said that Gen. Gomez had not come yet owing to the fact that the demonstrations of the people delayed him. He added that Gen. Gomez was sick, and this had caused some of the delay in his arrival. In conclusion he stated that Gen. Gomez recognized the power of the Assembly and was ready to obey its orders.

Gen. Monteagudo's statement was applauded. The Cuban Assembly appointed Gens. Villalon, Gomez and Parraga to meet Gen. Gomez and to express to him the admiration of the Assembly and thanks for his message.

The resignation of Señor Mendez Capote was accepted because, under the rules, the President of the Assembly cannot be a member of Gen. Brooke's Cabinet. Freyre Andrade, the promoter of the conflict at Gen. Garcia's funeral, was elected President in place of Señor Capote, and Gen. Hugo Roberts was elected Vice-President. The Assembly will meet again on Monday.

Gen. Brooke has instructed his Cabinet to extend its jurisdiction over the entire island, but to avoid friction with the military authorities in the several provinces. The Military Governors will have to obey orders from the Secretaries.

At Guanabacoa there are many unjust protests against Mayor Hyatt, the cause of complaint being that he is an American. Some of the Cubans there wished Señor Socorras to be appointed Mayor. Socorras was an agent of the revolution. Several of the Aldermen at Guanabacoa have resigned and joined the opposition to Mayor Hyatt. A massmeeting of Mr. Hyatt's supporters will be held shortly and resolutions will be adopted in his favor. His opponents have issued a manifesto saying that he did great service for Cuba and the revolution, but he is a foreigner who does not know the municipal laws and takes advice from Dr. Guiral, the old Autonomist Mayor. The dissidents also wish the number of Aldermen to be increased to twelve, the old number, they having been reduced to nine. They demand that the Aldermen and Mayor be elected by the people.

RIOS TO DEFEND THE TREATY.

Resigns from the Presidency of the Senate for That Purpose.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

MADRID, Feb. 16.—Señor Montero Rios, President of the Senate, has resigned that office for the purpose of putting himself in a position to defend his action as President of the Spanish Peace Commission at Paris. Premier Sagasta had a conference with Señor Rios to-day and begged him to reconsider his resignation. He assured him that he would have the fullest liberty in defending his action as President of the commission.

Señor Sagasta declared that, although the Queen Regent was entitled to ratify the peace treaty without reference to the Cortes, she preferred to have it discussed in Parliament beforehand, thus avoiding the appearance of exclusive decision on the part of the Crown. Señor Sagasta esteems Señor Rios very highly and appreciates the scrupulous delicacy of his action, but insists upon his withdrawing his resignation and allowing him to interpose in the debates on the treaty in the Senate. The Republicans will probably assist the Government in Parliament.

The Government has declared that it might consider proposals to sell the Caroline Islands if reasonable offers were made.

TO PASS THE REVISION BILL.

It Is Stated That the French Senate Will Vote 123 to 113 in Its Favor.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, Feb. 16.—The Senate has referred the Government's bill removing the Dreyfus revision inquiry from the criminal section of the Court of Cassation and placing it before the full court to a committee. The reference was made by a majority, which favors the chances of the Government's proposals.

It is stated that the bill will be passed by the Senate by a vote of 123 to 113.

The Cabinet decided before the death of the President to-night to request the resignation of M. Manau, Procureur-General of the Court of Cassation, and to appoint M. Guerin, ex-Minister of Justice, in his place. This is apparently a triumph for the anti-revisionists, but there is good authority for saying that M. Guerin is in favor of a revision of the Dreyfus case.

FRENCH-BRITISH CONFERENCE.

The Cession of a Coaling Station at Muscat to France to Be Discussed.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

PARIS, Feb. 16.—This afternoon's newspapers announce that the French and British Governments have entered into a friendly conference for the purpose of reducing to its real importance the question of the acquirement by France of a coaling station on the coast of Oman.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—In the House of Commons to-day Mr. Brodrick, Parliamentary Secretary to the Foreign Office, denied that the Sultan of Oman had ceded a coaling station to France.

BOMBAY, Feb. 16.—It is reported here that a British ultimatum has been sent to the Sultan of Oman at Muscat. It is also stated that the Sultan has leased the port of Bander Jisseh, five miles from Muscat, to France for one year.

COLON STRIKE ENDS.

Railway Company Agrees to Advance Prices and Work Is Being Rushed.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

COLON, Colombia, Feb. 16.—The strike of the railway and dock laborers here ended to-day, the railway company having agreed to advance wages to $2.20 currency per day. Work is being rushed at Panama and La Boca.

ARMED CARLISTS IN SPAIN.

Civil Guards and Infantry Pursue a Band of Them in Aragon.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

MADRID, Feb. 16.—Bands of armed Carlists are being pursued by the civil guards and infantry at Olocan, in Aragon, the Carlists retreating toward Teruel. The Government declares that the people are not in sympathy with a Carlist rising.

Gen. Rios Reports to Madrid on Iloilo.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

MADRID, Feb. 16.—Gen. Rios, Spanish Governor of the Philippines, cables that the Americans bombarded Iloilo last Saturday, entering the town after it had been abandoned by the insurgents, who set fire to the place before leaving. All of the foreign consulates and 80 per cent. of the houses of the city were burned. The Spanish residents are all safe.

Pope's Decision on "Americanism" Delayed.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

ROME, Feb. 16.—Some difficulties appear to have arisen at the Vatican to delay the Pope's decision respecting "Americanism." The optimistic views of the American Catholics here on the subject seem to have diminished lately.

NO WORD OF THE BULGARIA

ALL THE WOMEN NOT TAKEN OFF THE DISABLED STEAMSHIP.

John Hill, One of Those Rescued, Says Some Would Not Venture Into the Small Boat—He Thinks the Ship Foundered—Her Engines Were Working—Agents Hopeful.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

PONTA DELGADA, Azores, Feb. 16.—John Hill, one of the men taken off the Bulgaria and brought here by the Weehawken, had charge of the horses on the former vessel. He says that the Bulgaria encountered a hurricane which lasted for three days. A great number of seas boarded the vessel and washed away everything movable. The horse stalls and horses were thrown from side to side. Many of the animals were killed, while others had to be put to death owing to the injuries they had received.

The weather moderated on the fourth day, but the cargo had shifted and the compartments were more or less full of water. The port side of the steamer was four feet under water, which rushed through the ventilators into the ship. When the Weehawken was sighted the gale had again risen and a furious sea was running.

Eight children and four women reached the Weehawken in a lifeboat from the Bulgaria. This boat was pulled by five men, and it took two hours of hard rowing for them to get to the Weehawken. The remainder of the women were afraid to leave the Bulgaria lest the small boat capsize. The stewardess was not afraid, but she refused to leave the ship while the other women were aboard. The crew of the lifeboat tried to return to the Bulgaria, but their boat sank. They saved themselves by jumping to the Weehawken. The latter vessel lowered two boats, one of which began to sink and was abandoned. The other reached the Bulgaria, but was only able to take off five men, who jumped into her at great risk. Hill was one of these. The increasing gale prevented the return of the boat to the Bulgaria. As it was, the men escaped with much difficulty.

Hill confirms the statements that two other steamers were standing by the Bulgaria, but they did not offer to help her. The Bulgaria's steering machinery was broken, but her engines were running when Hill left her. The chief engineer had said that the vessel could not last four hours. Hill thinks that the Bulgaria foundered on the night of Feb. 5. He says that there was excellent discipline aboard the steamer and that there was no confusion among the passengers or crew.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—A despatch from Ponta Delgada, Azores, says that when the Weehawken's boat left the Bulgaria to return to the Weehawken the Bulgaria's machinery was in working order. The boat's crew intended to return to the Bulgaria, but were prevented from doing so because the boat had become seriously damaged by crashing against the ship's side.

The Hamburg-American line's main office in Hamburg sent this despatch yesterday to Emil L. Boas, general manager of the line at this port:

"It is evident that the reason for despatching boats from the Bulgaria to the Weehawken was not in order to abandon the Bulgaria, but to insure passengers' safety. According to Seaman Ahlgreen's statement, telegraphed by the German Consul at Ponta Delgada, the Bulgaria's engines were intact and working when he left the ship. The crew would have returned to the Bulgaria if the boat which transferred the passengers to the Weehawken had not become leaky and worthless through striking the Weehawken."

NO WORD FROM THE PAVONIA.

Norwegian Bark Smart Did Not See Her Near the Point Where She Was Disabled.

Special Cable Despatches to THE SUN.

QUEENSTOWN, Feb. 16.—The Norwegian bark Smart, which arrived here to-day from Laguna, Brazil, reports having experienced terrific weather. On Feb. 7 she passed latitude 41° 10' north, longitude 44° 13' west, where the Pavonia was sighted by the Colorado on Feb. 5 disabled, but saw no signs of her. The Captain of the Smart believes that if the Pavonia is afloat she must be making for Queenstown.

LONDON, Feb. 16.—The tugboat William Jolliffe, which was chartered by the Cunard Steamship Company to search for the missing steamer Pavonia, sailed from Cardiff on Wednesday night. Her immediate destination is the point where the Colorado lost sight of the Pavonia.

Fatal Religious Riots in Old Servia.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

BUCHAREST, Feb. 16.—A serious riot between Christians and Mohammedans has occurred in Old Servia, in which several persons were killed on both sides and many wounded.

Grand Hotel at Pau Burned.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, Feb. 16.—The upper part of the Grand Hotel at Pau from the fourth story was destroyed by fire last evening.

M. Carsonnet Killed by a Fall.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

PARIS, Feb. 16.—M. Carsonnet, the oldest member of the Paris bar, was killed to-day by falling down a flight of stairs at the Northern Railway station.

Big Warehouse Fire in Melbourne.

Special Cable Despatch to THE SUN.

MELBOURNE, Feb. 16.—Five hundred thousand pounds of tea and a large quantity of wine and spirits were destroyed here to-day by the burning of a large warehouse.

BURNS GAINS ONE VOTE.

First Break in the California Deadlock Made Yesterday by Senator Simpson.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Feb. 16.—The first break in the long Senatorial deadlock occurred today, when State Senator Simpson of Pasadena, who has been working steadily for Buila, broke away on the fifty-third ballot and voted for Daniel M. Burns. The change came from a source least expected, and created much excitement, the Burns adherents on the floor and in the gallery cheering lustily. A motion to adjourn was voted down, 72 to 40, but the next ballot showed no Republican changes.

Senator Simpson made the following statement to-day in explanation of his vote:

"I believe in the rule of a majority in my party. I have advocated a general caucus. I was overruled by a small faction, who advocated what has been termed a 'bobtailed caucus.' I have voted for twenty-six days one way, under instructions, as I deemed them, from the Los Angeles County Republican Convention. It seems to me that the time has come very properly when this deadlock should be broken. Some person had to make a start." Burns's election is now predicted.

Magee Bill Passes Pennsylvania Senate.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Feb. 16.—The Magee jury bill, the successor to the McCarrell bill, passed the Senate this afternoon, after being amended by Senator Cochran, the Democratic leader, to increase the number of challenges in case of misdemeanor from six to ten, and in felonies from twelve to twenty. The bill abolishes the provision of the present law allowing the standing aside of jurors and gives both sides the same rights in peremptory challenges. During the discussion of the bill Senator Flinn proposed an amendment embracing the main features of the New York law on the subject of selecting juries, but the Quay leaders voted it down. This evening they changed their minds and agreed to accept the amendment, and the House committee reported the bill in that shape.

There will be no quorum of the joint session to vote for a successor to Senator Quay before Thursday next.

NEW POLICE PENSION BILL.

Said to Be Designed to Scare Old Sergeants Into Retirement.

The police have heard that a Tammany statesman is getting up a bill to equalize all new police pensions at $500 hereafter, no matter what the pensioner's rank, and to include all civilian clerks, elevator men and all laborers employed by the department. The design the police have is either to induce the uniformed force to raise a fund to beat the bill, or else to scare some of the old Sergeants and Captains into retirement while they are still entitled to half pay as a pension.

Kentucky Jurist Drops Dead.

LEBANON, Ky., Feb. 16.—Judge Robert A. Burton, aged 64 years, one of the most prominent jurist in Kentucky, dropped dead at his home near here this morning of heart trouble.

ALL QUIET AT MANILA.

That Is the Information Cabled by Admiral Dewey—No Message from Gen. Otis.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—"All quiet" was the reassuring information added by Admiral Dewey to a cable message received at the Navy Department to-day. The message itself said that the cruiser Baltimore had been retubed and repaired at the Cavité arsenal and was in excellent condition. No advices as to the situation came from Major-Gen. Otis, and this absence of news from him, taken in connection with Admiral Dewey's message, is accepted as proof that no new and exciting events have occurred in the neighborhood of Manila.

Six weeks ago, when Gen. Otis notified the War Department of his intention to occupy Iloilo, he sent word also that when the occupation was completed he would send a garrison to Cebu, the capital and principal port of the island of that name. In the complications that prevented Gen. Miller from landing a force at Iloilo, the military authorities here forgot all about Cebu, but, with Iloilo taken, they expect that the next news of importance will be the occupation of the former place by some of the troops of Gen. Miller's command, now consisting of the Eighteenth Regular Infantry, Battery G of the Sixth Artillery, and the First Tennessee Volunteers. The fact that the Panay insurgents are disposed to make it troublesome for the United States troops in Iloilo and its neighborhood may prevent the occupation of Cebu for some time.

The War Department has selected for the next expedition to the Philippines the Sixth, Ninth, and Twenty-fourth regiments of United States infantry. The Ninth was ordered yesterday to proceed from Madison Barracks, N. Y., to the Department of California, where it will await orders to proceed to Manila. The Sixth, at Fort Sam Houston, Tex., and the Twenty-fourth, a negro regiment, at Fort Douglas, Utah, and Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo., were selected some time ago for "a protracted term of service in a tropical climate," and have been ready to move at short notice. Just how soon these regiments will be sent will depend on circumstances. Should the army of Aguinaldo receive heavy reinforcements they would probably be sent as soon as transports could be secured. If the Army Reorganization bill becomes a law the three regiments will be sent to the Philippines without delay to relieve some of the volunteer organizations there.

AMMUNITION FOR GEN. OTIS.

Transport Sheridan Will Carry 2,500 Rounds for the Field Guns.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Gen. Otis's command in the Philippines is to be supplied soon with large quantities of ammunition for field guns and small arms. Eight thousand rounds of small arm ammunition went with the first Philippine expedition, and in January 5,000,000 rounds more went to Manila. To supplement this the transport Grant is conveying 2,000,000 more rounds. The important part the batteries have played in the conflict with the rebels has so impressed the Bureau of Ordnance that it has been decided to send Gen. Otis another supply of field ammunition, and the transport Sheridan will carry 2,500 rounds. This is the first installment of a total of 7,500 rounds. Orders were given yesterday for the transportation to San Francisco of 5,000 rounds that will be loaded for Manila in about two weeks. Six thousand stand of arms and equipments have been stored in Benicia Arsenal, California, should Gen. Otis need anything in that line.

In addition to this work, the Bureau of Ordnance has determined to establish a large equipment depot at Havana, and orders were issued to-day for the shipment to Havana of nearly 4,000 sets of equipments and 2,000 stands of arms. This quantity is estimated to be the proper reserve supply for a command of 40,000 men.

SHERIDAN WILL SAIL TO-DAY.

Remainder of the Twelfth Infantry Started from Washington Yesterday.

The transport Sheridan, which was scheduled to sail for Manila yesterday, will not get away until to-day. She is waiting for eight companies of the Twelfth Infantry, which left Washington yesterday on the Baltimore and Ohio road, in forty-five freight cars, provided with berths. The train had been stalled at Martinsburg, W. Va., by a snowdrift, on the way to Washington.

Deaths of Soldiers in Cuba.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—The following despatch has been received at the War Department:

"HAVANA, Feb. 15.—Death report: Feb. 11, at Santiago, Private Charles Campbell, Company G, Fifth Volunteers, peritonitis, from wound in abdomen; Private George Garr, Company F, Twenty-third Kansas, dysentery; Feb. 14, at Havana, Private Patrick J. Smith, Company B, Eighth Infantry, malarial fever.

"BROOKE, Commanding."

Casualties at Manila.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—The following message was made public at the War Department this morning:

"MANILA, Feb. 16.—Harvey H. Harris, Company B, Twentieth Kansas, flesh wound, left leg, doing well; John Sorensen, First Montana, reported probably dead, is alive, both eyes shot away; condition fair. Cable 7th, reporting William J. Hayes, Company G, First Washington, wounded slightly, is error. Oval F. Gibson, Company E, First Washington, reported missing, found with sprained leg. Corporal Hayes, First Montana, cabled 6th as missing, is with company. OTIS."

THREATENED WITH FLOOD.

Washington in Danger from a Sudden Thaw and an Ice Gorge in the Potomac.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16.—Washington is now threatened with a flood, and the conditions indicate that it will be greater than any before experienced by the city. It has been raining all day, and there is every prospect of a sudden thaw and melting of the snow before the river can be well opened. Many suggestions have been made to the local authorities with a view of warding off part of the blow, and the business men have petitioned the District Commissioners to appeal to the War Department to blow up with dynamite the long bridge, a structure across the Potomac about one mile long. It is above this bridge that much of the ice is gorged and a dam is formed over which the water flows upon the city. A committee of business men, after making this suggestion to the District Commissioners, also called at the War Department to consult with the Secretary of War about the blowing up of the bridge should it become necessary to do so to save property and life. The people of Washington believe that a flood is inevitable, and point back to the dangerous floods of 1881 and 1883, when the lower part of the city was under water and thousands of dollars' worth of property was destroyed.

THE TOPEKA WEATHERED THE GALE.

With Boilers and Engines Out of Order, She Did Better Than the Sterling.

BOSTON, Feb. 16.—The United States cruiser Topeka arrived at the Boston Navy Yard today after a rough trip from Norfolk in the blizzard, which, however, in spite of boilers that were in bad shape and engines that needed repair, she managed to weather in safety. When she reached Newport she was obliged to seek safety from the hurricane which was blowing outside. The collier Sterling, which so narrowly escaped shipwreck on the Delaware Breakwater, is expected at the yard to-morrow. The Sterling was supposed to be a convoy for the Topeka, but she had but one serviceable boiler and when near the Breakwater that one broke down. She signalled the Topeka for assistance, and the cruiser helped her into the anchorage.

Dallas Nearly Out of Coal.

DALLAS, Tex., Feb. 16.—The City High School had to be closed to-day because the fuel supply was exhausted. Practically every coal yard in this city is bare. The number of men on strike in the various Indian Territory mines affected by the labor trouble was reported here to-day to be approximately 4,000. These are all in the Dallas supply district.

FEDERAL BANKRUPTCY LAW UPHELD.

St. Louis Case Decided Yesterday by the United States Court of Appeals.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 16.—Judges Thayer, Sanborn and Caldwell of the United States Court of Appeals rendered an important opinion to-day sustaining the Bankruptcy law. The opinion upholds the Federal Bankruptcy act and establishes its precedence over State legislation.

The case under review was that of Henry B. Davis vs. L. C. Bohle, United States Marshal. On Dec. 6, 1898, Charles F. Sievers, a prominent grocer, made a voluntary assignment in favor of Henry B. Davis. Certain creditors filed a petition in bankruptcy on Dec. 17 in the United States District Court, and on the 24th Judge Adams removed Davis and appointed Marshal Bohle to take charge of the property. An appeal was taken by Davis, and the decision rendered to-day places the Federal law above any State enactment.

ELECTRICITY GETS LOOSE.

FREAKS OF THE SUBTILE FLUID PRODUCED BY THE ICE.

Beautiful Displays of Fireworks on the Bridge and Along the Lines of Overhead Trolley Wires in Brooklyn—Ice-Clad Trees Glittering in City Hall Park.

The thaw made trouble for the underground trolley roads. The Eighth avenue, Fourth avenue and Second avenue lines suffered partial paralysis at intervals, while people along Sixth avenue were quite sure that line was disabled for more time than it was in running order. For a quarter of an hour at a time cars full of passengers stood motionless and unlighted all along the line. At intervals of five or six minutes the lights would glow, the conductor would bang the motorman's bell, the motorman would turn on the power—and the car would be in darkness again. After three or four false starts, the power would "stay put" for a few minutes and the cars would all move ahead a block or two. Passengers got out under every elevated station and climbed the stairs to a more certain means of transportation. Between elevated stations, people who didn't know how the line was going climbed aboard in sufficient numbers to keep the cars comfortably full and the conductors busy during illuminated spells collecting fares.

Motormen and inspectors gave all sorts of reasons for the bad behavior of the system. All agreed that water in the trolley ditch was responsible for it. The section between Twenty-third street and Forty-second was said to be in such shape that it could not be kept for five minutes at a time from short circuiting.

In the switch room of the power house at Twenty-fifth street and Lexington avenue a young man stood while the short-circuit signals over the switches banged at the rate of two a minute. He wouldn't answer any questions and said:

"Go to 621 Broadway in the morning."

The trolley wires in Brooklyn were coated with ice as the rain fell and froze on them, and proceeded, for the admiration of the public, to spit more fire than a cat with a bunch of Fourth of July crackers appended to her extremity. Every time the little wheel in the end of the trolley rod encountered a stretch of ice the current was interrupted and a quantity of beautiful pale green electricity broke loose. The effect of the performance was further heightened by a constant crackling.

After darkness fell the effect to one looking up a street on which there was a procession of trolley cars was weird. At a distance the cars themselves were not visible, but the sparks were, and their steady progression in accurate alignment suggested a torchlight procession of will-o'-the-wisps across a bog, or a convention of manifestations lined up in Indian file at a spiritualistic séance. Picturesque as the effect was, it had its dark side. So much electric power was wasted that the cars moved with almost an jerky slowness, and the dinner-bound homebuyer found a free firework show a poor exchange for a warm meal.

There were beautiful displays on the bridge. Both the trolley wires and the third rail were coated with ice, and, as a result, there were intermittent breaks in the current. All the trolley cars going over the bridge in the evening were bathed in the light produced, which seemed to play all over them. Where the trolley ran along the wire there was a succession of flashes, and more came from under the wheels. On the bridge railroad the display was even more extensive, and was sufficient to illuminate the towers as the cars passed under them. The flashes from trolley and bridge cars lit up even the big cables. The lights in the cars had a way of going entirely out and flaring up intermittently. No one was able to read on the cars, and they were at times in total darkness. The difficulty seemed to be confined to the lighting of the cars, as their propulsion was not visibly affected.

Another beautiful effect wrought by the storm was visible in the City Hall Park, where the trees about the fountain, coated with ice, and lit up by the many electric lights, made a forest of crystal.

TO RELIEVE THE NEEDY POOR.

Able-Bodied Men to Be Paid for Piling Up Snow on the East Side.

A conference was held by the Charity Organization Society yesterday morning to consider the best way to administer some of the funds contributed for the relief of the poor people suffering from the results of the recent storm. Representatives of the Charity Organization Society, the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, the United Hebrew Charities, the Woman's Branch of the New York City Mission and Tract Society, the Social Reform Club, the University Settlement, the Nurses' Settlement, the College Settlement, the Friendly Aid House and the State Charities Aid Association were present.

It was decided to form a committee composed of those present to constitute a "Special Relief Work Committee" to give relief by giving all able-bodied men work at cleaning away the snow in the crowded tenement-house district. The committee hopes to put gangs of men at work on the east side streets by Friday or Saturday at the latest. The plan is to pile up the snow in such manner that the carts of the Street Cleaning Department can remove all ashes and garbage and remove the piles of snow at a later date when more carts are available. The men are to be paid every day and are to get $1 for eight hours' work. This plan has the full approval of Street Cleaning Commissioner McCartney.

FIREMEN AT LAST GET A REST.

Only One Serious Blaze During Wednesday Night and a Light Day Afterward.

The firemen got a welcome chance to sleep yesterday morning, and made the most of it. Only one fire of any account troubled them in the early hours. That was in the Bargain Clothing Company's workrooms in the third story of the building in the rear of 218 Wooster street.

Chief Croker was the first man to reach it, driving his light wagon over the sidewalks. The heavy engines stuck in the snow and refused to budge, and for awhile the crews fighting the fire had to depend on the ordinary pressure of the water in the pipes. Repeated alarms brought some engines at last and the fire was put out. It had done $5,000 damage.

From midnight till the middle of the afternoon there were only five fires in Manhattan. After that single alarms came in more frequently, but the spell was broken, and there was rejoicing in every engine house in the city. The men were as nearly worn out as men could be and still be about.

"No Quarter!"

There is no sense in trifling with disease. Death is a foe ready enough to overpower poor humanity at the least opportunity without our adding anything to the deadly chances by uncertainity or inaction. Death is not the sort of an enemy to dilly-dally with, nor give the slightest quarter. He should be bayoneted to the earth with a sure and vigorous thrust.

There is just one medicine which can be counted on with absolute certainty to overcome the deadly assault of wasting disease and restore the rugged, masterly power of perfect health. The "Golden Medical Discovery" of Dr. R. V. Pierce of Buffalo, N. Y., creates that keen digestive and nutritive capacity, which makes healthy, nourishing red blood, and keeps it pure and alive with bounding vitality. It nourishes, vitalizes and builds up every organ and tissue in the body; tones the liver; heals the lungs; strengthens the heart, and restores complete energy and cheerfulness.

"I had been troubled for several years with spells of liver complaint," writes H. N. Dransfield, Esq., of Centennial, Monroe Co., W. Va., "and about two years ago my health gave way. I tried Sarsaparilla. I was getting worse all the time. I had a weakness in my left side and limbs, palpitation of the heart at times, cramping pains in the stomach after eating; nerves weak, and no energy for anything. I took Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery, and began to mend from the start. I soon felt like a new person. I am now enjoying splendid health and have a splendid appetite, good digestion, and also a peaceful, quiet mind."

Dr. Pierce's thousand-page book, "The Common Sense Medical Adviser" contains over two hundred reliable prescriptions, with directions for self-treatment of all such diseases as are curable without a physician. Anatomy, physiology and the laws of reproduction are explained, with over seven hundred illustrations. One copy, paper-covered, sent absolutely free for 21 one-cent stamps, to pay cost of mailing *only*. Address, World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y. For a handsome cloth binding send 31 stamps.

A BOUNDLESS CONTIGUITY OF SLUSH.

Thaw, Says the Weather Man, and Thaw It Is—Strike of Snow-Cart Drivers.

The rain which began falling yesterday afternoon will continue to-day, according to Forecaster Emery. The mercury will be above the freezing point again and the combination is expected to bring about a general thaw, which, while it will help the Street Cleaning Department, will make a lot of discomfort for citizens. Last night street crossings were knee deep in slush. Nearly 10,000 men were busy yesterday cleaning the streets and more than 60,000 loads of snow were carted to the dumps. On Wednesday 62,000 loads were removed, which broke all records.

Yesterday morning Commissioner McCartney put 150 men at work in each district south of Fifty-eighth street especially to clean out the thoroughfares running east and west. The snow was piled upon either side of the road and openings for delivery wagons were cut out every 100 feet.

Two hundred employees of the Street Cleaning Department, attached to Station A at Sixteenth street and Avenue C, went on a strike yesterday morning because they said they were being overworked by Superintendent Harry Stanton. They wanted extra pay for extra hours. The matter was taken to Capt. Gibson, the Deputy Commissioner. He told the men to go to work or get out. The men got out. Capt. Gibson says he can get two men for every one that struck and that he will make no concessions.

The snow cartmen on the west side now demand higher prices for carting snow, and have formed the West Side Cartmen's Union, which held a meeting at Kelleher's hall, 643 Eleventh avenue, late on Wednesday night. At the meeting it was decided to raise the price for carting snow from 32 cents to 37½ cents a load. Secretary John Freaser of the union issued a notice yesterday to that effect.

GLAZED SIDEWALKS.

Fate of a Gentleman Who Declined Absolutely to Walk in the Roadway.

The few clean sidewalks on which the falling rain froze yesterday were breakneck slides. In West Seventy-second street, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon, they were like sheets of glass. From the Park entrance a man came falling along toward Columbus avenue. He fell every ten steps.

Coachmen on their boxes yelled at him from the curb:

"Come out in the street!"

He waved his hand as one who appreciated their attention but cared not to follow their advice—and fell again. Householders who had crawled up their steps like snails turned around to shout to the fallen one:

"Go out in the street!"

Women motioned to him from front windows. Passers-by, stopping to set him on his feet, argued with him, telling him to try the firmer footing of the middle of the street. The fallen one's face and hands were red with blood by this time.

A mounted policeman, who had been keeping pace with his progress, called to him:

"Come out to the street!"

The man rose with surpassing dignity and said with oratorical effect:

"I'm gentleman. Sidewalksh place for gentlemen. I'll athay shidewalk like any other gentleman."

Just then he landed feet foremost in the gutter. Quicker than the words can tell it the policeman was off the horse and on him. A blast of the whistle summoned another mounted policeman, and the last Seventy-second street saw of its unsteady navigator he was swinging like a sack of meal between two rubber-coated figures on horseback, bound for the West Sixty-eighth street police station.

FISHING FLEET ADRIFT IN ICE.

Twenty Sloops Carried Out to Sea Together from the Mouth of the Chesapeake.

The Old Dominion line steamship Jamestown, which arrived yesterday from Norfolk, passed on Wednesday, five miles off Cape Henry, about twenty fishing sloops and oyster sloops, fast in a big ice floe, drifting seaward. They had evidently drifted from anchorage inside the mouth of the Chesapeake. The sloops had been abandoned before they broke adrift. The United States supply steamship Comal, from Havana, also passed two fishing schooners, the M