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THE ROAD TO FORTUNE.

The Road to Fortune is through Printer's Ink—P. T. Barnum.

TO INVADE CANADA

Alleged Plan of Sympathizers With the Boers.

TO REPEAT RAIDS OF THE FENIANS

Four Armies to Cross the Border at Different Points.

WHAT IS SAID AT OMAHA

Special Dispatch to The Evening Star.

NEW YORK, December 25.—It is stated on good authority that a plan is on foot among the members of a number of Holland organizations and Hibernian societies in this country to organize raids on the Dominion of Canada, similar to those which startled the civilized world in 1865-6.

This plan, as the story goes, was first suggested by avowed Boer sympathizers in Washington, and word has been passed along to other cities. It is asserted that agents have been obtained in Pittsburg, Chicago, Detroit, Minneapolis and several other large cities to organize restless, daring spirits for the purpose of making a dash on the Canadian border. The men behind the movement are also said to have opened up a correspondence with some of the avowed annexationists in Canada and the results have been startling.

The men interested in the proposed raid assert that the anti-imperialist feeling in Canada has been found to be stronger than ever before, and that many replies have been received showing that there is a widespread belief that "now or never is the time for Canada to achieve her independence." Most of the replies, it is stated, have been received from the districts where the French predominate, but Manitoba, where the old bitterness of feeling still exists over the settlement of the public school question, which for many years turned that province into two hostile camps, has also sent many favorable responses.

The promoters of these latter-day Fenian raids assert that the hardy miners of the Klondike, most of them Americans, and all of them men of action, oppressed as they claim they are by unjust mining laws, can be relied upon to keep the Alaskan border in a state of turmoil, and it is alleged that if necessary they will furnish the men and the money for an invasion of British Columbia and Manitoba from the north and the west.

Invasion of Manitoba.

Briefly stated, the alleged plans of the promoters of the "Fenian raids" are for the organization of four armies of invasion from the United States. The first of these armies, in size and importance, the one upon which the hopes of those interested will be centered, is that now said to be organizing in Chicago, Minnesota and the Dakotas. In addition to the men from the cities it is expected to enroll a large number of the cowboys and adventurous young men from the farms of the prairie states. It is believed that an army of invasion moving north to Winnipeg through the valley of the Red River of the North, unprotected as it is by strong fortifications, will, now that the Canadian troops have been dispatched to the Transvaal, meet with little or no opposition. It is also anticipated that half the people of Manitoba will unite with the army as soon as the Canadian border is reached. Even if opposition is encountered in the shape of a few British regulars remaining in Canada, it is figured that, man for man, the cowboys of the west, the adventurers of the western cities and several companies of miners from the Rocky mountain regions can whip their weight in wild cats in a country with which they are thoroughly familiar.

Invasion of Eastern Canada.

The second army, it is expected, will be organized in Ohio or Michigan, crossing the Detroit river or the St. Clair river quietly, and with the ostensible program of hunting in the Georgian bay country. As soon as the rivers are crossed, however, these men, it is asserted, will be met by sympathizers on the Canadian side of the line and the standard of revolt is to be set up in the cities and towns of the Province of Ontario.

In a similar fashion Quebec is to be menaced from northern New York and northern Maine—the men being dispatched to these regions disguised as hunters and backwoodsmen. The northern New York movement will constitute the third body; the northern Maine will comprise the fourth company. It is said that the plans do not contemplate the attack of strongly fortified cities like Halifax, Quebec, or the Esquimault fortifications on the western shore of British Columbia, but it is figured that so much impetus can be given to the raids in the rural regions that the movement will soon spread to the cities and towns.

Tactics to Be Adopted.

The men behind the movement are too shrewd to even put themselves in a position of being arrested by the McKinley administration for violating the neutrality laws. But, it is said, tactics similar to those adopted by the Cuban junta before the outbreak of the war with Spain will be employed. In fact, the men who acquired filibustering experience in the waters of Cuba are, it is asserted, even now being approached and asked how they would like to take hunting trips into northern Maine, northern New York and northern Wisconsin and Minnesota. If they agree to make the trip, and generally they are willing to go, they are given good guns and tickets to points where their presence is most desired.

Important if True.

When it is remembered that the Cuban rebellion was largely started by the cigarmakers of Tampa and Key West the significance of these proposed Fenian raids into Canada, if the story will bear the light of day, cannot be overestimated. All the members of the Holland societies and patriotic Irish organizations are aware of the fact that large sums are being raised for the Transvaal. Sometimes these subscriptions are voluntary—sometimes they are raised by an assessment upon the various members. In the west alone $175,000 has been raised for the South African republic. It is generally understood among the members of these organizations that this money is sent to Pretoria via Holland. As a matter of fact, it is freely asserted, the money was first sent to Kruger's government in this way. But the warships in South African waters and the presence of large bodies of British troops in Cape Colony and Natal have made it difficult to communicate with Kruger and dangerous to attempt the dispatch of large amounts of money through the channels formerly employed. Some adventurous spirits were even sent to South Africa to the aid of the Boers; but, it is stated, it was quickly discovered that it cost at least $400 per man to send men in that way, whereas $20 or $30 would buy an outfit and put a man on the Canadian borders. And promoters of the movement are alleged to have stated that these men will soon be worth more to the Transvaal in Canada than in South Africa.

What gives to this alleged movement the appearance of genuineness is the fact that large sums of money are being raised right in New York by the local Holland Society, and men like Judge A. A. Van Wyck, late democratic candidate for governor of New York and a brother of the mayor of Greater New York; Robert B. Roosevelt, a relative of Governor Roosevelt, and one of the wealthiest citizens in the town, are interested in raising funds for the Transvaal.

Warnings Sent to Canada.

It is not intimated that these men even know about the proposed Canadian raids, but men connected with societies to which they belong are known to have been employed in sending men to South Africa, and it is known that recently these recruiting agents ceased the shipment of men to the old world, and, it is alleged, turned their attention to the Canadian borders. Naturally these movements have been kept as secret as possible. The men directly interested will not talk; the men financially responsible are not saying anything. But despite all the secrecy possible, it is believed that agents of the British government have been informed of the program—possibly through the treachery of some of the men high in the councils of the various Irish societies and Holland organizations.

Certain it is that within the last three days orders have been sent to generals in command of troops in Canada to be on guard against a surprise. The nature of this surprise, it is thought, has not been communicated to the officers in Canada. Possibly the war office in Great Britain is itself puzzled and not possessed of details sufficient to justify any direct statements that would appear to even reflect upon the government at Washington. But as evidence that an inkling of the situation has been obtained it is known here that an order has been promulgated to the effect that hereafter all merchant vessels wishing to enter Esquimault harbor must come to a dead stop at the entrance and signal their presence by means of a special series of whistles, which have been communicated privately to the local pilots and the masters of such steam craft as may naturally be expected to visit the naval port, and which will be answered from the shore. Much comment has been excited throughout British Columbia by these unheard of orders taken in conjunction with the strict precautionary measures adopted at the dock and navy yard there.

Denials by Pro-Boer Leaders.

The order regarding merchant vessels was issued only last Saturday. Local leaders connected with the pro-Boer organizations, while substantially admitting their plans along the Canadian border farther east, emphatically deny that they have ever intended to start a filibustering expedition in the direction of Esquimault harbor. These denials, it is thought, may be for the purpose of keeping their movements in the British Columbia and Alaskan waters even more secret than their program for the invasion of the Canadian border farther east.

In this connection, though having nothing to do with the matter directly, it may be stated that labor organizations in New York city have extended an invitation to William Jennings Bryan to address an immense mass meeting to be held at Madison Square Garden during the month of January. Representative W. D. Daly of New Jersey is authority for the statement that Mr. Bryan is to come to New Jersey before the 1st of February, and the welcome tendered Bryan will be of the nature of an anti-imperialist pro-Boer demonstration. It is believed that a sentiment can be created by this and other mass meetings which Senator Mason of Illinois and others are to address so strong that President McKinley will be forced to take some measures looking to mediation between Great Britain and the Transvaal.

This news that Bryan has been invited to address a mass meeting in New York in this connection has been kept a secret for the purpose of preventing complications similar to the announcement of the famous $10 and $1 dinners, but it is known that he has been asked to come, and there are the best of reasons for believing that he will accept.

By Associated Press.

Regarded as More Than Likely.

OMAHA, Neb., December 24.—The Bee says: There is something more than a likelihood that the pro-Boer agitation, now so general throughout the United States, will lead to the resuscitation of the once celebrated organization among Irish-Americans known as the Fenians, which planned and executed an invasion of Canada in 1866 out of hatred of England for the wrongs that for several hundred years had been inflicted upon Ireland.

Intimations have reached Omaha from other cities that an address, calling for a renewal of the Fenian organization and the Clan-na-Gael had been sent out from this city to enthusiastic Irish-Americans in other places, but inquiry among prominent Irishmen failed to disclose the identity of any persons who may have sent out such an address. As far as could be learned, there are no organized branches of the societies named in this city, although there are some men in Omaha who were proud of their membership in the Fenian organization.

Inquiry, however, did develop the fact that there is some sort of a secret movement on foot among the Irish enthusiasts in this and neighboring cities which has for its object some decisive steps of a more belligerent character toward England than a simple declaration of sympathy for the Boers, far away in South Africa. The movement here will be inaugurated by a meeting to be held next Sunday, when some measures are expected to be taken. One of the leaders, a prominent Irish-American of this city, in speaking of the matter, said:

Ready to Go to the Front.

"There are in Omaha today a respectable number of Irishmen who are ready to go to the front, and they don't care whether it is to the Transvaal or to Canada, so long as the same end can be accomplished. More will be known after the meeting next Sunday. There will be a great deal of work done by those on the inside between now and that date, the nature of which I cannot tell you. It will be done secretly. There will be wheels within wheels and more than one organization of Irishmen will be involved."

Conference with a number of Irish-Americans, who pretended at least that they knew nothing of the movement, disclosed the fact that the conviction is quite general among them that there should be an organization effected among them which could make its existence effective, if only by a threat of repeating the Fenian invasion of 1866, as it would deter the British from sending any more troops to Africa.

Prominence has doubtless been given to Omaha and Nebraska and the rumors of this movement because of the activity of the Irishmen of Nebraska in Land League affairs within the last dozen years, and because of the further fact that the bones of the most prominent of the leaders of the invasion of over thirty-three years ago rest in an Omaha cemetery. Beneath a handsome monument erected over his grave by the Irish nationalists in 1895, Gen. John O'Neill sleeps in an honored grave in the Holy Sepulcher cemetery, just beyond the western limits of the city. He commanded the invading Irishmen at the battle at Ridgeway near Niagara Falls, June 2, 1866, and the inscription on his monument proclaims him the hero of that engagement.

SNOWDRIFTS IN CLEVELAND.

A Forty-Mile Gale Blowing Over the Lake.

CLEVELAND, Ohio, December 25.—A furious snow storm, accompanied by a forty-five miles' gale, has been raging throughout northern Ohio and over Lake Erie for the past twenty-four hours. The thermometer registers 16 degrees above. In this city street car traffic is badly impeded as a result of the heavy snow drifts piled on the tracks. Trains on the trunk lines railways are nearly all late.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE

President and Mrs. McKinley Have No Guests Today.

MANY REMEMBRANCES RECEIVED

Floral Tributes Sent to the Late George Marshall.

A PACIFIC COAST TRIP

President and Mrs. McKinley are at the White House alone today. Consequently the day has been an exceedingly quiet one. Mr. and Mrs. Abner McKinley, contrary to their custom, could not come to Washington to take Christmas dinner with the President. No invitations were sent out for others to dine at the White House. Thus Christmas has never been more quietly spent at the executive mansion.

President McKinley went out for a morning walk, remaining about twenty minutes. When he returned he went to the private part of the house. Although his office had been prepared for him he did not enter it during the morning. About 1:30 o'clock President and Mrs. McKinley took lunch, this being their regular hour. Dinner will be served about 7 o'clock.

The President ordered a beautiful floral wreath sent to the home of the late George Marshall, who was a policeman assigned to White House duty and who died yesterday. The attaches of the White House also sent wreaths.

Remembrances of the Day.

There were no callers except Mrs. J. A. Porter. She called with her pretty little daughters, of whom Mrs. McKinley is fond. The little ones bore presents for President and Mrs. McKinley.

Express wagons rolled up to the house all during the morning, taking boxes and bundles for the chief magistrate and wife. Many of them were from personal friends, but others were from admirers in all parts of the country, and even in Hawaii, Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Philippines. Many presents were sent out from the White House, two attaches and a horse and buggy being engaged in the distribution during all of the first part of the day. The President and his wife exchange presents with members of their official family and with close personal friends. Mrs. McKinley was engaged all week in arranging presents.

There are few public men in the city, but the President will be in his office at the usual time tomorrow, and will be ready to transact all business coming before him.

May Go to the Pacific.

The President will, in fact, take no holiday for a good while now. But the chances are that he will go to the Pacific coast in the spring. He has desired to go there for a long time, and a few days ago told Senator Perkins that he would go next spring if possible. The battle ship Ohio will be launched at the Union iron works in the spring, and this is the occasion which will take the President to the Pacific, if nothing stands in the way. The people of that section of the country have appealed often for his presence, and have the assurance that the visit will be made when possible.

Will Use Dr. Evans' Paris Home.

PARIS, December 25.—The government has completed arrangements to rent, for use as a residence by the princely guests of the nation at the time of the exposition, the mansion on the Avenue du Bois de Bologne, formerly occupied by the late Dr. Evans, the wealthy American dentist, which the deceased bequeathed to the city of Philadelphia. The government pays 66,000 francs rent and furnishes the house with state furniture.

CHURCH BELLS AND MUSIC.

No One Had to Go Without Christmas Dinner in New York.

NEW YORK, December 25.—Church bells and music, feasting, matinees and happiness generally were features of today's celebration.

No one had to go without a Christmas dinner today. The greatest exemplification of this was seen at the Madison Square Garden, where the Salvation Army fed thousands by the distribution of 3,200 baskets, with food enough for five persons in each basket. Six thousand more dinners will be served on the main floor at 6 o'clock this evening. From 11 o'clock until 2 p.m. the distribution of the baskets took place, and the spectators in the gallery, and there were thousands of them, were much edified by the spectacle. A musical and cinematographe entertainment was given every hour from 11 o'clock and will not conclude until 10 o'clock tonight. Orchestral and vocal music added to the general enjoyment of the occasion.

The early morning scenes at the garden were as unusual as they were interesting. Never before has charity been dispensed on so large a scale, and the Salvation Army people have been working like beavers for a month to make this prodigious dispensation a success. Although provision was made for feeding 20,000 persons, at least half again that number of army officers, by dint of strenuous efforts, met the requirements.

In all the public institutions the inmates were generously provided with Christmas cheer by the authorities. The newsboys came in for their share of good things at Brace Memorial Hall and various other places. Every Sunday school in the city either had its Christmas tree or will have its festivities tonight or some time this week. Many of the public school classes are holding exercises today in various halls.

Owing to Christmas having fallen Monday an opportunity was afforded people to leave town, and many took advantage of the occasion. It is reported by the railroads that the out-of-town travel on Saturday was unprecedented, and the incoming traffic of country visitors seems to have been as great.

At the theaters it is reported that the demand for seats exceeds that of last year, and Christmas performances seem to be as popular now as the proverbial pantomimes of years ago in England.

At most of the churches in the city there were elaborate musical programs and there was a large attendance at all of the services.

Fruits of Charity in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., December 25.—Christmas in this city witnessed as never before the fruits of charity. The destitute received food and clothing, the sick were given medical attention and poor children were rendered happy by gifts of necessities, sweetmeats and knickknacks.

A dinner for 8,000 persons was provided by the Salvation Army, and baskets of food were distributed among poor families.

The American volunteers furnished dinners in a similar way to about 500 poor children, and the Protestant Episcopal City Mission fed about 1,000 individuals. Other religious organizations and the various sick diet kitchens took care of a large number of needy persons.

The Children's Christmas Club gave its annual dinner to 1,000 poor boys and girls and distributed toys among them. Hospitals were remembered by the Flower Mission, and the Children's Aid Society distributed among 800 children gifts of hoods, scarfs, gloves, mittens, handkerchiefs, books, etc. The various organizations were materially aided in their work by the public.

WEAVERS WILL WAIT.

They Believe That Manufacturers Will Adopt New Scale.

PHILADELPHIA, December 25.—It has been definitely announced by the cloth weavers that they have decided to present no formal demands to the manufacturers for a change in the wage scale at present.

The weavers believe if they wait until about the middle of January most of the manufacturers will voluntarily adopt the new scale. It is reported that a number of mills are already paying the two mills per pick, as demanded in the new scale, and fail only to pay the extra for overtime.

NEEDY REMEMBERED

Christmas Cheer Generously Extended to the Unfortunate Poor.

SUNDAY OF THE MYSTIC SHRINERS

Boys and Girls Given Overgarments by Saks & Co.

OTHER SWEET CHARITIES

Today the unfortunate who are needy and destitute are being gladdened by the kindness of those upon whom fortune has more kindly smiled, and the home in the District would be hard to find wherein some beam from the light that fell on Bethlehem has not found its comforting way. Private individuals, business firms and organizations alike have entered into the good work, and religious and secular bodies have assisted generally in spreading the holiday goodness.

Charity of Mystic Shriners.

There was a significant occasion of this sort at the National Rifles' armory yesterday, where the nobles of Almas Temple of the Ancient and Arabic Order of the Mystic Shrine gathered to carry out their beautiful Christmas custom of sending out hundreds of substantial baskets of food to those who would have otherwise, perhaps, known not today what a Christmas dinner meant. It was a scene at once animated and affecting.

Scores of Shriners, divested of their Sunday coats, with shirt sleeves rolled back, worked with a steady vim filling boxes and baskets and big bags with turkeys, cuts of roast beef, mutton, veal, fresh pork, sausages, hams, flour, butter, meal, hominy, beans, coffee, sugar, rice, potatoes, turnips, pumpkins and other vegetables, while apples, bananas and other fruits were included. At 11 o'clock the entire floor of the armory, which is almost 70 by 50 feet in dimensions, was covered with the baskets and other receptacles containing each an appetizing variety of food, sufficient to provide two or three dinners and many lesser meals for good-sized families.

Many Wagon Loads of Baskets.

Then commenced the work of sending them out to their destinations. Wagons had been donated for this purpose by Knox's Express Company, the Independent Ice Company, Brown Bros., Colburn Bros., H. P. Pillsbury & Co., the E. E. Jackson Company, S. A. Leishear's Express Company, W. L. Hughes, E. M. Willis, Muddiman & Co., C. R. Talbert, William C. Peake, Joseph Mathy, George Blitt, Welby S. Ashby and Mulcare & Co. From eighteen to twenty-five baskets were placed in each wagon and the driven given a list of the houses where they were to be left and the names of those for whom each was intended, and the cavalcade of wagons, numbering over thirty in all, made several trips each, the entire delivery embracing every section of the city and District, the sound of their wheels sending Christmas music into the slums that found an echoing response in hearts that knew little of cheer or comfort.

The Only Requirement Was Need.

No creed or color, no religion or record was asked by the Shriners when the necessity of a person was announced and a request made on behalf of some unfortunate for a portion of their generous charity. Necessity was alone the requirement, and every basket went where its welcome contents would fill empty stomachs and make hollow hearts happy.

The Shriners, too, showed that their own hearts were in the work, because it was hard work. Carrying heavy baskets at a brisk pace and loading them into wagons were a line of men prominent in the business and professional life of Washington, yet no day laborer ever put more energy into his avocation.

Interesting Interruption.

There was an interesting interruption to the work of the nobles just when they seemed to be in earnest. Potentate Frank H. Thomas made himself heard above the bustle and announced the presence of Mr. John H. Atwood of Leavenworth, Kan., the imperial potentate of the Mystic Shrine. He was given a characteristic Shriner greeting, and when it had subsided he made a brief but exceedingly impressive speech. He was visibly moved by the scene before him and said the occasion was peculiarly in keeping with the tenets of Masonry, which placed charity above all things. The highest form of charity was embodied in what the nobles were doing, because by it the beneficence was being extended where it was most needed and would be most practical. The love, he said, which tied us to our families, to our homes and to each other savored sometimes of selfishness, but in the love which is exemplified by the greatest of all virtues, charity, was absolutely free from the gross and as pure and unsullied as the fountains that gush from the mountain side or the light that gleams from the eternal stars.

When he had concluded the usual question was asked:

"What's the matter with Atwood?"

The chorus came emphatically:

"He's all right."

"Who's all right?"

"The imperial potentate."

Mr. Atwood was then introduced personally to most of those present, and afterward, in company with those officers of Almas Temple who were present, proceeded upstairs and inspected the paraphernalia of the temple.

Over 900 baskets, boxes and bags were sent out, and probably 100 baskets that were brought by poor people, who had learned of the Christmas giving, were filled and the bringers sent away smiling and satisfied.

The Almas Temple nobles had appropriated about $800 in cash toward the event, but a very large number of donations were received in addition.

Some of the Hard Workers.

Among those who were active in the work yesterday were Harry Standiford, who for the past four years during which the Almas Temple has carried out its Christmas dinner giving, has been ever the leading spirit and directing manager; Geo. H. Walker, Benjamin Parkhurst, John A. Eilenger, Frank K. Raymond, Andrew I. Kelley, Lansburgh, Thomas B. Walker, W. L. Knox, Samuel Hart, F. W. Buddecke, Will A. Haley, W. Andrew Boyd, Joseph Colburn, W. E. Colburn, Frank H. Thomas, A. T. Curran, Hallie Spencer, Edwin B. Hay, Achille Burklin, Chas. Brown, James Cissell, Granville M. Hunt, E. M. Willis, Allison Nailor, jr., Louis Goldsmith, E. M. Willis, P. A. Sebring, W. W. Jordan, Jacobus Jones, Fred. J. Miller, J. E. Jouy, A. S. Johnson, B. T. Trueworthy, Paul Pearson, A. D. Proctor, Chas. S. Hyer, James Lewis, Frank Morgan, W. L. Hughes, R. H. Lamb, Fred Behrens, John Reder, Thomas O. Morris, J. E. Mulcare and R. R. Cooke.

THANKFUL LITTLE ONES.

Saks & Co. Give Overgarments to Little Boys and Girls.

Saks & Company repeated their annual Christmas custom this morning of clothing with warm overgarments the little children who know what shivering means. Heretofore the firm has given away a hundred or more overcoats to boys, but as the scope of the enterprising establishment has been enlarged to include the clothing of the gentle sex this year's charity took in the little girls as well, and for an hour or more this morning, beginning at 9 o'clock, a throng of juvenile of all colors and all sizes, from the toddling tot to those in their early teens, was gathered at the 7th street entrance awaiting turn to be made warm and snug by the good people inside the doors.

The majority of the children were those pitiable representatives of the great army that struggles on in the fight against want, but there were some who came equipped with the necessary cards entitling them to the gifts whose parents or guardians were well able to purchase clothing for them, but who evidently preferred to get something for nothing. These, fortunately, were but few.

The scene as the shivering youngsters were fitted in their overcoats or ulsters or jackets or cloaks was one to be long remembered. Many of them, it was plain to perceive, had never known what it was to have such a thing in its new state. The cut-down coats of elder sisters, worn threadbare by the original possessors, were removed from slender shoulders and replaced with never-before-worn substitutes, and the recipients showed their thankfulness in quivering lips, which smiled as well. There were three boys in tattered clothes of summer vintage, and girls in sheerest calico, and many of them had little between their feet and the concrete when it came to shoes.

One tiny fellow was so badly off in footwear that two of the kind-hearted attaches of the firm replaced the leather shells he wore with strong, substantial shoes.

Mr. Isadore Saks, Mr. George Lewis, Mr. Isaac Gans and Mr. Kronheim directed the charity work, which was executed by several of the experienced employes, and when the last comer had been warmly clad over a hundred boys and girls had been fitted out to make fun of frigid weather so far as overgarments were concerned.

THE CASE OF PRIVATE DAVIS.

He Has Been Committed to St. Elizabeth's Asylum.

The case of Nicholas Davis of Troop B, 3d Cavalry, having been reported to Gen. Merritt, commanding the Department of the East at New York, he has authorized the commitment of the man to the Government Hospital for the Insane near Anacostia. Davis is an enlisted man from the state of Kentucky, who became insane over real or fancied wrongs inflicted by members of his troop at Fort Myer, Va., and who, inspired by drink, duplicated at Fort Myer the main incidents in Rudyard Kipling's story, "In the Matter of a Private," written several years ago about a British soldier in England. The story of Davis' escapade has already been told in The Star. Obtaining a Krag-Jorgensen rifle and a supply of ammunition, he barricaded himself in the troops' quarters and began firing in every direction through the open windows at every person who came within range of his weapon. Fortunately his marksmanship was not good and he failed to hit anybody.

The commandant at the fort, after exhausting all possible efforts to capture the crazy trooper without sacrificing the lives of any of his men, finally ordered him disabled, and a sergeant and squad were detailed for that purpose. Instead of ordering a volley fired, however, the sergeant, who is a crack marksman, took a single shot at the crazed soldier. Only Davis' head and the stock and barrel of his rifle could be seen above the window sill. The sergeant's bullet broke the ammunition chamber of the Krag-Jorgensen, driving pieces of the metal into Davis' face and head, stunning, but not killing, him.

This remarkably fortunate shot prevented what might otherwise have created considerable comment—the ordering of a soldier to be shot without trial in time of peace.

Davis was finally secured, and after a thorough medical examination was pronounced insane. The facts were reported to Gen. Merritt at New York, and he ordered the commitment of the prisoner to St. Elizabeth Asylum for treatment and safe keeping.

The Rio Grande Boundary.

Secretary Hay, for the United States, and the Mexican charge has signed an agreement extending for one year, until December next, the operation of the treaty providing for the definition of the boundary along the Rio Grande.

THE LAWTON FUND

Contributions Arriving in a Most Gratifying Manner.

FAMILY TO BE PLACED ABOVE WANT

Some of the Notable Subscriptions Received Today.

GEN. CORBIN'S STATEMENT

Adjutant General Corbin spent Christmas today at his office in the War Department, and was busy most of the time in receiving and acknowledging contributions to the Lawton fund. The total of the subscriptions received by him up to noon today is $14,329.55. Telegraphic notice has also been received of additional subscriptions to the amount of about $20,000, and it is not at all improbable that the fund will eventually reach the proportion of $50,000. The original intention was to raise only a fund sufficient to pay off the mortgage of about $15,000 on the Lawton homestead at Redlands, Cal., but the generous response to the appeal encourages the committee to believe that enough money will be subscribed beyond that sum to place Mrs. Lawton and her children above want for the rest of their lives.

Secretary Root and Adjutant General Corbin sent personal appeals to about 150 bankers and business men in New York, with the result of a large increase in the subscriptions to the fund. Although the contributions from the west have been comparatively small up to this time, there is no doubt that the next few days will show a liberal response from that quarter, where Gen. Lawton was so well known.

Subscriptions Assured.

Among those who have promised subscriptions are:

William K. Vanderbilt, $1,000; J. Pierpont Morgan, $1,000; C. P. Huntington, $1,000; Thomas F. Ryan of New York, $1,000, and Miss Helen Gould, $500. The committee expects to receive at least ten subscriptions of $1,000 each.

Mr. J. I. Buchannon of Pittsburg telegraphed Gen. Corbin this morning that a public meeting will be held in that city tomorrow morning for the purpose of helping the fund.

Alexander H. Revell of Chicago reports that $1,000 has been subscribed by the merchants of that city, including $250 by Armour & Co.

Gen. Shafter reports that $830 has already been raised by the citizens of San Francisco.

Gen. Corbin was also informed that the citizens of St. Louis had subscribed $1,200.

Capt. Donovan, who was with Gen. Lawton in the Philippines, has been designated to take charge of the subscriptions in Louisville, Ky., and the Kansas City Star has been designated to act as agent of the fund in Kansas City.

Checks Received Today.

Among the checks received this morning were the following: Thomas H. Barber of New York, $100; Geo. D. Cook of Chicago, $25; John Sloane of Lenox, Mass., $100; A. C. Tyler of New London, $100.

Mr. James Hoyt of Cleveland sent a letter inclosing a check for $50. "The plan," he says, "is a most worthy one, and I trust you will receive liberal responses. I do not know that I ever gave a gift with greater gratification and willingness than I do this one."

C. G. Wilgus of Eldred, Kan., sent $1, and said: "Gen. Lawton was the ideal American fighting officer, and his loss is inestimable. I am only too glad to do what little may be in my power to aid the survivors of a man whom I hold in the highest admiration."

William W. Webber of Dover, N. H., wrote: "I wish I was able to make it $100 instead of $1, for it could go to no better cause than to assist the widow of one of the noblest and bravest men that ever defended his country's flag."

Robert W. King of Charlevoix, Mich., wrote: "Gen. Lawton is one whose conspicuous bravery and faithfulness in the war in Cuba and the Philippines have been untainted with any breath of scandal or anything to detract from his merits as a brave, competent and faithful officer. It seems to me that the citizens of the country cannot afford to allow such meritorious services and splendid example to the youth of the country pass unheeded when the opportunity is given to express themselves. While I expect the government, through Congress, will take action expressing the sentiment of the nation at large, yet I think that a large number of individual citizens will feel, as I do, the pleasure of giving their personal testimonial to the worth of this good and true man."

In acknowledging the receipt of contributions Gen. Corbin said: "The time for closing the fund has been extended until the 1st of January, and it is hoped that no effort will be spared to make this fund all that it ought to be, that Mrs. Lawton may live in comfort and be able to provide for and educate her children."

Gen. Corbin's Statement.

Gen. Corbin made the following statement for publication today:

"Gen. Corbin is gratified with the generosity manifested in the subscriptions already received and pledged for the Lawton fund. The committee having in mind the expression of Gen. Lawton for the welfare of his family, as related by Prof. Dean C. Worcester, member of the United States commission to the Philippines, when Gen. Lawton said, upon being remonstrated with against unnecessarily exposing himself in battle, that 'I have been a soldier all my life, and would gladly die a soldier's death, but I cannot help thinking what is in store for my wife and children should I be taken away, and I confess this thought weighs heavily upon me,' it is felt that no stronger appeal than Gen. Lawton's own statement can be made in behalf of his widow and children.

"The committee defer to the manifest wishes, and have determined to continue the work at least until the 2d of January, when it is hoped that a sufficient fund will have been subscribed to place the widow and children of Gen. Lawton beyond the possibility of want, and enable the mother to carry out the father's fondest wishes that his children should receive a proper education.

"It is proposed to continue active work in raising funds during the present week, and it is probable that the subscription list will be kept open until the return of Mrs. Lawton to this country.

"The total of the subscriptions received in Washington to noon of Christmas day is $14,329.55."

THE SHIP CONSTITUTION.

A Bill to Fit Her Up as a Training Ship.

The Secretary of the Navy has drafted a bill, which he has sent to Senator Hale and Representative Boutelle, chairmen of the Senate and House naval committees, respectively, providing that the Massachusetts State Society of the Daughters of 1812 be allowed to refit the historical craft Constitution as a naval training ship. The bill provides that the ship be repaired at the Boston navy yard, the cost to be defrayed by the society, and the repairs are not to be begun until a sufficient amount has been subscribed and guaranteed by the society to complete the work.