

FIND WOMAN DEAD; YACHTSMAN IS HELD

New Jersey Officers Seek to Unravel Mystery.

BODY THROWN IN POND

Boat of Suspect Is in Winter Quarters Near By.

Condition of the Remains Shows That Slight Woman Was Brought Some Distance—Clothing Found Scattered Along Bank—Nothing to Indicate Her Identity—Jacket She Wore Purchased in Brooklyn.

New York, Dec. 26.—Some of the men and women who live at the edge of the backyard of Harrison, N. J., a great stretch of dismal and filthy swamp through which the Passaic River moves sluggishly, heard, or fancied they heard, a woman's screams about 9 o'clock on Christmas night.

They are a dull and phlegmatic colony, not easily moved to excitement, any of them, and the cries of a woman in pain or in terror are not uncommon enough to fetch them in haste at night from their huts on the shore or the cabins of their scows; not if there is still beer in the can and tobacco left for the pipes.

Besides, they have cultivated the habit of attending strictly to their own affairs and discouraging the intrusions of others. A blow on the jaw or a slap in the face for a woman, what does it matter?

It is a miserable stretch of ground, this Lamp Black Swamp back of Harrison, where all sorts of unpleasant things have happened: a dumping ground for the town's garbage. It is wretchedly lighted, and has an odor distinctly its own. Occasionally at night a policeman strolls along its border, turning thankfully enough back to the firm and lighted streets.

Helped Get Body Out.

He waded back to hard ground, and ran over to the Idle Hour, where two men were smoking in the cuddy, Albert Thompson, the owner of catboat, and Frederick Kirkman, first mate, cabin boy, and crew. Crane stuttered at his news, and the men went back with him, and after a deal of trouble helped him tug the body out of the mire in which it was almost completely sunk.

The woman had been very good looking at one time. She was thirty-five years old, maybe a little older. Her figure was full and shapely. She had brown hair, a bit touched with gray at the roots; brown eyes, fair complexion. Her height was 5 feet 6 inches, and she weighed about 155 pounds. Her nationality was a matter of guesswork. She might have been of German origin. Her hands and feet were rather large, and she had not taken very good care of her hands.

When the body was examined by Dr. Henry Allers, deputy county physician, not a mark or a bruise could be found. There was absolutely no indication from the condition of the body as to the way she had been murdered—that she had been killed was hardly a matter of doubt to anybody. Dr. Allers didn't believe she had been poisoned. There were none of the external characteristics that death by poison leaves, the doctor concluded.

Find Her Clothing.

Then they looked for her clothing. A black silk muff was found on a half-rusted wharf, 500 yards from the place where the body was discovered. A neck piece of imitation seal lay on the ground near the edge of the swamp. In one place was a pink garter tied with a fluffy bow of silk ribbon. In another place was a pink garter without a bow. That was all the clothing they found, though detectives roved up and down the river examining the banks and searched as best they could the wide swamp. The police thought the rest of her clothing might have been sunk in the river, but why the fur pieces and the pink garters were left puzzled them.

Chief Rodgers, of the Harrison force, questioned Thompson and Kirkman. The muff and the neckpiece were found very close to their boat, lying in plain sight. The men laughed at the idea of their having anything to do with the woman's death, or that they knew anything about the way the body got there. The chief thought it best to arrest them, and they are now locked up in the police station at Harrison, charged with being suspicious persons.

Body Brought There. The police do not believe the woman was murdered near the spot where her body was found. It was far more likely, they thought, that she had been killed in Newark and brought to the dumping ground in a boat or in a wagon. Either way would have been, at night, perfectly simple. There were no wheel tracks the police could discover, but the ground, to a point near the edge of the swamp,

BRYAN A GOOD SHOT.

Gets Limit of Ducks Allowed by Law in Three Hours.

Wallisville, Tex., Dec. 26.—Col. W. J. Bryan and Gov. Campbell put in to-day shooting ducks, according to word which was brought here this evening from their camp on Lake Surprise. It is stated that Mr. Bryan killed his limit of twenty-five ducks allowed in one day under the law in less than three hours. He occupied a blind, which afforded a good view of the feeding grounds of the fowls. Gov. Campbell was satisfied with a less number. A bear hunt has been planned for tomorrow.

REAR ADMIRAL ABBOTT DEAD.

Officer Was with Commodore Perry's Expedition to Japan. Boston, Dec. 26.—Rear Admiral Charles W. Abbott, U. S. N., retired, who was with Commodore Perry's fleet on the famous visit to Japan, died at his home in Warren to-night.

BLOW AT MODERNISM

Severest Penalty of Church Visited on Editors.

BAN ON SCIENTIFIC JOURNAL

Greater Excommunication Pronounced Against Il Rinnovamento. Such Decree Rarely Visited on Any One—Publication Will Make Fight and Declares Liberty of Research.

Milan, Dec. 25.—The Pope on Christmas Eve launched the severest blow he has yet dealt modernism, it being nothing less than the pronouncement of the greater excommunication against all concerned in the production of the monthly review, Il Rinnovamento, which is published here.

The greater excommunication is a penalty that has been rarely imposed in modern times. Even Victor Emmanuel, when he despoiled the papal estates, was saved its severities. Among other things, it deprives its victims of Christian burial and relieves the faithful of all duties respecting the bodies and souls of those denounced, whether they are alive or dead. Il Rinnovamento is a high-class scientific periodical. It is not antagonistic to religion, but it opposes the policy of the Vatican to the same extent as do inquiring modernists here and elsewhere. It is read and approved by many educated, sincere Catholics, and is sympathetically reviewed by some of the cardinals and by numerous prelates and clergy. The doom of its conductors is proportioned to its influences.

Edict Is Published.

On Christmas Eve the sentence was communicated to the three chief directors by Cardinal Ferrari, Archbishop of Milan, who was also ordered to publish the edict from the pulpit of the historic Cathedral of Milan, whence it is stated, no similar manifesto has ever before resounded. The decree explicitly strikes not only at the proprietors and editors, but at the whole staff, printers and others employed in the production of the review, as well as at every contributor and subscriber. Several aristocratic families in Milan, who are pronounced in their devotion to the Catholic faith, are affected, as well as innumerable humble readers and supporters.

LA FOLLETTE'S HANDS FULL.

Senator Facing Danger from Three Different Sides at Home.

Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 26.—Senator Robert M. La Follette is en route from Washington with the knowledge that recent events in this State have shown that he must at least make a hard fight to retain even a partial control of Wisconsin. Three situations are facing the Senator as a result of formal and semi-formal announcements of the past three days, which are considered inimical to his political plans. They are: First—The actual opening of the Senator's contest by the announcement by Senator Hatten of his candidacy and the calls which have been issued asking that S. A. Cook become a candidate in the race.

DENIES HER SOCIAL RANK.

Col. Drexel Says Position as Wife of Mayor Does Not Avail.

Philadelphia, Dec. 26.—If Mrs. John E. Reylburn were the wife of the Visorobey of India instead of being the wife of the mayor of Philadelphia, she might hope to attain social eminence through official position. This is the view taken by Col. A. J. Drexel on the question which Mrs. Reylburn has raised and which she has kept before the public for weeks. Mrs. Reylburn's contention has been that by virtue of her position as wife of the mayor she should be accorded social prestige. In the matter of the disposition of boxes for the opera she contends that there should be special recognition of the mayor and his position. This, Col. Drexel as social arbiter, denies.

Baltimore and Return, \$1.25.

Baltimore & Ohio R. R. Every Saturday and Sunday. All trains both ways, both days, except Royal Limited. City offices, 11th & G st. and 619 Pa. ave.

ROOSEVELT POWER PUT TO LEGAL TEST

Private in Brownsville Riot Enters Suit.

SAYS HE IS INNOCENT

Backed by "Certain Gentlemen in New England."

Oscar W. Reid, as Plaintiff Against the Government, Invokes an Almost Obsolete Law, Which Grants to All Soldiers a Right to Demand Court-martial Before Dismissal. Demands \$122.26 for Services.

New York, Dec. 26.—A suit to test the right of the President to discharge the negro soldiers of the Twenty-fifth Infantry for their alleged connection with the Brownsville riot was begun in the United States District Court, in this city, to-day. The expectation is that through this suit the President's action will be put squarely up to the United States Supreme Court.

The suit is brought under the so-called Tucker act, which in the memory of those around the Federal courts has been invoked only in two instances, although the law was passed in 1887. The novelty of it lies in the fact that it allows the United States to be made a defendant either in the United States District or Circuit Court; in the former, where the amount involved is \$1,000 or less, and in the latter where it is more than \$1,000 and not more than \$10,000.

In these cases the courts under this act have concurrent jurisdiction with the Court of Claims in Washington, but for some reason practically all claims against the government, even since the passage of the act, have been brought in the Court of Claims.

Oscar W. Reid, who was a private in Company C, and is a resident of this city, is the plaintiff in the action which is brought to recover from the defendant, the United States, the sum of \$122.26, which Reid contends is due him as pay from the government since his dismissal, on the ground that his dismissal was illegal.

Lawyers Are Retained.

The lawyers bringing the suit for Reid are Ward, Meilen and Woodbridge, of 32 Nassau street. In a statement given out to-day regarding the suit, it was announced that the firm had been retained by certain gentlemen in New England for the legal rights of the plaintiff.

"These gentlemen," the statement went on to explain, "believe that the discharge of these men from the service of the United States, in the absence of any decision by any courts-martial or civil court, because any one of their number may have participated in the disturbance, is wholly unjustifiable, and violated the rights secured to these men by both the Constitution and the laws of the United States."

"The gentlemen who have authorized this suit to be brought believe that the question involved is of the greatest importance, not only to the members of the three companies of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, who were dismissed from the United States service by this order, but to every man in the United States army. Congress, under its constitutional power to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces, has enacted the articles of war. Under these articles the right of every enlisted man to a hearing upon any charge which may be preferred against him is fully established, and no power is given to discharge a man, except in accordance with the judgment of a court-martial."

Disclaim Executive Authority.

"They do not believe that these laws can be overridden by an Executive and dismissed from the service of the United States without a hearing, upon the assumption that certain members have been guilty of murders, private property, or destruction of private property. If any members were guilty of such conduct, their guilt should be determined and punishment administered by the courts; but it is the guilty who should suffer, and not the innocent."

Inquiry as to the names of the New England men who had retained them was refused at the offices of the firm to-day. A representative of the firm said they had requested that their names be withheld. "They are men of wealth and standing, and not as the representatives of any constitutional society," said this representative. "The matter came up in the course of a casual conversation, and it was then decided to bring suit."

Asserts Faithful Service.

In the petition which was filed in court to-day it is set forth that Reid enlisted as a private on July 18, 1894, for three years; that he rendered honest and faithful service, and that on August 28, 1896, following the Brownsville raid, charges were preferred against him by a battalion adjutant on the night of the raid he had taken his rifle and "stingy, or in company with other parties unknown," had taken part in the Brownsville disturbance.

The petition then recites that he was never tried before any court-martial or other tribunal on these charges, but was kept in confinement at various forts until November 9, when "a certain pretended order was issued by the War Department of the United States, under the direction of the President of the United States, but wholly without warrant of law."

The petition, in addition to all those in familiar order discharging all those in the battalion, gives the "discharge without honor," which Reid received, addressed "To all whom it may concern," giving a minute description of him.

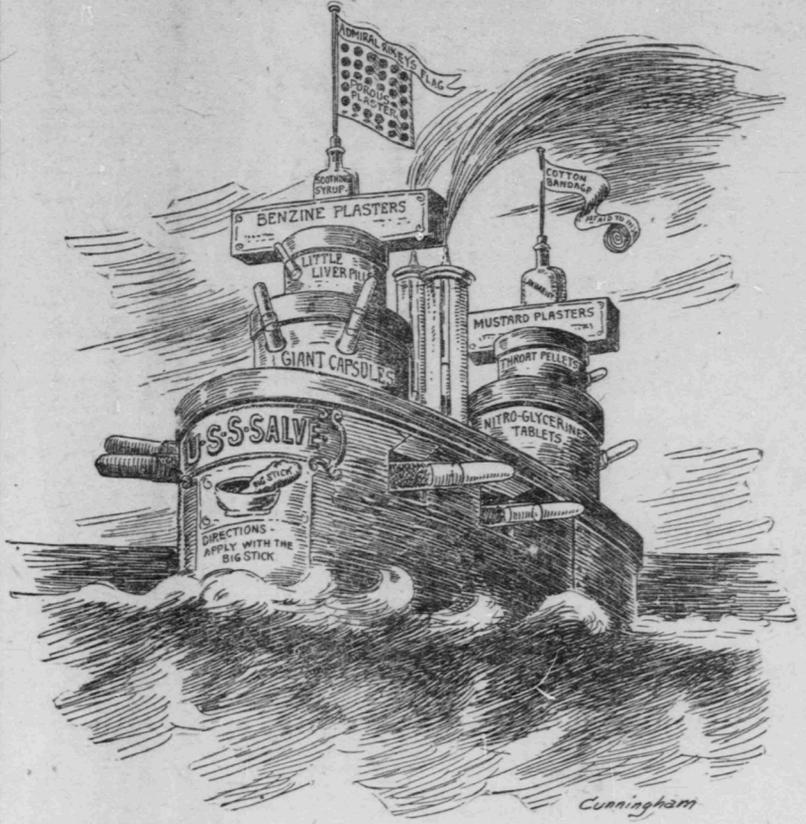
Declares His Innocence.

In the petition Reid swears that he was wholly guiltless, and swears in his quarters at the time and before the shooting had

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\$1.25 to Baltimore and Return Every Saturday and Sunday via Pennsylvania Railroad. Tickets good returning until Sunday night. All regular trains except "Congressional Limited."

THE MODERN AMERICAN DREADNOUGHT.



PINE KNOT REACHED

President and His Party in the Virginia Woods.

PLANS TO GO TURKEY HUNTING

Chief Executive and His Sons Will Take 'Possum Dogs for at Least One Night's Rumble While Another Effort Is to Be Made to Get the Elusive Wild Turkey.

Special to The Washington Herald.

Scottsville, Va., Dec. 26.—President and Mrs. Roosevelt and three of their children—Miss Ethel, Archie, and Quentin—arrived at North Garden this afternoon from Washington. They took private conveyances to Pine Knot, the Virginia home of Mrs. Roosevelt, where the President will spend several days in cross-country riding and hunting.

There had been something doing at Pine Knot all day in anticipation of the coming of the President. Three colored women and two colored men made things cozy for the distinguished visitors.

The lodge has had one of its four-times-a-year spring cleanings. The house has been decked with yuletide green and is looking its little best with its pretty festoons of ivy and cedar. There are always two fires in the big hall, one for use and one to look at, for this apartment, it will be remembered, has a chimney at either end.

Hereback riding on various commissions have been flourishing in and out of the Pine Knot estate for many months, and various vehicles containing quantities of bed clothing, and other devices of defying jack frost in weather-boarded bedrooms. The indispensable rolling-pin was found smuggled in a quilt in time to use in preparation of the evening meal. There was fresh meat for supper, among other things.

Arrangements have been made to give the President some good sport in the way of turkey and 'possum hunting during his stay in Virginia. He and the boys will be taken out with the 'possum dogs for, at least, one good rambble in the woods at night.

The President, if possible, will on this trip be given an opportunity to gratify his very laudable desire to bag one of these most elusive of birds, a Virginia wild turkey.

Goes to Seek Rest.

President Roosevelt, accompanied by Mrs. Roosevelt and their children, left Washington yesterday morning. Pine Knot is a farmhouse purchased by Mrs. Roosevelt several years ago. The personnel of the party included, besides the President and Mrs. Roosevelt and their children, Miss Carey, Surgeon General Rixey, of the navy, and a White House clerk. The trip was made in the special car Twilight, attached to the regular train on the Southern.

The party will remain at Pine Knot until just before New Year's Day, when they will return here for the annual reception at the White House. The greater part of his outdoor exercise at Pine Knot will consist of riding and walking.

The President spent an hour in his office yesterday, clearing up some odds and ends of official business. He will transact only the most pressing of public business while he is at Pine Knot.

PRINCESS WAS HANGED.

Unknown Woman Slayer Said to Have Been of Noble Birth.

St. Petersburg, Dec. 26.—Newspapers report that the unknown woman who was hanged at Moscow a few days ago for throwing a bomb at Gov. Herschelmann on December 14 was Princess Meschtscherski, wife of an impoverished scion of an ancient noble house, whom she deserted because the marriage was unhappy.

Southern's Palm Limited, Via Southern Railway to Alton, Augusta, Charleston, and St. Augustine will be inaugurated January 6, 1908. Leaves Washington 7:15 p. m. week days. Two other fast trains 1 a. m. and 5:30 p. m.

REID ADDRESSES TEACHERS.

Ambassador Tells of Educational System Differences.

Syracuse, N. Y., Dec. 26.—Ambassador Whitelaw Reid gave an address at the High School to-night before 1,500 teachers, members of the State Teachers' Association, the Associated Academic Principals, and seven other educational organizations on "Points of difference between the educational systems of the two great English-speaking countries."

The meeting to-night opened a three days' session of the educators. To-morrow night State Commissioner of Education Andrew D. Draper will deliver an address.

KILLS HIS FATHER-IN-LAW

Reading Man, After Quarrel, Shoots Dr. John Y. Hoffman.

Victim a Leading Democrat and Also Well Known in the Medical Profession of His City.

Reading, Pa., Dec. 26.—Dr. John Y. Hoffman, one of Reading's leading physicians, was shot and instantly killed to-night by his son-in-law, Roland P. Stokes. The two families lived together in a large house in Penn street.

Stokes came home this evening, and plainly showed that he had not yet got over the effects of celebrating Christmas. He went upstairs and found his wife in their bedroom, with their only child. The latter was playing with its Christmas toys.

Dr. Hoffman was on the first floor, and being disturbed by the noise made by Stokes, went upstairs and requested him to be quiet. One word led to another, with the result that both flew into a passion.

Dr. Hoffman hit Stokes on the head with a blackjack, drawing the blood, when Stokes whipped out a revolver and fired at his father-in-law three times. The first ball penetrated his abdomen, the second passed through his heart, and the third lodged in some wood near the child. Stokes then telephoned for the police and ambulance.

Stokes was taken to the police station and later to jail. He claims that he killed his father-in-law in self-defense.

Stokes' wife was formerly Miss Minnie Hoffman, a pretty girl, the only child by a former marriage. Stokes and Miss Hoffman were secretly wed about six years ago, and announcement of the marriage was only made some months afterward.

About two years ago Dr. Hoffman was married a second time. It is believed that the differences in the family started when Dr. Hoffman wanted Stokes to begin housekeeping with his family on his own account.

Dr. Hoffman was fifty-nine years old, and one of the leading Democrats in the city. He was a graduate of Jefferson Medical College, and had an extensive practice. He was at one time prison physician, later coroner, and afterward city treasurer, succeeding in the latter position Henry Young, who killed himself while in office. He was one of the incorporators of the recently organized Highland House Sanitarium, and well-to-do.

Stokes is twenty-four, and a solicitor for a local telephone company.

Texas' Bell Drops Dead.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 26.—William Bell, an animal trainer, known to circus men throughout the country, dropped dead here last night of heart disease. Bell was known as "Texas," and was fifty-five years old. He was one of the few men who could control Rajah, the famous man-killing elephant.

Improved Service for Commuters Between Baltimore and Washington. With its new schedule, effective Monday, January 6, the Pennsylvania Railroad will readjust its train service between Baltimore and Washington, so that train No. 34 will leave Washington 5 p. m. and arrive Baltimore at 8 p. m. and train No. 322 will leave Washington 6:30 p. m. and arrive Union Station, Baltimore, at 8:25 p. m.

DEBUT COSTS \$100,000

Miss Mary Paul Bows to Philadelphia Society.

SCENE A GORGEOUS ONE

Horticultural Hall Transformed into a Magnificent French Garden, Where Imported Butterflies Flutter Amid Flowers, for Which \$35,000 Was Expended.

Philadelphia, Dec. 26.—Miss Mary Astor Paul, daughter of James A. Paul, Jr., of the Drexel firm, made her debut to-night at Horticultural Hall at a ball for grandeur, costliness, and general un-usualness, eclipsed the famous "Ball of the Four Seasons," with which four years ago he introduced his elder daughter.

The flowers alone cost \$35,000, and for the occasion a brand-new rose, a cross between the American Beauty and the Soifano, which took nine years to develop, was introduced. The favors were very costly.

At a certain hour 500 brilliant butterflies, gathered from Brazil, Peru, and even India, were let loose over the guests. These butterflies flitted everywhere amid the cries of delight from the diners. Costly silver and painted butterflies formed one of the motifs of the decorations also. The living insects hovered over the women, bumped into the lights, and fell into the plates, but they were very effective.

Many Prominent Guests.

All the Drexels were there, and, in fact, everybody really prominent in Philadelphia society. Col. Anthony J. Drexel, his wife and daughter, Miss Margaretta, came over from the London court on purpose. Mr. and Mrs. Reginald Vanderbilt had been invited, but didn't attend. The ballroom was turned into the exact replica of a French garden, copied from the Louis Quinze period. Sixteen boxes, fashioned of plaster of Paris, lined the room, and had been built especially for the occasion. A great fountain also had been built in one end of the room. Conservative estimates of the total cost were given as \$100,000.

TAFT TO TALK POLITICS.

Will Make Address to Boston Merchants Next Monday Night.

Secretary of War William H. Taft will make his first political pronouncement since his return from the Philippines, at Boston on December 30, in a speech to be delivered before the Merchants' Association of that city. He is expected to treat at length several political issues of the day.

Among other subjects which Secretary Taft will discuss is the financial flurry. At present it is undetermined whether or not the Secretary will speak elsewhere in New England before returning to Washington.

The Secretary was not at the department yesterday, but had a stenographer at his home, where he worked on his Philippine report. The Secretary had adopted this means of preventing interruption by numerous callers.

CHICAGO FIREMEN EFFICIENT.

All Business House Fires in Year Confined to Single Buildings.

Chicago, Dec. 26.—Not a single business-house fire in Chicago in 1907 has extended beyond the walls of the structure in which it started. This tribute to the promptness and efficiency of the department, of which he is head, is made by Fire Chief Horan. In the frame-house district, on two or three occasions, the spread of fire had been greater, but where the great business houses are in danger and buildings are well walled the firemen have successfully kept the blaze within the 25 or 50-foot front limit.

Alice in Carte Lunch Served Daily.

At Eckstein's from 12 to 3. Hill N. Y. ave.

NAVY STAFF LOOKS FOR INVESTIGATION

President Said to Have Written Strong Letter.

PLEAD WITH BROWNSON

Devey and Other Line Officers in Argument.

Every Department of Government Overhauled and Rehabilitated Since Spanish War, Except Navy, Which Is in Favored Class—Surgeon General Rixey at Pine Knot with President Roosevelt.

Rear Admiral Willard H. Brownson, who resigned the office of chief of the Bureau of Navigation on Christmas Eve, as the result of a difference of opinion with President Roosevelt, did not appear at the Navy Department yesterday. Commander Cameron McRae Winslow, who was designated to act as chief, and who will be nominated to the Senate for that office, was on hand.

The most important comment heard among navy men is that the new light that has been thrown on the workings of the Navy Department's bureau system by the criticisms of Henry Reuter and the controversy which led to the resignation of Admiral Brownson, is bound to produce a thorough inquiry into that system, with the object of effecting its re-organization.

Nearly every department of the government has been overhauled and rehabilitated since the Spanish war, but the navy is in the exempted class.

Surgeon General Rixey, to whose influence is attributed President Roosevelt's decision to put a naval surgeon in command of a hospital ship over the protest of Rear Admiral Brownson, has said that the Bureau of Navigation had interfered too much with the internal administration of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, and this interference had, at times, caused him great concern "as to how I could meet the needs of those under my care."

Approval of President.

It is generally accepted that the Surgeon General made this criticism with the approval of President Roosevelt, and the covert slap at Admiral Brownson indicates how deeply the President resents Admiral Brownson's resignation.

An interesting and important issue was raised yesterday in connection with the President's decision to put a naval surgeon instead of a line officer in command of the hospital ship Relief. The Relief is to be navigated by merchant sailing master and mates, not amenable to naval discipline. They will be under the supreme authority of the naval surgeon, but, in turn, will command a crew of regularly-enlisted bluejackets.

Contrary to Law?

It is asserted that this is contrary to law and regulations, as the civilian officers can not enforce discipline in a bluejacket crew, and the latter, in fact, are not required by law to obey any except regularly commissioned line officers of the naval service.

Surgeon General Rixey contends that navy surgeons have had positive command for several years, but this is disputed by line officers, who challenge the production of any evidence to sustain the Surgeon General.

The whole matter was thrashed out in several weeks of discussion, with the President as the final arbiter. Rixey won the battle over the powerful Navigation Bureau, and the Medical Corps of the navy is jubilant.

Undoubtedly the fact that the hospital ships of the army, of which the Relief was until recently one, have always been under the command of an army medical officer with a civilian navigator to handle the ship, had much to do with the making of the decision. Rixey's contention that in time of war the Relief would be the Red Cross flag, and that there should be no question of guaranteeing her neutrality, also had great weight.

In the retirement of Admiral Brownson from active duty the navy will lose one of its best officers. As superintendent of the Naval Academy, commander of a fleet, and Chief of the Bureau of Navigation, successively, he has had the three best assignments possible in the American navy, showing the high esteem in which he has been held.

Admiral Brownson has consistently refused to discuss publicly the present controversy up to the moment. But it is not impossible that Admiral Rixey's charge that "the internal administration of the Bureau of Medicine and Surgery has been too much interfered with by the Bureau of Navigation," and his contention that the hospital ship Relief ought to have gone with the fleet on its voyage around Cape Horn, may provoke some reply from the retired admiral, and an investigation.

President's Strong Letter.

It is said that the President wrote a strong letter to Admiral Brownson on the subject of his resignation and the causes which led up to it.

Friends of Admiral Brownson express the belief that none of the correspondence will ever be given out from the White House, owing to the strong arguments in favor of his stand advanced by Admiral Brownson and the heated nature of the President's letter of immediate acceptance.

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Exceptional Banking Facilities.

Are offered depositors in the new banking house of Union Trust Co., 15th and H sts. Interest on all accounts; deposits subject to check. Government supervision.