**The Most Brilliant Color** Sections ever printed in St. Louis—two of them—in next Sunday's Republic. . . . .

# THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC.

**Beautiful Effects in Colors**—Next Sunday's Republic — two sections in many tints. . . . .

NINETY-THIRD YEAR. ST. LOUIS, MO., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 1900. PRICE { In St. Louis, One Cent. Outside St. Louis, Two Cents. On Trains, Three Cents.

## ST. LOUIS MUST AND SHALL BE IMPROVED.

### Walker Hill Shows the Necessity of Good Streets for World's Fair Times—S. M. Kennard Says "Abate the Smoke."

Walker Hill, president of the American Exchange Bank and president of the American Bankers' Association, says that St. Louis would do herself great discredit by inviting the world to come and look at her as she is—that harm, rather than good, will come of the World's Fair unless the city's highways are made presentable.

He said yesterday: "One of the chief things by which strangers form estimates of cities is their general appearance. A city with slovenly, ill-kept, poorly constructed and out-of-date streets presents much the same general appearance as a man 'run down at the heel.'

"St. Louis is undoubtedly a great business center, and one of the wealthiest communities in the New World; but it is none the less a fact that in point of municipal tidiness she is far behind the times. If the city is to profit by the World's Fair, it must make a pleasant impression on the minds of the strangers from all quarters of the globe, who will come to see the Fair.

"In my opinion, it will be impossible to make this impression under existing conditions.

"Should great throngs of wide-awake people come and see the streets in their present condition, they would assuredly form opinions that would be a discredit to the city; and, worse than that, would carry those opinions home with them, and express them whenever St. Louis happened to be under discussion. The result would be the very opposite of that hoped for.

"Just how to go about remedying the acknowledged shortcomings of the city in this particular is a matter I would not undertake to discuss without considerable thought—that a way must be found admits of no question. If I can be of service in crystallizing thought into action, my services are at the command of the public."

**Ex-Mayor Walbridge's Suggestions.**

Cyrus P. Walbridge, president of the Business Men's League, and former Mayor of St. Louis, said yesterday:

"I am heartily in favor of any practical plan whereby St. Louis can be made ready to entertain its World's Fair guests. I have been too busy with other matters of late to give thought to the details involved in the necessary work.

"Without going into the question of why things are as they are, I realize that St. Louis must do much before she is prepared to receive visitors, and that there is no time to be lost in doing it."

In January, 1897, shortly before he retired from the mayoralty, and before the World's Fair was even hinted at, Mr. Walbridge, in a message to the Municipal Assembly, put himself on record as follows:

> In my opinion the city will never be able to provide itself with these much-needed improvements without increasing the public debt, which is now prohibited by the Constitution of the State. I therefore suggest to your consideration the advisability of taking some official action to induce the General Assembly to submit to the people of the State an amendment to the Constitution, placing the limit of our public debt at some figure considerably above the present.
>
> Our debt could be increased $10,000,000 without necessitating an increase in the present rate of taxation to meet the interest charges, and with such increase in the debt our liabilities would still be less than the average public debt of first-class cities.
>
> Unless a comprehensive movement of this sort be made the cleaning and making of streets, the improvements in parks, the extension of sewers, the equipment of the Fire and Police departments must be forever hampered because the money which should be applied to these purposes will be used in feeble efforts to place our institutions abreast of the times.

Elsewhere in the same message, discussing the city's bonded debt, Mayor Walbridge said:

> When compared upon the same basis, no other large city in the United States has so small an indebtedness in proportion to assessed values. The credit of the city is excellent; equaled by that of few American cities, and not surpassed by any city in the world.

**Mr. Kennard for a Clean City.**

Samuel M. Kennard, president of the J. Kennard & Sons Carpet Company, said yesterday:

"It would be hard to overstate the city's need for a general overhauling between now and World's Fair times. I do not believe there is a thinking man within the corporate limits of St. Louis who considers the city fit to receive guests in its present condition.

"I also want to say that I do not believe there is any doubt that the necessary work will be done, and done in time. While I admit that things are not what they should be, I will not admit that any task is too great for St. Louis when the emergency arises.

"We must have good, clean streets, of course. But we must also have clean air and a lot of other things. I wish The Republic would ask what has become of the smoke ordinance. No other one thing contributes as much to the general untidiness of the city as the tons of soot that are poured out of smokestacks in all sections from year's end to year's end.

"This everlasting smudge of smoke and soot stains everything it touches. It works its way into every house, and makes dingy everything out of doors. There is a law against the smoke nuisance, but there has been no abatement of the nuisance. Please ask the officials why.

"I have been working cheerfully and patiently for fifteen years or more in behalf of a cleaner, better-paved, tidier St. Louis, and I propose to keep right along with the work to the best of my ability.

"I believe the realization of the World's Fair will awaken the city to its true position regarding these matters and arouse it to action. When it is aroused, ways and means will be found for doing what is necessary."

"FIRST CATCH YOUR TURKEY!"

## PREPARING TO FIGHT AMENDMENT NO. 3.

### Real Estate Men Expect to Attack It in the Courts on the Ground That Its Adoption Was Not Legally Accomplished.

St. Louis real estate men are preparing to contest the legality of constitutional amendment No. 3, which was adopted at the presidential election. To this end they have raised a fund, and engaged an attorney. They declare that the case will be carried to the Supreme Court.

The amendment is attacked on the ground that the law regarding publication before election was not complied with. Under the law proposed amendments to the State Constitution must be published for four consecutive weeks in each county in the State where there is a newspaper, and two or more copies must be posted in each voting booth. Opponents of amendment No. 3 declare these provisions of the law were not carried out.

Amendment No. 3 provides for the taxation of evidences of debt, such as mortgages and bonds. Under it mortgaged property would only be taxed to cover the holder's equity, and the owner of the mortgage would be taxed on the basis of its face value. These provisions are objected to by local and foreign money-lenders, as well as by a majority of real estate and financial agents in St. Louis.

These agents claim that enforcement of the provisions would drive capital out of the State and seriously effect their business. They will meet soon to effect organized opposition, and to devise ways and means for carrying on the anticipated battle in the courts.

In the event that amendment No. 3 is declared void, all other amendments passed at the same time will be similarly effected, except Nos. 4 and 5—the World's Fair amendments—which were introduced under a special act of the General Assembly, and for which specific provisions were made.

Of the other amendments, No. 1 was intended to do away with delays incident to preliminary trials and proceedings before grand juries.

No. 2 vests in county courts not under township organization the privilege of levying a special assessment of not more than 15 cents on each $100 of valuation, to be used exclusively for roads and bridges.

No. 6 provides that when a Judge of a court, having power to try and determine felonies, convenes a grand jury, such jury shall have power to investigate and return indictments for all character and grades of crime.

No. 7 provides that nine members of a jury may render verdicts in all civil suits, regardless of the will of the three dissenting members.

H. M. Dalton, an attorney, with offices in the Roe building, has been retained by members of the Real Estate Exchange to begin proceedings in the proposed attack on amendment No. 3. He said yesterday that evidence was in hand on which to base action.

## NEW STEP TOWARD NICARAGUA CANAL.

### Arrangements Completed for Negotiating Treaties With Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Washington, Nov. 15.—Arrangements were made to-day by Secretary of State Hay and Senor Don Louis F. Corea, Nicaraguan Minister to the United States, to negotiate a treaty by which the United States Government will secure the right to build a canal across Nicaragua. Similar arrangements have already been completed with Senor Don Bernardo Calvo, Minister of Costa Rica.

It is expected that treaties will be concluded by the time Congress meets next month, and action will be taken upon them after the Hay-Pauncefote treaty has been disposed of.

Nicaragua and Costa Rica are willing to assent to the American desire for a strip of land for the canal, but they are anxious to safeguard their interests. Both heartily favor the neutrality feature of the Hay-Pauncefote Convention.

"There is the best feeling prevailing in Nicaragua," Mr. Corea said to-day, "in regard to the construction of the canal. The way is now clear of complications, and Nicaragua is free to treat directly with the American authorities."

## BURTON EXAMINING SOUTHWEST PASS.

### Indications Are That House Committee Will Favor Mississippi River Improvement.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Washington, Nov. 15.—Chairman Burton of the House River and Harbor Committee is in the vicinity of New Orleans for the purpose of looking personally into the improvement of the Mississippi River by the opening of Southwest Pass. This matter will be brought urgently to the attention of Congress during the coming winter.

The commercial bodies of St. Louis have appointed committees to visit Washington and appeal for an appropriation sufficient to carry out the work. The fact that Chairman Burton has thought it advisable at this time to make a personal examination of the Southwest Pass would indicate that there is an expectation of his committee reporting favorably this winter an appropriation sufficient at least for beginning the work.

The total appropriation needed would be about $8,000,000. The deepening of the Southwest Pass would be of inestimable value to the commerce of the Mississippi Valley, and has been urged for several years past by commercial exchanges throughout that region.

## MANILA CENSORSHIP REMOVED.

### MacArthur, However, Must Have a Copy of All Dispatches.

Manila, Nov. 15.—The censorship was removed to-day. General MacArthur, however, issued directions to the cable companies ordering them to furnish him with a copy of all press dispatches.

## TO ATTACK IT BEFORE THE HOUSE COMMITTEE

### Higher Officials to Protest Against Hemmelmann's Scheme for Reduction of the Water Rates — How Philadelphia Lost Its Gasworks.

Water Commissioner Flad and Comptroller Sturgeon will appear this morning before the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Delegates, in the House committee-room, to present arguments in opposition to the plan to reduce water rates.

Messrs. Flad and Sturgeon, Sewer Commissioner Hermann, President McMath of the Board of Public Improvements and other city officials, who are intimately acquainted with the details of current municipal affairs, have pronounced vigorously against the suggested change, while Water Rates Collector Hemmelmann has issued a statement in favor of the proposition. Upon Mr. Flad devolves the duty of managing the Water Department; upon Mr. Hemmelmann devolves the task of assessing the rates, as the law prescribes them, and of collecting them.

"This proposed reduction of the water rates" said Sewer Commissioner Hermann yesterday, "may appear to be a popular measure, but it is not. It is not popular, because a reduction would not mean a big saving for small consumers. The beneficiaries would be large concerns, which use great quantities of water, like the St. Louis Transit Company and other big companies. Lower rates would not be of particular advantage to those who use only small quantities of water, as the saving would not amount to much in a year.

"A more important reason why the reduction would not be good from a public standpoint is that municipal ownership of the waterworks would be endangered. The history of the Philadelphia gas works and waterworks will illustrate this fact very clearly. The Philadelphia authorities first refused to appropriate funds for the Water Department to allow of extension; next salary appropriations were cut or refused; and next they refused money for filtration experimentation. The result was that the property gradually went to wreck; the service became wretched and the merit of the employes reached a lower standard, until, finally, the city found itself in a serious predicament. Some public-spirited men came to the city's rescue at an opportune time, and, after preventing a sale of the plant, succeeded in rearranging matters.

**A Case in Point.**

"The story of the Philadelphia municipal gas works should indicate a strong moral to us at this time. By political scheming, continuing through a number of years, the works were made unsatisfactory, so much so that the people became disgusted. A private corporation stepped in and took the property and conducted it for several years. Thanks, however, to the foresight of some public-spirited citizens, a provision was inserted in the contract enabling the city to repurchase the works. All went well for awhile after the city again came into possession, until the scheming was renewed, causing another sale to a corporation. Such would be the history of the St. Louis Water Department if the people would permit a reduction of the revenue.

"There is no doubt about this being a question of municipal ownership. I do not want to see any movement taken that would have the remotest tendency to relieve the Water Department of its command over itself. The least that can be said in favor of the promoters of this reduction is that they are misinformed, or unaware of what dire results would follow the change. Words cannot convey the emphasis of my opposition to a reduction of water rates. I feel assured that the interests of the people of St. Louis would not be served by a reduction of water rates, but, by assisting the department to steer clear of shoals that might result in gradual decay of the service and eventual relinquishment of the property to a private corporation."

Mr. Flad reiterated his warning that the reduction of revenue would be a vital thrust at municipal ownership. "What would be the result?" he asked, "if the waterworks revenue is decreased, all we can hope to do is to maintain the department as it is. Extensions, improvements and new works would have to be abandoned. In the course of a few years the necessity of making extensions and improvements would be discovered, with no funds to proceed with the work. The city would have to call on some corporation, or outsiders, to come to its relief, and thus a part of the system at least, would not be owned or controlled by the city.

"The present works will not meet the demands of the city in a few years if the city grows as it has been growing; and the fact that we are to have the World's Fair here in 1903 would assure that the increase in population will be still greater than it has been. As head of the Water Department it is my duty to be watchful of the future. As we cannot issue bonds for waterworks improvements or extensions, the city would be obliged in an emergency, if the revenue is decreased, to look to outsiders for help. A decrease in revenue would ultimately cause a deterioration in the service, and the consequence would be that the public ultimately would become disgusted.

**Work That Is Needed.**

"The department has much work to do. There are many sections of the city that have no city water supply, and justice requires that residents in these localities should be accorded advantages similar to those provided in other parts of the city. With a decreased revenue the department cannot hope to extend the service, or, in some instances, to fill out distributing systems already begun, and we would not be able to install the high-pressure mains in districts where they are needed. My clerks have been preparing drafts of ordinances looking to extensions in various localities.

"At random I recall several districts that need water service, although there are still more. There is no pipe west of Union boulevard, between Forest Park and Delmar boulevards. In arranging for this extension we will have to have in view of the needs of Washington University. The large district north and west of the Fair Grounds needs additional service, even under present conditions, and gives promise of rapid settlement. I could enumerate other districts, but these will suffice for illustration. A reduction of the water rates would be a foolish business policy, especially with the World's Fair at hand."

Comptroller Sturgeon is taking a keen interest in this subject. Yesterday he repeated his former admonition of the gravity of the proposition, adding that the reduction "would admit of the practicing of 'graft' at the city's expense."

When the subject first came up he called on Mayor Ziegenhein and explained the serious aspect of the case. The Mayor promised to request Mr. Hemmelmann to abandon his idea. Mr. Sturgeon also questions Mr. Hemmelmann's ability or authority to interfere with the management of the Water Department, inasmuch as Mr. Hemmelmann is merely Assessor and Collector, the rates being determined by the Municipal Assembly.

Mr. Hemmelmann makes the sweeping claim that the department could prosper on a 50 per cent reduction, although Mr. Flad states that Mr. Hemmelmann cannot know the needs of the city or the aims of the Water Department. It is intimated in some circles that the project has been started with the object of making political capital, and it is said that Mr. Hemmelmann himself has aspirations. Abe Slupsky, who is well-known in St. Louis, is an important employe of the Water Rates Department, and Mr. Slupsky is an intimate friend of Fred Ziegenhein, the Mayor's son and private secretary.

**History of Waterworks Bonds.**

Assistant Comptroller Gabel, who has a mass of information in defense of the Water Department, gave the following history of the Waterworks bonds. Beginning in June, 1867, St. Louis issued Waterworks bonds as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| June 25, 1867 | $3,500,000 |
| June 25, 1870 | 400,000 |
| April 1, 1874 | 1,250,000 |
| July 1, 1874 | 500,000 |
| Total issue | $5,600,000 |

For support of these bonds the city pledged, in addition to its ordinary revenue, the net proceeds of the water revenue, after all expenses of the department and the cost of the extensions had been paid. There being no such surplus to apply, the debt was not reduced until 1886 and 1887, when $192,000, received by the city from the sale of Pacific Railroad bonds, was applied to the redemption of water bonds. This left the outstanding obligation, $5,808,000.

When the Waterworks bonds fell due, twenty years after the dates of issue, they were paid in full and passed out of existence. Not one is outstanding now.

In order to pay the debt of $5,808,000, the city sold bonds to that amount in the open market. These new, or "renewal, bonds" are in no respect different from the other bonds of the city. The revenue of the Water Department is not pledged to their redemption. They are in no sense a lien on the water plant; but simply a part of the general bonded indebtedness of the city.

## LEADING TOPICS —IN— TO-DAY'S REPUBLIC.

**For Missouri—Fair Friday; not so cold in northern portion. Saturday, warmer and fair, except probably rain or snow in northwest portion; north to east winds.**

**For Illinois—Fair Friday; not so cold. Saturday, warmer, with fair in southern portion; probably rain or snow in northern portion; variable winds.**

**For Arkansas—Fair and colder Friday. Saturday, fair and warmer; north to east winds.**

1. St. Louis Must Be Improved.
To Fight Amendment No. 3.
First Step Toward Nicaragua Canal.
Examining Southwest Pass.
To Oppose Water-Rate Reduction.
Germany Suspected of Inflaming China.
Row in War Department.
2. Armor Plate Trust Abandons Proposed Haul.
Weyler Discusses the Santiago Campaign.
3. King Oscar of Sweden Said to Be Dying.
Nihilists Reported to Have Poisoned Czar.
Strange Absence of Sheriff Frost.
Runaway Horse Injures a Woman.
Thirteen Killed in a French Wreck.
4. Croker Starts Reform Movement.
Chinese Characters on Mexican Temples.
Strong's Affairs Badly Muddled.
5. Another Big Crop of Corn Promised.
Found Dead in New York Hotel.
"Healer" Schrader to Start a Church.
King of Newsboys Married in Style.
Governor Makes Appointments.
6. Ruhlin the First to Meet Jeffries.
McGraw and the New League.
Lord Durham May Be Sued.
Sporting News.
7. Race-Track Results.
Ghouls Rob Nine Graves.
Fortune Hangs on Question of Sanity.
City News in Brief.
8. Editorial.
Weddings and Other Society News.
Colonel Chinn's Lack of Gallantry.
Last Day of Flower Show.
9. Alaskan Question Now in Hay's Hands.
The Railroads.
Serious Charge Against Dan Cahn.
10. Republic Want Advertisements.
Record of Births, Marriages, Deaths.
Transfers of Realty.
New Corporations.
11. Republic Want Advertisements.
Weather Report.
12. Grain and Produce.
13. Financial News.
River Telegrams.
14. Baby Died in Sick Mother's Arms.
Remarriage of Divorced Persons.
Police Officers Outrun a Horse.
Russell Was Seen at Union Station.

## FIVE ARMENIANS CRUCIFIED.

### American Citizens Tortured by Turkish Authorities.

Vienna, Nov. 15.—Five Armenians, by name Bedros, Hufenun, Daragolu, Ghui Phamian and Gar Lassan, said to be from New York, were arrested recently at Diarbekir, Turkey, for alleged complicity in a revolutionary plot.

All of the men possessed documents of American citizenship, which the local officials confiscated.

In an effort to extort confessions from the Armenians, they were crucified as a mockery on their Christianity, ropes being used instead of nails. They hung for three hours, and then, when they continued silent, were cut down and thrown into prison. Their friends are preparing a protest to the Turkish Government, and further developments in the case are expected.

## WANDERED FROM HOME TO DIE.

### Florida Railroad Man's Body Found in a Field.

Lake City, Fla., Nov. 15.—H. B. Hocutt, assistant car inspector for the Georgia Southern and Florida Railroad, and for years a prominent railroad man, disappeared from here on October 13. To-day a party of huntsmen found the body in a field a few miles from the city.

It was determined at the inquest that Hocutt had committed suicide by taking laudanum.

## GERMANY IS SUSPECTED OF INFLAMING CHINA.

### Von Waldersee's Many Punitive Expeditions Are Calculated to Prolong Hostilities.

### Washington Fears the Intense Hatred of Natives for Foreigners Will Again Be Fanned Into an Outbreak—America Against Destruction of Tombs.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.

Washington, Nov. 15.—Though the administration, in the interest of the preservation of the concert of Powers, consented to several propositions incorporated in the list of demands to be made upon China to which it entertained objection, it decidedly disapproves of the suggestion that the tombs of the Ming dynasty be destroyed.

This proposal has been supported by the assertion that it will have a lasting effect upon the Chinese, and, perhaps, more than anything else, prevent a recurrence of the recent outrages. Its adoption, it is feared by administration officials, will cause a violent upheaval in China, and cause a renewal of Chinese resistance, which at least one Power of Europe is so earnestly endeavoring to accomplish.

The reverence entertained by Chinese for the tombs of their ancestors is well known, but the feeling entertained for the tombs of the dynasty is even more impressive, and an attempt to destroy them may cause serious trouble.

A high official remarked to-day that the effect on the Chinese would be the same as the effect on the civilized world in case barbarians should destroy Bethlehem. The proposal is placed on a par with the vengeful propositions which have been fathered by the German and other Ministers in Pekin.

It is becoming more and more apparent to the authorities that Germany—and the suspicion now extends to Great Britain—does not want peace.

Count von Waldersee, apparently to inflame the natives, is sending expeditions to different points, and these troops are slaughtering innocent people and destroying property and rousing feelings of intense hatred, which will be fanned into violence at a word from the Imperial Court.

It is well known that friction exists between the Ministers and the military, and some friction has probably occurred between the Ministers. The chances of an agreement are, consequently, not good, and every day's delay makes the feeling of the Chinese against the foreigners the more intense.

The President and Secretary Hay, however, feel that too great a delay would follow arbitration proceedings, and they are holding the arbitration proposition in reserve, to be suggested in case failure to agree proves inevitable.

"Besides," said an official, who discussed the matter, "the President has no assurances that the blood-seeking Kaiser would be willing to accept arbitration, because that might mean a settlement; and he, apparently, does not want that."

**PLANNING MORE EXPEDITIONS.**

London, Nov. 15.—The Daily News publishes the following from Pekin, dated November 12:

"It is reported here that Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang have requested an interview with Count von Waldersee, which will probably be granted. The Field Marshal intends to make an excursion to Nan-Kau Pass and the Ming Tombs, as Prince Henry of Prussia did in 1898."

Doctor Morrison, wiring to the Times from Pekin Tuesday, says:

"The Chinese Peace Commissioners have received a telegram from the Empress Dowager dated November 10, censuring their failure to prevent the dispatch of foreign punitive expeditions into the interior. The Empress Dowager continues to issue orders appointing officials to office. She is unable to realize her position, and has even appointed Literary Chancellors to conduct examinations in the Provinces.

## FOUGHT THE BRITISH GUARDS.

### German Soldiers Forcibly Resisted English Patrol.

Berlin, Nov. 15.—An official version of the recent affray between German and British soldiers at Shanghai says two Germans had a row with the landlord of a tea house, and a British police patrol arrested the Germans.

At the guardhouse the Germans resisted. One of them was shot in the shoulder and the other was otherwise wounded.

It is admitted that the conduct of the Germans caused the affray, but it is also asserted that the British exceeded their powers. The British authorities have suspended a Sergeant and are dealing with the matter in a spirit of fairness.

## ROW IN WAR DEPARTMENT OVER NEW GUN CARRIAGE.

### General Miles Recommended That Use of General Buffington's Invention Be Abandoned—Now a Merry War Is On and Court-Martial Is Probable.

The Republic Bureau,
14th St. and Pennsylvania Ave.

Washington, Nov. 15.—The row between Lieutenant General Miles and Brigadier General Buffington over a new French disappearing gun carriage, threatens to result in a general airing of things about the War Department.

How the fight between these two officials will terminate is still a matter of conjecture. Both have their blood up, and the one with the strongest pull at the War Department will win. It is understood that Adjutant General Corbin, the old-time enemy of General Miles, and "the real man behind then gun" at the War Office, is taking the part of General Buffington. This means a good deal for Buffington. But General Miles believes he has the right end of the argument, and will not give up the fight until a court-martial clears the murky atmosphere now hanging over his headquarters.

**Captain Lewis as a Scapegoat.**

From the looks of things at present General Buffington and his friends are endeavoring to make a scapegoat of Captain Lewis, secretary of the Board of Fortifications, and a close personal friend of General Miles.

Captain Lewis has recently been in Paris studying ordnance for General Miles, and he is indirectly charged by the friends of General Buffington with having stolen the secrets of the French War Office and offering to sell the plans of the new French gun to the War Department.

The trouble began several months ago over the adoption or rejection of the disappearing carriage used on seacoast fortifications. The affair came to a head to-day when General Miles entered the office of General Buffington, Chief of Ordnance, and demanded a denial of statements made by the latter.

General Buffington, it is said, was given until Saturday to present a written denial or an apology. In the even of a refusal, it is understood, General Miles will prefer charges against him.

**How the Row Started.**

At a recent meeting of the Board of Fortifications, General Miles moved to discontinue the manufacture and use of the disappearing carriage, which was invented by General Buffington. General Buffington fought the proposal, but was defeated, and since then, it is said, has been nursing his wrath and awaiting an opportunity to get even.

It was proposed by General Miles that a new barbette mount be used in place of the disappearing carriage. Since then the matter dropped and was only brought forward on Friday last, when General Miles stated to the board that an officer had secured the plans of the new French field gun, a much advanced type, and intended constructing such a gun that the officials might examine into its usefulness. The board agreed to this and awaited more information on the matter.

**Miles Began Investigation.**

As the French Government refused to give the matter official recognition and ignored the charges, General Miles took them up and insisted that the guilty officer be court-martialed. This was done to trace the charges home. No person appeared to back the statements, and after a quiet investigation General Miles, it is alleged, traced the charges to General Buffington's office.

It is known that General Miles has forwarded a statement of the facts in the case to Secretary Root and demands an immediate court-martial, unless some one in the Ordnance Bureau makes a denial. General Miles may carry the fight into the French War Office and demand that the Government authorities ask for an official investigation by this Government.

General Buffington refuses to make any statement on the matter and General Miles prefers to await official action rather than make anything public.

## PARIS PAPERS AGITATED OVER ALLEGED THEFT OF GUN DESIGN.

SPECIAL BY CABLE.

Paris, Nov. 15.—(Copyright, 1900, by the New York Herald Company.)—The following extraordinary statement is published prominently by the sensational evening newspaper, La Presse:

"A personage, who claims to be thoroughly acquainted with what is going on behind the scenes in the matter of divulgence of the secrets of the latest French field gun to the United States, makes the following statement:

"'This affair is connected with the sudden departure for Gibraltar of an officer of the United States Navy, who was employed in the foreign section of the exhibition, after having fulfilled his functions as naval attache at the embassy. The field-gun incident was also the cause of the sudden handing over of the affairs of the embassy to the First Secretary by General Horace Porter and his departure for Spain.'

"The former naval attache in question, who was born of British parents and devoted, above all, to the embassy in the Faubourg Saint Honore, acted almost openly as spy for several Powers.

"The person who gave us this information makes a still graver statement, which we publish under all reserve. He says:

"'General Horace Porter has been himself indirectly affected by the incident in question. His departure, which is given out as temporary, is really final, and he will be replaced in Paris by Mr. John Leishman, United States Minister to Berne, a diplomatist of the highest character, whose independence vis-a-vis the English Embassy can be counted upon for maintenance of good relations between the French Republic and the United States."

The naval officer referred to by La Presse can be no other than Lieutenant William S. Sims, who was assigned to special duty at the Paris Exposition.

One by one the newspapers here are awakening to the fact that the United States War Department is said to be in possession of the secret of the French field gun, and the incident is treated at length, pro and con.

**United States Official's Statement.**

La Liberte publishes an interview with an official of the United States Embassy, who said:

"We have no knowledge of the facts alleged, but I assure you that if the story be true, the United States Embassy has absolutely nothing to do with the matter.

"Our military and naval attaches, as well as, for that matter, all the other members of our embassy, have formal instructions not to seek information except by legitimate means. These orders have always been in force, but they have been observed more strictly than ever since the unfortunate Borup affair."

This official added that he had very little faith in the story told in the newspapers that the War Department in Washington was in possession of specifications relating to the matter of the gun; nevertheless, these newspaper stories are believed in Paris, and have aroused more or less ill-feeling among all classes.