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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9.

The attitude of the Republican party of New Mexico has always been consistent on the question of the admission of the territory as a state. We favored the admission of the territory when the Democratic party was united in their opposition against it. We still favor its admission, believing that there is no good and substantial reason for keeping us out of the Union as a state and believe that this can best be accomplished by the election of a delegate to congress who is in harmony with Republican politics and principles.—Republican Platform, New Mexico, 1898.

Senator Vest, of Missouri, has allowed his beard to grow, and the change in his appearance is said to give him a striking resemblance to ex-Senator Sherman. He may resemble the Ohio man in appearance, but otherwise—nit.

Spain would better let the question of responsibility for the destruction of the Maine rest. Any attempt on her part to renew the controversy over that terrible catastrophe will only serve to further show up the treachery and cruelty of that nation.

The Cubans of Santiago have a peculiar idea of observing the anniversary of the death of Antonio Maceo. Firing bullets into soldiers' camps, smashing furniture in public buildings and otherwise raising the diabolical may be the proper manner to express great grief over the loss of a brave patriot and soldier in Cuba, but it does not meet with the approval of the American officers in charge there.

Every representative citizen who visits Santa Fe from the different counties in the territory speaks in glowing terms of the prosperity of the year just closing, and predicts a greater prosperity for 1899. The one thing lacking to make New Mexico the greatest section of the Union is statehood, and it is hoped that desired change in government will not be much longer denied by congress.

Wonder how many of the anti-anarchists who are quoting Washington's farewell address as applicable to present conditions, really believe that the hero of the revolution imagined he was speaking with prophetic power and laying down inflexible rules for the conduct of the affairs of the nation. Washington was a wise man, but he had too much horse sense to attempt to forecast the future of the Union which he in a large measure created.

Champ Clark, the Democratic congressman from the 2nd Missouri district, is in a quandary. In fact, is wondering if he has been insulted. On arriving in Washington to attend the present session of congress, one of the city papers made mention of the fact that "The Hon. Champ Clark, of Missouri, had arrived." Now, Clark would give a year's salary to know whether that word "Champ" was used intentionally, or if it was a typographical error.

The French government seems to be looking for trouble of some kind, and is reported as proposing to take up the interests of the French holders of Cuban bonds issued by Spain, for the purpose of exacting a pledge of some sort for their payment from the United States. The United States has debts of her own to pay without shouldering those of any other country, and France will have a jolly time exacting anything of that kind from this country. It is strange that this nation cannot transact its own affairs and attend to its own business without displeasing so many outsiders, but it really makes no difference.

The 35th legislative assembly will doubtless be called upon to amend the laws governing the assessment and collection of taxes that all property be listed where found, and that after taxes have once been levied, payment can be promptly and easily enforced. In addition to those changes, the boards of county commissioners should have their powers regarding the abatement and reduction of taxes restricted in a large degree. The state of the finances of the several counties and the territory demands that sweeping changes be made in the laws regarding taxes, and the motto of the legislature will be derelict in their duty to the people if those changes are not made.

Emperor William wants it distinctly understood that the treaty of peace between the United States and Spain does not suit him a little bit. The report comes from Berlin that soon after Admiral Dewey appeared in the bay of Manila, the kaiser entered into an agreement with Spain, whereby Germany was to come into possession of the Philippines and paid \$8,000,000 down on the bargain. The United States paid no attention to the protests of Germany against the acquisition of the islands, Spain was compelled to yield and now William is out his money and the long coveted islands belong to another power. While William's anger does not worry the Americans in the

least, they are a little bit curious to know what he imagines he can do about it.

General Miles' Army Bill.

Major General Miles, commanding the army of the United States, has submitted to the War department, the draft of a bill for reorganization of the army based on the strength of one soldier to each 1,000 of the population of the United States, and two soldiers to 1,000 of the dependent colonies, or approximately 100,000 men. This is the figure that the public generally has come to recognize as about correct, in fact about the minimum considering the tremendous growth of this republic within the last 10 years, and its sudden expansion of territory and population due to the Spanish-American war.

Still, in view of the small size of the regular army since the reorganization and consolidation after the civil war, this sudden increase is calculated to make the average citizen stop and stare for a moment until he gets his bearings anew and realizes that this land of freedom is becoming what this late lamented John Phoenix Squibb would call "exceedingly some."

General Miles' estimate is really moderate and conservative considering the present armament of European countries, one of whom, Germany, can, on declaration of war, put 2,000,000 of trained soldiers into the field without delay, and whose peace establishment is on a basis of from 500,000 to 600,000 men. General Miles properly calls attention to the insufficiently remembered fact that the United States has 4,000 miles of coast to defend, with 27 principal harbors where millions of people are located and property of inestimable value. And in addition to this continental coast line, the United States has now harbors in its newly acquired colonial possessions to put into a properly defensive condition.

The bill provides for 50 regiments of infantry, 15 regiments of cavalry, 14 regiments of light artillery, and two regiments of engineers. The regimental organization in all branches of the service is of the three battalion formation, with three majors in command of the battalions and four companies, troops or batteries to the battalion. Each regiment of cavalry shall consist of 1,000 men, heavy artillery regiments of 1,200 men each, light artillery regiments of 1,200 men, and infantry regiments of 1,200 men. The bill further provides for regimental field, line and staff and non-commissioned officers, and institutes a change in the general officers entirely new to this country. There are to be a full general of the army, two lieutenant generals, six major generals of infantry, one major general of cavalry, one major general of artillery, with 18 brigadier generals of infantry, two brigadiers of cavalry and two artillery brigadiers. The three branches of the service mentioned are to be divided into two army corps, each with three divisions, which are subdivided into three brigades each, and three regiments to a brigade. The adjutant general of the army is raised from a brigadier to a major general and his assistants are correspondingly promoted.

Criticism will of course be offered by the press and other sources of eminent military intelligence on the proposed measure, the senate and house committees on military affairs will have a whack at it, army officers generally will point out chances for improvement, and modifications will no doubt be made. But changes are likely to be in matters of detail rather than in any structural alteration. However, capable critics here advise that the number of light artillery regiments be increased to five or six, as the present allotment of only two regiments to 50 of infantry and 15 of cavalry is away beneath the proper proportion. The bill will be introduced into congress and referred to the proper committees and acted upon in the regular course of business, and its course will be closely watched.

Importance of Nicaragua Canal.

There is much interest taken in the possible construction of the Nicaragua canal, all over the country. The people of the interior are as deeply interested in the project as those on the seaboard, for the reason that they feel that the impetus which would be given the shipping industry, and the additional number of men that would be required to man the ships built would furnish employment for thousands and thus open new opportunities for the youth of the land. The acquisition of the Hawaiian, Philippine and other islands in the Pacific and the markets thus gained for American products, which have heretofore, been virtually closed, will add much to the prosperity of the country, and with a water way across the continent the sea carrying trade will take on new life.

Some idea of the importance of the proposed canal, as a time and distance saver, can be gained by the following figures: The distance from New York to San Francisco, around Cape Horn, by the most convenient ocean route, is 14,840 miles; by the way of the canal, 4,760. From New York to the Hawaiian islands, around the Horn, 14,230 miles; by the canal, 6,388. From New York to Manila, by the present route, 19,000 miles; by the canal, 12,000. It can readily be seen that in case of war the canal would save the government much expense, time and annoyance in transferring warships from one side of the world to the other, and would also add much to the available strength of the navy.

In the past history of the United States her ships anchored in every harbor in the world, the sight of the stars and stripes was common in every port, and the towns and cities along the Atlantic coast, now almost deserted, bustled with enterprise and industry. The construction of the canal, it is believed, will cause a return of those conditions. For these various reasons a majority of the people are anxious to see the enterprise begun and completed at the earliest possible date, and there will be much disappointment if congress does not make some provision for that purpose.

Work for Statehood.

What is the matter with holding a meeting of the Republican territorial central committee and take definite action in the matter of the bill for admission of the territory? Earnest believers in the cause of statehood would like to see an organized movement started, so that the people can have their views presented in as strong a light as possible. Two or three men—ex-delegates and delegates—may be able to accomplish something, but an organized effort on the part of the Republican party will be very good backing for those statesmen.

Stockmen around are complaining of a scarcity of water.

Fifteen-round house men are laid up, sick with vaccination. The fire department will hold its annual ball Monday, January 2. Twenty-five cars of lumber have arrived at Las Vegas for the new railroad ice houses. Miss Emma McDonald, formerly of this city, has been married to Frank Spafford, of Hanford, Calif. Rev. J. D. Bush, formerly of Las Vegas and now of New York, expects shortly to return to this territory. The Santa Fe and El Paso & North-eastern will allow one fare for the round trip to parties wishing to attend the Christian Endeavor convention and the educational convention at Las Vegas during holiday week.

An oratorio society has been organized with 45 members, who put up \$1 each for membership fee. J. G. McNary is musical director and J. W. Zollars is president. The first work to be taken up will be Haydn's oratorio of the Creation. The Bell ranch has just sold at Kansas City, three train loads of yearling cattle, the average weight in each train being 562, 572 and 566 pounds, respectively, and the price being \$4.10. The Bell ranch has been using only the best Hereford bulls, and are now putting in shorthorns. Patrick Ford's litigation with the Springer Land Company has been adjudged satisfactorily to himself, whereby he is to be reimbursed, according to the decision of the United States supreme court, with \$23,000, interest and costs, for refusal of the association to pay him for reservoir work in 1890-92. Defendants claimed the work was not done according to contract. Ford had advertised the ditch and reservoir land for sale in execution this week, but the association has come to terms and proceedings are dropped.

ALBUQUERQUE.

All of the railroad shops are rushed with work. A celebration in Albuquerque over the mayordomo election came near ending in a riot between the victors and the defeated. Kansas officers who took Mrs. B. H. Macke's wife of the alleged embezzler back to Kansas, are accused of having robbed the woman of her money and jewelry, and finally turned her loose in Topeka, where she is at present forced to work for her living. Albuquerque capitalists are beginning to realize that until a direct line can be run from that city to the Pecos valley, a valuable trade must be resigned to Texas which should be held entirely within this territory. Peter J. McGrath, an Albuquerque letter carrier, is having hard lines. He was a soldier in the territorial regiment, and was left behind at Whipple barracks with typhoid fever when the command removed to Kentucky. He was discharged and returned to Albuquerque only to fall sick again, and this time it seems to be smallpox, for his house has been placarded and he is under charge of the city physician. The Citizen refers to the sickness merely as a contagious disease.

GRANT COUNTY.

A soldier at Fort Bayard has died of smallpox. R. B. Allen, aged 65, a prominent ranchman near Silver City, is dead. Aaron Schuch, of Silver City, is recovering from his attack of dementia. The Knights of Pythias of Silver City will give a grand ball on the night of the 25th. Oscar A. Appel and Clarry C. Fleider, of Silver City, have been admitted to the bar. New York Police Judge James A. Betts is in Silver City visiting with his brother, H. H. Betts. Mayor Fleming has returned home to Silver City after a tour of the coal mines of the territory. B. F. Moore, of Deming, has sold his entire brand of cattle and ranches at Hotchita to Charles Baker, of the Animas valley. Elmer Bradford and Miss Hettie Atkins, of Silver City, were married the other evening in Odd Fellows' hall, and the wedding was made a great local society event. The Grant county grand jury has found 63 indictments against saloonkeepers for violating the Sunday law. Silver City store keepers are making special efforts to dress their show windows in holiday attire. CHAVES COUNTY. Floyd McCoy, of Odeesa, Mo., is removing with his family to Roswell. Mrs. Louise E. Chewning, a prominent Roswell woman, is dead at the age of 68. Gerd B. Stonehouse and Miss Clara Gayle, of Roswell, daughter of County Clerk Gayle, were recently married. W. H. Hoar, an experienced artisan well borer, of Melbourne, Ia., will remove to Roswell and work up the well prospects of the country. Roswell is still calling for a bran new hotel to accommodate the increasing number of travelers and other visitors who are continually coming into town. The Christian church at Roswell is trying to secure Rev. S. K. Hallam, of McKinney, Tex. Rev. Hallam was one of the committee of the El Paso ministers' union who drove the fistic carnival out of El Paso in 1898. The Santa Fe Presbytery is holding a session at Aztec. Henry Kiffen is delivering his big

wheat crop of last season to the flour mill at Aztec. Mrs. A. Ripley, of Canon City, Colo., is visiting with her daughter, Mrs. A. Banta, of Flora Vista, for several weeks. Farmington is to have a cornet band of 12 pieces, and the people are being asked to put up for the necessary instruments. San Juan people are moving to bring in immigration. They do not want the southeastern part of the territory to do all the business in that line.

WINTER STYLES.

Materials and Ornamentation Now Most Highly Favored. An appearance of elaboration is very simply obtained in some of the winter gowns now to be seen. Bodices and skirts are now more frequently of the same material, but the bodice, with the exception of the sleeves, is often smoothly covered with openwork, all over embroidery or heavy guipure, the interstices being large

TERRITORIAL TOPICS

LAS VEGAS. Stockmen around are complaining of a scarcity of water. Fifteen-round house men are laid up, sick with vaccination. The fire department will hold its annual ball Monday, January 2. Twenty-five cars of lumber have arrived at Las Vegas for the new railroad ice houses. Miss Emma McDonald, formerly of this city, has been married to Frank Spafford, of Hanford, Calif. Rev. J. D. Bush, formerly of Las Vegas and now of New York, expects shortly to return to this territory. The Santa Fe and El Paso & North-eastern will allow one fare for the round trip to parties wishing to attend the Christian Endeavor convention and the educational convention at Las Vegas during holiday week.

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enough to allow the material beneath to be clearly discerned. Women gowns are thus treated with excellent effect, the return to tight fitting bodices simplifying the arrangement very much. The revival of the redingote is an accomplished fact, and now modistes are adding each other in attempts to modify and vary the originally simple and elegant model. The new redingotes are cut and slashed in all sorts of curious ways and open in unexpected places to display vests and panels of contrasting materials. Very rich materials, such as heavy, thick silks with a brocade, embroidered or otherwise enriched surface; velvets, both plain and fancy, and silky cloth and other beautiful woolen goods are most in demand this season, as is usually the case when close fitting styles prevail. The princess gown is the gown par excellence for the display of such fabrics, which do not demand little trimming, but require an unbroken surface for a full exhibition of their beauty. The cut shows a costume of jacquemet red taffeta, the plain, slightly trailing skirt being covered with five graduated skirts of black mousseline de sole, bordered with cabochons of jet. The tight taffeta bodice is covered inversely in a similar way, a slight embroidery of jet surrounding the collar. The taffeta sleeves are plain. The toque of jacquemet red velvet is trimmed with black and white feathers and a jeweled ornament. JUDIC CHOLLET.

THE MODE. Corsettes, Skirts and Accessories For the Coming Season. Short, tight jackets and boleros entirely of fur are to be worn when cold weather arrives, and there will also be seen costumes of gold opening over tabliers, panels and plaistrons of fur. Bows of gray, white or black plumage are still fashionable. They are just long

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