A PAPER OF QUALITY

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MRS. SAGE TO SPEND MONEY IN OWN WAY

Speaks Out Mind in Answer to Begging Letters.

MAY AID NEW YORK POOR

Does Not Feel Called to Relieve Needy Elsewhere.

Millions Came to Her Without Stipulations as to Charity, and Widow Says She Is Not Ready to Make Distribution Now—Cannot Grant Interviews, but Will Send for All Those that She May Care to See.

New York, Dec. 28.—Mrs. Russell Sage, through her counsel, Robert W. De Forest, issued to-day the first statement she has made touching the disposition of millions left her by her husband upon his death last July. While she does not indicate definitely the lines along which she intends to proceed, she does outline clearly her attitude toward the flood of applications for help which she receives every day.

Mrs. Sage, in fact, feels that the public has been misled regarding her present intentions and abilities. She thinks her words will clear the misapprehension which seems to exist. She does not intend to take any measures for the immediate distribution of the Sage millions. The inference is that she would not do so even if the estate were settled.

While she does not indicate what her ideas are as to the final disposition of the property, she does make it clear that she feels that her chief duty in the matter is to the city of New York, rather than to any other community.

Begging Letters from All Cities.

"I have been receiving ever since my husband's death," she says, "several hundred letters a day containing applications of every conceivable kind from so many different persons. They come from every point of the United States and from foreign countries, from the greater cities, such as Chicago, Boston, Baltimore, Washington, and from the smallest hamlets in the far West.

"A great many of these letters contain absurd and unreasonable requests, based apparently upon the idea that I was immediately going to distribute without examination or consideration a very large sum of money.

"I do not waste any sympathy on the begging letter writers or those who present absurd or impossible demands, but I cannot but sympathize with the persons, and there are some of them, whose needs are real and should unquestionably be met by some one and somehow. Many of them are poor and ignorant people whose expectations have been stimulated by the newspaper articles which have appeared from time to time with regard to me and my philanthropic intentions.

To Make No Immediate Distribution.

"It is cruel to excite hopes in them that cannot be realized. To such I feel it peculiarly due to break my silence and make a public statement, which I trust be given the same currency by the press that has been given to the many articles regarding my intentions, which have absolutely no warrant in fact.

"It is not my purpose to make any immediate distribution of the money which my husband has left to me, and which I expect to receive in the due course of administration. Much less am I intending to make any such distribution everywhere and to everybody.

"I am to receive this money without any trust of any kind imposed by my husband, or even any expression of desire on his part. He has left me, and intended to leave me, absolutely free to do what I pleased with it.

"Whatever be the personal or family needs of poor people in Chicago, Boston, Baltimore, and Washington, I cannot be looked to to supply them. I have at my own doors, in my own city of 4,000,000 inhabitants, plenty of such cases which have a nearer claim upon me, in so far as I may decide to recognize it.

Cities Should Help Their Own Poor.

"I think the philanthropic people of Chicago, Boston, and Washington, and other cities, some of whom I know, can, and should, be relied upon to meet such cases in their respective cities. I do not think it would be for the permanent good either of those who are to receive such help or those who by reason of their citizenship are most called upon to supply it, for any resort to be had to me in such cities. I intend to act upon this opinion of my duty.

"The professional begging letter-writers appear in large numbers, and also the people who have failed in business and wish to establish themselves afresh.

"Many of them unquestionably represent real need, and certainly represent real need in the opinion of the applicants. Some of them are very pathetic.

"Moreover, innumerable people, some of them, perhaps, the writers of these letters, are constantly trying to secure personal interviews with me, and if I should see one-tenth of the people who so apply it would be one continuous interview—day and night.

Will Not Grant Interviews.

"No applicant, either for individual or institutional needs, need seek for any personal interview. I cannot and must not accord it, and I must, in justice to myself and these applicants, apply the same rule to all. If I want to see any such myself, or have any of my friends do so for me, I shall do it on my own initiative.

"Importunity and reiteration are no recommendations to my attention. The persons for whom I shall probably do the most, and the causes to which I am most likely to contribute generously, are those which respect my early widowhood, and do not press their claims upon me at this time.

"I do not wish to seem harsh. I am only going through now what, on a small scale, my husband and I went through with during his lifetime."

"Mrs. Sage receives as many as 900 letters some days," said Mr. De Forest, today. "Of course, it is humanly impossible for one person to read all of them, but they are all read by somebody."

The Sage estate is variously estimated in financial circles at from $50,000,000 to $70,000,000. No estimates place it below the former amount.

Floral Decorations of Unusual Beauty and artisticness. Blackistone's, 14th & H.

WEATHER FORECAST.

For the District of Columbia, Maryland, and Virginia—Partly cloudy and continued warm to-day and to-morrow, with light, variable winds.

HERALD NEWS SUMMARY.

Pages. **TELEGRAPHIC.**

1—President Cassatt Dead.
1—Severe Storm Sweeps Europe.
1—President Fails to Get a Turkey.
1—Mrs. Sage Gives Views on Charity.
3—McCrea May Succeed Cassatt.
3—Purdy Probes Brownsville Affair.
4—Tidewater Road Without Bonds.
4—Southern Moves Alexandria Freight Depot.
4—Col. Mann Acquitted.
7—Catholics Fight Religious Bill.
7—Perkins and Fairchild Indicted.
9—James J. Hill to Retire.
9—Nebraska Teachers Indorse Beveridge Bill.

LOCAL.

1—Taft to be President in 1908.
1—Cuba Nearing a Crisis.
1—Durands Given Unprecedented Honor.
2—Alabama Rows Over Patronage.
2—John Reed, Despondent, Ends Life.
5—United States Cannot Interfere in Congo.
7—Protests Against Colored School.
12—Cardoza Claims His Pay.
12—R. E. Claughton Leaves Bank.
12—Dr. McKim Against Divorce Law Changes.

FAILS TO GET TURKEY

President Returns Empty Handed After Day's Tramp.

BIRDS TAKE WARNING; FLEE

Truthful Correspondent Declares Game Got Advance Information About Visit of Executive and Sought Deepest Recesses of the Forest—Others Go Horseback Riding.

Charlottesville, Va., Dec. 28.—With ideal weather for wild turkey hunting, President Roosevelt, accompanied by his son and Surgeon General Rixey, started out early this morning for a day's sport about the "Pine Knot" forests. Mrs. Roosevelt, Miss Ethel, Miss Langdon, and others not in the gunning party enjoyed the open air and horseback riding during the day.

The Roosevelts are keeping open house. Many of their friends are expected to call during their stay at Pine Knot, which will continue until Monday night.

As a result of the large party with the President and Mrs. Roosevelt on this trip to their Virginia estate, all cannot be accommodated at the country home, and a portion of them are stopping with the Wilmers at "Plain Dealing," just a short distance from the President's lodge. All of the Roosevelts are now in Virginia with the exception of Mrs. Nicholas Longworth, wife of the Congressman.

One of the Roosevelt boys, Miss Langdon, and Miss Roosevelt lost their way while horseback riding this morning. Fortunately they were in sight of the Wilmer home at the time, and suffered no inconvenience.

A big stove of the size to accommodate the President's favorite bird, the wild turkey, has been erected in the lodge, but unfortunately the turkeys, which during the winter have been scratching in the yard and roosting in the trees of the lodge, getting wind of the contemplated visit of the President, have betaken themselves deep into the woods and to the other side of the river.

The President has not yet gotten a shot.

The Roosevelts to-day entertained Joseph Wilmer, their neighbor, at dinner, thus returning some of the hospitality which he has extended to them on previous occasions.

The President will go out for turkeys again to-morrow morning if the weather is propitious.

DUNNE HAS POOR MEMORY.

Mayor on Stand Cannot Tell Day of Election or Inauguration.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Mayor Dunne was summoned to-day to tell the jury how hard he, President Shea, of the Teamsters' Union, and many of the latter's lieutenants worked to secure arbitration of the strike in 1905.

Most of the questions were ruled out, but the story was practically told by the interrogations of the attorney for the teamsters accused of conspiracy to use the strike as a means of wrecking business interests they did not like.

The mayor gave a rapid sketch of his career, saying he served thirteen years on the bench, and "now has a job as mayor of Chicago." He could not remember the dates of his election or inauguration, however, and Attorney Cruice, who was an unsuccessful candidate in the same campaign, had to jog his memory.

CALLS ROOSEVELT INSANE.

Head of University of Cincinnati Attacks Target Recommendation.

Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 28.—"President Roosevelt is almost insane on militarism, or at least that is his fad," declared President Dabney, of the University of Cincinnati, in discussing the recent recommendation of the President regarding the establishment of target practice for school children in connection with their studies. Continuing, he said:

"While the President is undoubtedly sincere in what he has recommended, he has let his enthusiasm run away with his better judgment. He has had as much fun out of the Spanish-American war as he would out of a bear hunt, and, no doubt, thinks other people have the same feelings he has. Shooting is good in its way, but there are hundreds of other things we need far more in our schools."

GOVERNOR OF OMSK SLAIN.

Russian Official Assassinated in His Own House.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 28.—The governor of Omsk, capital of the province of Smolensk, was killed in his home to-day by an assassin.

$1.25 to Baltimore and Return via Pennsylvania Railroad, every Saturday and Sunday. All regular trains except the "Congressional Limited." Tickets good to return until Sunday night.

PRESIDENT CASSATT EXPIRES SUDDENLY

Stricken with Heart Failure in His City Home.

STRAIN BREAKS HEALTH

Rate Bill Eight and Graft Inquiry Told Heavily.

Contracted Whooping Cough While Resting at Bar Harbor, from Which He Never Recovered—Started with Pennsylvania Railroad as Rodman Forty-five Years Ago—President Since 1899—Great as a Developer.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 28.—Alexander Johnston Cassatt, president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, died suddenly at 1 o'clock this afternoon, of heart failure, at his town residence, 202 West Rittenhouse square.

Indeed, the end came so abruptly that Mrs. Cassatt and her daughter, Mrs. W. Plunkett Stewart, who were in the next room, did not have time to reach him to see him alive.

Mr. Cassatt had been in poor health since last summer. Early in June he was ordered to Europe for a rest, but the vacation was cut short last summer by the revelations before the Interstate Commerce Commission of the "graft" in coal stocks that had crept into the Pennsylvania system. He hurried home to take the helm, arriving in June.

Just before he had sailed he had gone through the lively campaign for the passage of the rate bill, taking the side of the President. The battle at Washington was a trying one, and Mr. Cassatt showed the strain. Hardly had he sailed when the storm of the coal-graft investigation broke. Mr. Cassatt started back home a few days after he reached the other side.

Upon his return, Mr. Cassatt issued a statement of his own holdings, and caused an inquiry to be made for the purpose of instituting reforms. This situation and the avalanche of criticism that was directed against the railroad added to Mr. Cassatt's worries. For a time it was even rumored that he might resign as president. Having finally gotten the situation in hand, Mr. Cassatt went to his son's summer home in Bar Harbor to spend the rest of the summer.

Remained at Country Home.

On December 21 it was stated that Mr. Cassatt was seriously ill at Haverford, and that he had not been in the best of health since an attack of whooping cough contracted from one of his grandchildren at Bar Harbor last summer. The following day officers of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company said there was no foundation for the reports of the serious condition of President Cassatt's health. Mr. Cassatt, it was announced, was attending to his duties regularly, and that the day before he took a drive of twenty miles out to his country place at Haverford and back.

The attack of whooping cough left Mr. Cassatt in a weakened condition, and he did not go to his office at Broad Street Station in this city for several weeks, but, on the advice of his physicians, remained at his country home at Haverford, near the city.

Last Work in Office.

Early in October Mr. Cassatt felt much better, and came regularly to his office for several weeks, when he was again attacked by illness, this time with a heavy cold. His exact condition was not publicly known, and this gave rise to many rumors of his serious illness and of his sudden death.

He recovered sufficiently, however, to resume his duties, and was at Broad Street Station regularly until December 8, his birthday. That was the last day he was at his office. Since then he had spent much of his time driving and at his home transacting only the more important business brought to his attention. He was out driving as late as last Monday.

While not feeling as well as he had been, Mr. Cassatt rose from his bed today, but did not leave his room. The family was not alarmed, as he seemed to be in good spirits, and no one had the slightest thought of his death.

Starts as Rodman.

Alexander J. Cassatt was born in Pittsburg, Pa., on December 6, 1839. His father, Robert S. Cassatt, was for a number of years closely identified with the financial and industrial interests of Western Pennsylvania, and was the first mayor of Allegheny City. Mr. Cassatt's primary education was received in the schools of Pittsburg, but while he was yet a lad his father removed to Europe, and he secured in the continental schools a solid primary education. He afterward entered the University of Heidelberg. But the influence of German university life did not overcome his inborn preference for a business career, and on his return home he took the course at the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, from which he was graduated as a civil engineer. This was in 1859.

He went first to Georgia to assist in locating a railroad. In 1861 he was back in Pittsburg soliciting a place in the service of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The best he could do at the time was to secure a position as rodman. By 1867 his ability had become so well recognized that he was engaged as superintendent of motive power and machinery for the entire system. In 1870 he became general superintendent of the system.

Leaves Road in 1882.

Thomas A. Scott, then paramount in Pennsylvania Railroad affairs, took a fancy to him, and was influential in his rapid promotion. When Scott became president of the road he had Cassatt made third vice president. In 1880 he had risen to the first vice presidency. Two years later he resigned his position and retired from business. He was only forty-three years of age, but he declared that he felt it time to retire.

For seventeen years Mr. Cassatt held no office and took no active part in the business of the road. During the seventeen years of his retirement he traveled extensively in Europe and gave much of his time to the creation of a great stock farm at Chester Brook, Pa.

In 1899 Mr. Cassatt returned to the Pennsylvania as president. Early in 1906

CONTINUED ON THIRD PAGE.

Are You Making Any Resolutions For the coming year? Why not resolve to open an account with banking dept. of Union Trust Co., 1414 F st.? Interest paid.

CANDIDATE FOR ANANIAS CLUB

Pastor Announces He Will Quote Roosevelt on Sunday Closing.

Chicago, Dec. 28.—Rev. Dr. William A. Bartlett, pastor of the First Congregational Church of Chicago, and president of the Chicago Sunday-Closing League, is a candidate for the Ananias Club. He will venture Sunday on the perilous task of quoting President Roosevelt on the subject of Sabbath observance.

Whether Mr. Roosevelt told him personally what he thinks on the subject or whether the President's words are to be quoted from some of his writings, Dr. Bartlett will not say. The Executive's views will fully justify the league's attitude, however, the doctor asserts.

The mandamus proceedings now pending against Mayor Dunne to compel the latter to enforce the Sunday-closing law is to be supplemented as soon as the papers can be prepared.

Mayor Dunne says the Sunday-closing statute is a State law and can be enforced only by State officials.

SENATOR BAILEY SCORED.

Dallas Man Says Standard Oil Influence Unfits Him for Office.

Dallas, Tex., Dec. 28.—Judge Joseph E. Cockrell, of Dallas, spoke to-day against United States Senator Bailey at Comanche, as the closing shot in the special primary campaign in Comanche County, which votes to-morrow. Judge Cockrell declared that H. Clay Pierce, the Waters-Pierce Oil Company, and the Standard Oil Company had so influenced Bailey that he ought not be returned to the Senate. There were minor anti-Bailey meetings throughout the county.

STORM BRINGS DEATH

Causes Wreck in Which Sixteen Lives Are Lost.

ALL ENGLAND IS SUFFERING

Nine Frozen in London and Ten Fatalities from Cold Reported from Cornwall—Trains Are Snowbound and Traffic Is Virtually Suspended. Blizzard General Over Europe.

Aberdeen, Scotland, Dec. 29.—As the result of a rear-end collision Friday night between a local and express train from Aberdeen to Arbroath, sixteen persons were killed, and thirty-seven were seriously, some of them fatally, injured, while scores of other passengers suffered severely from exposure to the cold before they were finally rescued.

The accident occurred a few miles from Arbroath, where the local train was snowbound. The signals, becoming clogged with snow, refused to work, and a clear track was set for the express, which followed in the wake. The engineer of the express kept his train running at a high rate of speed, and not until he was close upon the rear end of the accommodation was he aware that a collision was inevitable. He immediately put on the air brakes, but they had no effect, and in an instant the two trains met.

Blizzard Retards Rescuers.

Relief trains were at once dispatched to the scene from Aberdeen and Arbroath, but the blizzard, which had been raging for the past forty-eight hours greatly retarded the work of the rescuers.

The dead and wounded were extricated from the wreck as quickly as possible, and the wounded were given temporary relief by the physicians who accompanied the relief trains. They were then put on trains and taken to Aberdeen and Arbroath, where they were placed in hospitals. It is feared that several of them will not survive their injuries.

A temporary morgue was erected near the scene of the wreck, where those who were killed were placed.

As soon as the dead and injured had been taken care of, the work of rescuing the other passengers was taken up, but not until they had suffered severely from exposure to the cold and snow.

Both trains were total wrecks. The road was blocked for several hours.

Nine Frozen to Death.

London, Dec. 28.—Nine persons have been found frozen to death on roads in England during the past twenty-four hours.

The list doubtless will be much lengthened when communication with localities now snowbound is restored.

The continuing snowfall has created practically an unprecedented situation, the worst known in thirty years in Great Britain, and the conditions existing here apparently are general throughout Europe.

From all parts of Great Britain come stories of trains buried in snowdrifts.

Forty to fifty women had narrow escapes from death to-day owing to the collapse of the snow-laden roof of a Covent Garden warehouse, but most of them were rescued from the wreckage with only slight injuries. There was no loss of life.

Ten Deaths in Cornwall.

Penzance, Cornwall, is isloated. Ten deaths, due to exposure, have been registered. It is still snowing.

In Perthshire this morning the snowdrifts were fifteen feet deep in places, and railway traffic is practically suspended. The main lines between Perth, Aberdeen, and Dundee are entirely blocked. A train that left Aberdeen for London last night was snowed up at Montrose.

Member of Parliament Hurt.

Among the injured is Alexander Black, a member of Parliament. Both his legs are broken.

Ship Wrecked in Snowstorm.

Redcar, Wales, Dec. 28.—Life boats have taken off the crew and passengers of the Japanese liner Awa, from Antwerp to Middleborough, which ran on the rocks here yesterday during a snowstorm. The vessel is in a dangerous condition. One hundred and twenty-two persons, including two passengers, were rescued.

Scotland Snowbound.

Galashiels, Scotland, Dec. 28.—The snowstorm on the Scottish border, which began on Christmas night, is the worst that has been experienced for thirty years. All railway traffic with the south and Edinburgh has been completely stopped.

A la Carte Lunch Served Daily at Eckstein's from 12 to 3. 1412 N. Y. ave.

OFFICIALDOM BIDS DURANDS FAREWELL

Departing Diplomat Gets Unprecedented Honor.

IS A REBUKE TO GOSSIP

Cabinet Members Take Part in Demonstration.

England's Ambassador and His Family Met at Train by More Than a Hundred People, Including Secretaries Root and Taft—Presence of Officials Regarded as Expression of Regret by Administration.

The departure from Washington yesterday of Sir Mortimer Durand, the retiring British Ambassador, was made the occasion of a remarkable demonstration.

More than 100 government officials and diplomats, with members of their families, and a good-sized contingent of society people, assembled at the Pennsylvania Railroad station to say farewell to the Ambassador and his wife and daughter, something unprecedented in this Capital.

No departing diplomat was ever so highly honored before. This tribute was intended as an official and personal rebuke to those who have circulated reports that Sir Mortimer and Lady Durand were not popular in Washington.

There was a particular reference in the demonstration to the statements about the Durands attributed to Lady Susan Townley, wife of the present British Minister to Brazil, who lived here last winter while her husband was attached to Sir Mortimer Durand's staff.

The presence of Secretary of State Root, who was accompanied by Mrs. Root, is regarded as the administration's expression of regret over the departure from Washington of the diplomat. Secretary of War Taft and Secretary of the Navy Metcalf were also present. The party began to congregate half an hour before the train was due to leave. The diplomatic corps turned out in large numbers, including the heads of all the important European missions, some of whom were accompanied by their families and the embassy staffs.

Gather About Car.

The party was admitted inside the gates and gathered around the car of the Ambassador. Sir Mortimer arrived from the embassy a few minutes before the train departed. He was greeted most heartily by those who came to say good by. He was accompanied by Lady Durand and his daughter, Miss Josephine. For fully ten minutes, Sir Mortimer and the two ladies were shaking hands and making their final adieus to their friends. Finally they made their way through the crowd and boarded the train, standing in the vestibule and chatting with persons who gathered around.

When the train began to move there was a general lifting and waving of hats and fluttering of handkerchiefs. Lady Durand got down on the lower step of the car and waved back at the crowd.

Among those present were Associate Justice Moody, of the United States Supreme Court; Assistant Secretary of War Oliver, Brig. Gen. Clarence R. Edwards, Baron Mayor des Planches, the Italian Ambassador; Baron Speck von Sternburg, the German Ambassador; Baroness von Sternburg; M. Jusserand, the French Ambassador, and Mme. Jusserand; Baron Rosen, the Russian Ambassador, Baroness Rosen and their daughter, Baroness Elizabeth Rosen; Baron Hengelmuller, the Austrian Ambassador; Senor Joaquin Nabuco, the Brazilian Ambassador; Viscount Aoki, the Japanese Ambassador, and Viscountess Aoki; Sir Chentung Liang-Cheng, the Chinese Minister; ex-Secretary of State John W. Foster, Senator Spooner, and Rear Admiral Cowles, U. S. N., President Roosevelt's brother-in-law.

Many Secretaries There.

There were many secretaries and attaches of diplomatic establishments present also, and a score or so of society people. The Japanese Ambassador had his whole embassy staff and the ladies of the embassy with him when he entered the station.

The Durands will sail on the Umbria from New York this afternoon. The embassy here is left in charge of Esme Howard, who will be charge d'affaires until the arrival of the Right Honorable James Bryce, who has been selected to succeed Sir Mortimer.

SPANISH VESSEL LOST.

All on Board the Primero, Except One, Go Down.

Corunna, Spain, Dec. 28.—The Spanish steamship Primero has foundered off the coast, and all on board, excepting one, were lost.

The Primero was a screw steamship, schooner rigged, of 777 tons burden, and registered at Gijon, Spain.

Other disasters are reported in consequence of the storm. A pair of fishing trawlers, when near Corunna, encountered terrific squalls and endeavored to return. The first reached the harbor safely. The second, named the Gregorio, shipped quantities of water which extinguished her engine fires, and a huge wave dashed her upon the rocks. The crew of nine leaped into the sea. Four of them were drowned and one was killed by being thrown against the rocks.

UNCLE JOE GETS A POSTAL.

Learns He Must "Watch Out" for "Joe Foraker."

A souvenir postal card, postmarked New York, was received at the Capitol yesterday. It was addressed to "Uncle Joe Cannon, House of Representatives, Washington, D. C.," and reads as follows:

"Uncle Joe: Joe Foraker will steal all the nigger delegates if you don't watch out."

The writer forgot to put a stamp on the card, and before L. White Busby, secretary to the Speaker, could get it out of the mails he had to pay Uncle Sam 2 cents, owing to their being writing on the face of the card. On the reverse of the card were the counterfeits of two Africans, thick of lip and wide of mouth, each of whom had a ring in his nose. One of them was evidently suffering from toothache, and the other held behind his back a pair of pincers, intended to do deadly execution.

Baltimore and Ohio R. R.

The "Chicago Limited" leaves Washington 1:22 p. m., arrives Pittsburg 9:42 p. m., Chicago 9:45 a. m.

DEPUTIES GUARDING ROAD.

Fear of Damage to Property by the Southern Pacific Strikers.

Dallas, Tex., Dec. 28.—Special policemen and deputy sheriffs are guarding Southern Pacific properties in Dallas and other cities of Texas. So far no injury has been done the railroad properties, and no assaults on nonunion firemen have been reported since Wednesday night. Uneasiness is felt about the water tanks of the system.

Commissioner Neill, representing the Federal bureau at Houston, is engaged in a determined effort to get the three parties to the firemen's strike on the Southern Pacific into conference. He believes a settlement will be effected.

Second Vice Grand Master Shea, of the firemen, who ordered the strike, says arbitration is welcomed by his association. The officials of the Houston and Texas Central say that there is a likelihood of the firemen on that line going out in a day or two. Shea says they will go out whenever ordered to do so. He hopes arbitration will make an extension of the strike unnecessary.

SEEKS DEATH IN NIAGARA.

Woman Goes Over Falls in Presence of Helpless Spectators.

Niagara Falls, N. Y., Dec. 28.—A woman supposed to be Mary Hagen, of Buffalo, N. Y., committed suicide early to-day by jumping into the river about 500 feet above the American falls. She was swept over the brink before the eyes of a half-dozen people gathered at Prospect Point. They could not reach her in time to prevent the deed.

Before jumping the woman laid aside her hand satchel, in which was $2.50 and a card bearing the name "Mary Hagen, Buffalo, N. Y."

CUBA IS NEAR CRISIS

Administration Is Concerned Over Conditions on Island.

MAY YET BRING ABOUT WAR

Minister Quesada Takes Opposite View—Believes Affairs Are as Satisfactory as Could Be Expected—General Staff Prepared to Push Troops Forward—Work to Prevent Clash.

"War is probably the only way out of the difficulty."

This was what a prominent member of the administration said yesterday in the course of a discussion of the Cuban situation. It is obvious that the administration, as well as leading members of both Houses of Congress, is concerned over the condition of affairs in the island, and that this government is not averse to having the country informed as to developments which are almost certain to come within the next few months, possibly within the next few weeks, and perhaps in a few days.

Senor Quesada, the Cuban Minister, on the other hand, expresses satisfaction with the present state of affairs at home. "All my official and personal advices indicate that the situation is as nearly normal as it could be expected to be in the circumstances," he said last night. "Everybody is working on the plantations, and the sugar and tobacco crops will be greater than ever. The prospects of Cuba have not suffered in any way. Lives and property are to-day as safe as in any part of the United States, where isolated cases of lynchings and the proclamation of martial law does not indicate that this country is in anarchy. The thousands of tourists who are visiting Havana and the island can testify to this fact, as well as to the good health that is general there.

Quesada Compliments Magoon.

"The excellent and tactful administration of Governor Magoon," Senor Quesada continued, "and the firm belief of every Cuban patriot that President Roosevelt, the American government, and the American people will see that no injustice is done the Cuban people by those speculative interests which are desirous of picturing Cuba in a state of turmoil and of creating the impression that the Cubans are entirely unfit for self-government, are contributing to bring tranquillity to the leaders and confidence to the citizens who are working in the country. If any trouble comes in the future it will be fomented by unscrupulous speculators, who are anxious to take advantage of unsettled conditions, not only in the island, but anywhere else, to make money regardless of all other considerations. There must be patience and good will toward the Cuban people, and the political squabbles and ambitions of their leaders, which are identical with those of every other country, must not serve as an excuse to condemn forever a people who have shown their capacity for production, and, above all, their honesty in the administration of their government.

"The failures of Cuba and Cubans are those of any young country," said the Minister. "The best sentiment prevails in the island toward the American government. The Cubans look upon the United States not as a greedy neighbor, but as a big brother. I have confidence in the American spirit of fair play, and I believe that the Cuban people will soon be able to establish a stronger and more stable government than the one which for four years received only praise from those who have interests in the islands."

Administration Is Disturbed.

Notwithstanding the attitude of Senor Quesada, it is plain that the administration is far from satisfied with the situation in his country. Efforts on the part of this government to provide for the election of representatives in the Cuban Congress, and for the establishment of a stable government, are not being met with real sympathy by either of the political parties in the island. This is probably more the fault of the Moderate party, which was in power at the time the American government intervened last summer, than of the Liberal party, whose members started the recent revolution.

It is said that the Moderates have been encouraging small bands to commit depredations, and that, as a result, it has been necessary for Gen. Bell, who is in command of the United States forces in the island, to send two troops of cavalry through Santa Clara province. It was announced that these troops would

CONTINUED ON FOURTH PAGE.

Baltimore and Return, $1.25. Baltimore & Ohio R. R.

Every Saturday and Sunday. All trains, both ways, both days, except Royal Limited. City offices, 1417 G st. and 619 Pa. ave.

TAFT IN 1908

His Tentative Candidacy Is Now Announced.

POSITION STATED

Stands for Policies of the Administration.

PRESIDENTIAL POLITICS

Secretary of War and Senator Foraker Not Expected to Enter Into a Warfare Against Each Other in the Buckeye State—Hanna Old Guard Captures Organization in the South and Will Rally to the Support of an Anti-Roosevelt Republican.

"Secretary of War William H. Taft will be a candidate for the Republican Presidential nomination in 1908, if it shall appear that there is a demand for his candidacy. Mr. Taft's future, politically, is in the hands of his friends in Ohio and throughout the country."

This statement may be accepted as authoritative. It is made by the Cleveland Leader to-day, through a dispatch from its Washington correspondent, Mr. C. S. Watts, and is intended definitely to acquaint Ohio Republicans with the Secretary's sentiments as to the Presidency in order that they may be up and doing.

Another important political development of the day is the fact that the Hanna Old Guard, according to reliable information, has captured the Republican organization in the South, if not in other sections of the country, and is pushing its plans to nominate a conservative man for President, as against a man of the Roosevelt type, or a man of Roosevelt's choosing. Secretary Taft is popularly supposed to belong to the latter class.

The Cleveland Leader correspondent, after the statement already quoted, says:

Stands for Roosevelt Policies.

"If any considerable element of the Republicans of Ohio and of the entire country looks to Secretary Taft as the man best qualified and most available to perpetuate and execute the administrative policies of President Roosevelt—if the crystallization of the party sentiment within the next few months points to Secretary Taft as the logical leader in the next great national struggle—then the Secretary will be a candidate.

"Furthermore, his friends in Ohio, in Kentucky, in Minnesota, and in Southern and Western States have been told to take such steps as they may deem necessary to determine how formidable a following it will be possible to rally under the Taft banner.

"Secretary Taft has been read in and out of the Presidential race time and again within the past twelve months, but the Leader is now able to make an accurate statement as to his attitude. Mr. Taft is not an active or aggressive aspirant for the Presidency. On the contrary, it has been with considerable reluctance that he has consented to place himself in the hands of his friends as a tentative candidate. Mr. Taft's ambitions lie in another direction—judicial honors are more to his liking than even the most exalted political attainments—and if the opportunity of going upon the bench of the Supreme Court of the United States should be presented to him again a little later, he would be troubled sorely to decide what to do.

"In fact, if Mr. Taft could have eight years of the Presidency or the position of Chief Justice of the Supreme Court by simply turning his hand one way or the other, he would take the Chief Justiceship without a moment's hesitation.

Ready to Respond to Demand.

"However, Secretary Taft is not insensible to the exalted honors and opportunities for great public service that lie in the Presidency, nor is he unmindful of the high compliment that has been paid him by the suggestion that he should stand for the nomination and election as Mr. Roosevelt's successor. He would not be the normally constituted, frank, straightforward man that he is, if the possibility of attaining the highest office within the gift of the American people did not appeal to him, and if he did not respond to the demand that his friends are making that preliminary moves be made looking to the presentation of his name to the Republican National Convention two years hence.

"That there is such a demand cannot be gainsaid, and will not be denied even by the most loyal adherents of other Republicans of national stature who are active or prospective Presidential candidates. Mr. Taft is very widely regarded as the man best qualified in every respect to carry on the administrative policies that President Roosevelt has instituted. He is looked to as the man who stands distinctively for those things that have so popularized the Roosevelt regime, and it is almost generally accepted that if the country desires to 'stand by Roosevelt,' in 1908 it could be given no more fitting opportunity to express that desire than would be found in the oportunity to elect Secretary Taft as President Roosevelt's successor.

"It goes without saying to those who are at all informed regarding national

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