The Times

(MORNING, EVENING AND SUNDAY.)

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Sunday, September 18	20,100
Monday, September 19	46,334
Tuesday, September 20	48,042
Wednesday, September 21	46,897
Thursday, September 22	46,080
Friday, September 23	46,199
Saturday, September 24	46,222
Total	299,874
Daily average (Sunday, 20,100, excepted)	46,629

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The Advertisers' Guarantee Company, of Chicago, hereby certifies that it has, by its expert examiners, proven and attested the circulation of THE TIMES, Washington, D. C. The daily average PAID circulation for the month of August, 1898, was 46,020 copies.

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ADVERTISERS' GUARANTEE COMPANY,
By J. R. MASON, President.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 1898.

The President's Own.

Arthur Helps once said that if he should ever be tried for a crime, he would pray for a jury of men beyond middle life. He believed that after a man passes his fiftieth year he is less ardent in the pursuit of exact justice and strongly inclined to be merciful. As far as the President's Commission is a jury to decide on the guilt or innocence of Secretary Alger, that official is to be congratulated on the fact that of the eight Commissioners who were present to receive instructions, only one is under sixty years of age, and he is in his fifty-fourth year. There are none of those eager, younger men who have not had their ideals of human conduct smashed by experience and their sense of justice softened by the knowledge that we are all poor, weak creatures, men who care less for their own comfort and that of their frail fellow-creatures than for the exposure and punishment of guilt.

A significant thing in the beginning of the work of the body is the statement of one of its members that "as yet no charges have been filed, and therefore no plan of action has been made." If this investigating Commission is to consider only such formal charges as are filed with its secretary, it is not in danger of having its repose seriously disturbed. For one reason—the people who know things about the War Department's administration have little, if any, more interest in the work of this Commission than the general public. They know that it is without authority to compel the attendance of witnesses or to pay the expenses of witnesses to and from their homes and compensation for their loss of time. They have a suspicion, too, that the purpose in the creation of such a powerless body is partly to forestall Congressional investigation, if not to prevent it, and partly for effect in the Congressional and State campaigns by giving an appearance of zeal in the pursuit of the guilty, yet without a report on the facts before the elections. That a number of far-sighted men have declined to serve on the Commission, though urged by the President, has strengthened these suspicions.

However, the President has a right to proceed in his own way in his private and personal affairs, of which this is one. There is a natural curiosity about it, but no feeling of concern, on the part of the people, who look to Congress to make an impartial, thorough and satisfying investigation in the interest of justice and for the future welfare of the army.

A Revision for Dreyfus.

The popular sentiment in France is by no means as favorable to revision in the eternal Dreyfus case as correspondents have thought. The element that believes that not even the honor of the army should take precedence over justice has been disposed to advocate a rehearing, but this is only a small proportion of the whole. The Jew-haters include a majority of the Parisians, and they have never relented. The riotous gathering to protest against a reopening of the question of the guilt of Dreyfus was finally scattered by the police, but it represented the prevailing prejudice, and it has the support of the army.

It is probable that many officials of the government profess a belief in the guilt of the prisoner solely because they fear the effect on themselves and on the nation of a new trial. It is even possible that the resignation of a war minister who has Presidential aspirations was due rather to this fear than to a sincere conviction of the justice of the Dreyfus sentence. With a furious and growing mob clamoring against according any right to the Jew, the danger of a massacre of Jews and even of a revolution, the friends of justice have no high hopes of anything like a fair judicial hearing, now that a revision has been decided upon.

It must gratify the lovers of justice elsewhere to observe that there is no peace for France until the penalty has been paid for the violation of the blind goddess. A poor captain, one of a despised race, perhaps guilty of treason, cannot be denied a fair trial without shaking the foundations of one of the great powers of Europe. High officials—ministers and generals—have been forced to resign; there have been suicides, murders and flight, and now there are such riots as have preceded the great revolutions of history. Experienced men fear that not merely the administration, but the government itself, must fall before the full penalty has been paid. It rests with the government to say whether the new trial shall be a farce or an honest attempt to reach the truth, and there is only too much reason to fear it will decide for the former.

Blanco Wins the First Fall.

The conflict between the American Government and General Blanco, the undefeated commander at Havana, has reached an interesting stage. Encouraged by the ready subservience of the Commission appointed by the President, Blanco persisted in his refusal to allow the landing of the supplies sent down by the Government on the Comal for the relief of the starving Cubans. Blanco has won this fall, for the American Government has directed the captain of the Comal to go to Matanzas to unload.

This must work great mischief to the Americans in their future relations with the Cubans if it is final. It is only one of many triumphs by Blanco over the Americans. The political prisoners who should have been released when the protocol was signed are still in the filthy jails, and their appeals to the Commissioners are respectfully referred to Blanco himself. The continued sovereignty of Spain has been affirmed and maintained, and Cuban soldiers are still arrested for treason against Spain and for speaking favorably of America. The supreme purpose for which the war was waged—the rescue of the Cubans from starvation—is not yet achieved. Meanwhile, a faction of self-seeking Cubans are setting up a fraudulent government to dispute with us the right to rule the island until good order is restored. Much of this is due to the public recognition of Spain's sovereignty in the person of Blanco by our own Commission.

It is now asserted that the Government is making arrangements to send troops to Havana within a month. According to the statements of newspaper correspondents there, the Commissioners were disposed to grant the time demanded by Blanco for evacuation—until the last day of February of next year. It is said to be the intention of the President to compel the embarkation of the Spanish army by the end of the coming month, using force if necessary. If there had been reasonable firmness in the beginning, there would have been no such complications.

It Might Have Been Worse.

During the time in which Secretary Alger has been swinging round the circle of the various camps, he has indulged in some actions which would be rather funny if they were seen on the stage, but which under the circumstances do not impress one as exactly comical. For example, the other day he stood beside the bed of a fever-stricken soldier, who had been tossing restlessly for hours, so that it required all the strength of the frail little woman who nursed him to keep him on the bed. The Secretary solemnly placed his hand on the head of this nurse and exclaimed, "My kind child, God will reward and the nation honor you for your noble work."

Comment on that sort of bathos is unnecessary.

Several times during the visit of the President to the hospitals Alger has called on the soldiers for testimony that their treatment was all that it should be. As a matter of fact, when men are really treated well in hospital, after the hardships of a foreign campaign, they are only too glad to say so without being asked.

But the climax of the interesting arguments which Secretary Alger has used in connection with this very unpleasant topic is that however bad the conditions are, they might have been worse. Of course they might, and of anything short of an absolute inferno, the same thing might be said. There used to be a custom among some very pious people of visiting the recently afflicted with a peculiar kind of consolation. To a poor woman who had lost her husband, perhaps, in a railroad wreck, they would explain how kind and merciful it was of the heavenly powers to leave her her children to work for; that she really deserved the worst that could possibly happen to her, and had, on the whole, been let off quite easily. They would further say that her affliction had been sent to her as a means of discipline, and that if she did not behave properly under the dispensation, the Deity responsible for the discipline would probably see fit to deprive her of her children, and of her property, and perhaps finally of her health, so that she might be taught how wrong it was to repine over her afflictions. That seems to be very much the argument in use to defend the volunteer camps. They have not been mismanaged to the full extent of the possibilities, and therefore the soldiers and their friends should be filled with gratitude.

But that line of argument is a little out of date. The shadow of the grim old theology still lingers among the children and grandchildren of those who believed in it, and one hears now and then the pitiful cry from some grief-stricken parent, "I don't see what I have done, or what my boy has done, that he should be taken from me." But as a rule, a sunnier, sweeter, and more wholesome view is taken of the power that shapes this world. And men are gradually coming around to the idea that the natural and heaven-intended condition of things promotes health, not disease; goodness, not evil; kindness, not selfishness and brutality. And they are less inclined to accept the disgraceful condition of the volunteer camps as a scourge of Providence than they might have been two generations ago.

An Object Lesson.

The dead bird on the hat has aroused the indignation of Audobon societies, tenderhearted people, and economical husbands, for many years, but the birds themselves have hitherto had no chance to enter a protest. If they have made any speeches on the subject, they have done it in bird language, which is unintelligible, even to Professor "Simian" Garner. The parrot is the only feathered creature who ever makes speeches in English, and he has been silent on this topic, possibly because no fashion in millinery has yet ventured to introduce cockatoos as an ornament for the head.

An incident which took place at Fort Sheridan, Chicago, indicates that the birds may have some ideas on this thing, even if they cannot talk or vote. A lady was meandering peacefully through the camp of Illinois troops which is located at that place, when she heard a swish and a rush, and her hat was lifted from her head, nearly carrying her coiffure with it. For a minute or two it looked as if there would be a scalping, but the hair was indigenous and it held firm. The hat then sailed off in the claws of a large American eagle, the pet and mascot of Company B, First Illinois Cavalry. The eagle had seen a stuffed bird roosting on one side of the brim, and had swooped down on it with promptness and precision.

For a minute the lady felt that someone must capture the eagle and rescue her hat. But the bird of freedom was rapidly venting his wrath on the capture, and scraps of ribbon, feathers, lace, straw, and stuffing were floating down through the air. So she finally left her millinery to its fate and departed from the camp without giving her name. The moral of this is that it is not wise to wear a dead bird on the hat where an unchained American eagle can see it. He has the true American spirit, and resents the injury to his kind.

For a man who has placed his case in the hands of an investigating board, Secretary Alger keeps his tongue in an extraordinary state of activity. Perhaps this is to make up for his silence when the daily record of abuses was made public.

General Blanco has scored in the contest over the Comal, but perhaps his victory may arouse the ambition and the ire of the President and cause the latter to bundle him off to Spain in short order.

One of the anti-war journals sneeringly asks if the interest in the reconcentrados has died out in the concern of the "jingoes" for Cuban annexation. The reconcentrados are all dead.

Let us fervently hope that an American fellow-passenger of the Peace Commissioners knows more about their intentions regarding the Philippines than the President professes to know. The latter is unable to say what their demand will be, but we are assured by the American fellow-passenger that the Commissioners will never leave the gay capital until the American title to all the islands is recognized. This is cheering.

Adjutant General Corbin, also, refuses to read the New York newspapers, but is satisfied to get his news from The Times. Well, he misses no news, but he does miss reading a good deal of news that is not true.

Mr. Caine thinks that until the recent war even Englishmen underrated the fighting qualities of the Americans. Yet we exhibited those qualities very effectively to the English on several historic fields.

COUNTING SILVER DOLLARS.

Over Ten Million Will Be Handled at the New York Subtreasury.

New York, Sept. 26.—Today a tremendous task was begun at the subtreasury in this city by Jerome Wise, William H. Stern, Abram D. Van Derveer, Arthur P. Steward, and John Moon, of the Treasury Department, acting as a board of examiners to verify the accounts of ex-Assistant Treasurer Bigler. It is nothing more nor less than the counting piece by piece of over ten million standard silver dollars.

Heretofore the practice, as a rule, has been to ascertain the amount on hand by weight with a test bag, which was opened and the contents counted and weighed. All other bags simply went on the scales, but if one of them showed the least sign of being light the coin was dumped out and counted. This was the procedure four years ago, when Mr. Bigler was inducted into office. The bank notes, which are always disposed of by actual count, have already been verified, as has nearly all of the fractional coin on hand, the silver halves, quarters, and dimes, and the minor coins—nickels and pennies.

It will take twenty men twenty days to count the silver dollars, estimating, as Assistant Treasurer Finney does, that each man will handle about 25,000 pieces each day. All of the coin is stored in vaults in the underground apartments of the custom house, and will have to be hauled up an old-fashioned pull-the-rope elevator, which cannot carry more than forty bags, or about a ton of weight each trip. Taking thirty-three bags to a ton, it is figured out by a subtreasury clerk that there will be 10,000 bags in all, or 330 tons. The weight of $1,000 in these dollars is about sixty pounds. The total amount of money which has to undergo counting is as follows:

Minor coin	$176,509
Fractional coin	135,593
U. S. notes	5,226,047
Gold certificates	336,560
Silver certificates	280,646
Gold coin	1,417,000
Standard silver dollars	10,911,000
Total	$17,983 233

The men who will do the counting of the silver dollars have all been selected because of the rapidity with which they can work. Some are to be brought on from Washington, while others are of this city.

Insomnia.

(From the New York Tribune.)

An extended study of the phenomena of insomnia by De Menaceine, a Russian authority in medicine, brings him to the conclusion that it is characteristic of persons who blush, laugh, weep readily, and whose pulse is apt to quicken upon the slightest provocation. Loss of sleep, however, he admits, most frequently results from overwork, of either mind or body; overstrain of either kind dilates the blood vessels of the brain and eventually paralyzes them, extreme cold producing the same results. Experiments also show that exercise of the emotions causes a rush of blood to the brain, and sleeplessness, if occurring near bedtime. There is a common theory that sleep is required in proportion to the scarcity of red corpuscles in the blood, and thus all persons do not correspond in their need of sleep, and many authorities agree that the need of sleep depends upon the strength of consciousness.

There Are Others.

(From the Richmond Dispatch.)

The New York Sun speaks of W. J. Bryan as "the only political colonel." How about Teddy Roosevelt?

THE "STALL ANGEL."

Mr. Dooley on the Services of Horse Doctor Huidekoper.

The country has only recently learned how much the soldiers owe to the horse doctor, who was placed in charge at Chickamauga. Mr. Dooley, in the Chicago Record, tells how he got his appointment:

"'Twas this way about Dr. Huckenlooper," said Mr. Dooley. Mack has a cat that was given him f'r a Chris'mas prisint, be me frind Perpont Morgan, an' th' cat was a gr-heat fav-orhite iv th' White House. 'Twas as quite as th' Sicrity iv Agriculture an' as affectionate as th' Sicrity iv th' Treeseaury. Th' cat was called 'Gool' Bonds,' because iv th' intrest he dhrew. He very often played with th' Sicrity iv th' Navy, an' ivery wan that came to th' White House f'r a job loved him.

"But wan day 'Gool' Bonds' begun to look bad. He cudden't ate th' r-rich crame out iv th' dimon'-studded saucer. He stopped castin' an eye at th' c'nary in the cage. Whin th' Sicrity iv the Navy wint down f'r to play with him 'Gool' Bonds' spit at that good and g-hreat man. Mack was shavin' himself befure th' lookin' glass, an' had jus' got his face pulled r-round to wan side f'r a good gash, whin he heerd a screem iv ag-uny beyond him, an' tur-rned to see 'Gool' Bonds' lape up with his paws on his stomach an' hit th' ceiling'. Mack gave a cry iv terrur an' grabbed at 'Gool' Bonds.' Away wint 'Gool' Bonds' through th' house. Th' Sicrity iv War seen him comin' an' called 'Pussy! Pussy!' 'Gool' Bonds' wint through his legs an' galloped f'r where th' Postmaster Giniral was sittin', editin' his pa-aper. Th' Postmaster Giniral had just got as far as 'we opine' whin he see 'Gool' Bonds', and he bate th' cat to the windy be a whisked. Well, 'Gool' Bonds' ined up in th' coal cellar, an' they was a Cab'nit council f'r to see what was to be done.

"'Sind f'r Dochter Hagengubler,' says th' Sicrity iv War. 'He's wan iv th' gr-reatest surgeons iv our time,' he says, 'an' can cure anything f'rum pip to glanders,' he says. Th' famous Dochter Honeycooler was summoned. 'Sir,' says Mack, 'Gool' Bonds,' th' pride iv th' Administration, has had a fit,' he says. 'Twud br-reak our hearts to lose our little pet,' he says. 'Go,' he says, 'an take such measures as ye-er noble healin' ar'rt suggists,' he says, 'an' may th' prayers iv an agonized foster-parent go with ye,' he says.

'Dr. Higgenlocker wint down into th' coalshed an' whin he come back it was 'Gool' Bonds in his ar-rms, weak an' pale, but with a wan smile on his lips. Afther embracin' 'Gool' Bonds' an' tuckin' him away in bed, Mack turns to th' Dock. 'Dock,' he says, 'ye have performed a noble sarvice,' he says. 'I appint ye a major gineral,' he says. 'I'm that already,' says th' Dock. 'I've r-rich relatives in Philadelphia,' he says. 'But,' says Mack, 'tis a shame to think iv ye'er noble sarvices bein' wasted,' he says. 'I appint ye,' he says, 'surgeon giniral,' he says. 'Proceed,' he ssays, 'to Cuby, an' stamp out th' dhreaded ravage,' he says, 'iv r-ringbene and staggers,' he says. That's how Dock got th' the job. He was a gr-reat man down ther', an' now he's wan iv th' vethranarians iv th' war. Ye heerd iv typhoid an' yellow fever in th' trenches, but did ye heer annything iv spavin or th' foot-an-an-mouth disease? Not wunst.

"Dock was on dooty late an' early. Sleepless an' vig'lant he stood beside th' suffrin' mules, allayin' their pain an' slowly but surely dhraggin' thim out iv th' clutches iv pink-eye an' epizootic. He had a cheery wurrud, a pleasant smile, an' a bottle of liniment f'r wan an' all. He cured Tiddy Rosenfelt's hor-rse iv intherference, an' made a soothin' lotion iv axle grease f'r Giniral Shafter's buckboard. Ye might see him any time wandherin' through th' camp with a hatful of oats or a wisp of hay. They called him th' 'Stall Angel,' an' countless thousands iv sick hor-rses blessed him. He's a gr-reat man is th' Dock. But if it hadn't been f'r 'Gool Bonds' th' country wud nivir have had his sarvices. Who knows but what Mack's cat was th' rale viethor up at Sandiago?"

"Didn't he cure anny men?" asked Mr. Hinnissy.

"Sure," said Mr. Dooley. "He cured Tiddy Rosenfelt iv boltin'."

LARGE TANNERY BURNED.

Total Loss About Fifty Thousand Dollars, Partly Insured.

Cumberland, Md., Sept. 26.—The Payne Spring Tannery, covering one acre and a half of ground, was destroyed by fire early yesterday morning. The loss is nearly $50,000, partially covered by insurance.

The fire started in the passageway to the bark shed, and spread with great rapidity to all parts of the plant. The fire department responded quickly and were soon throwing seven streams from the fire plugs in the neighborhood. The heat was intense, and the firemen experienced great difficulty in saving the adjoining buildings. The various buildings and sheds are all connected, except the office. This, too, was destroyed, but the safe, books and valuable papers were gotten out.

The tannery had a capacity of seventy-five sides daily. There was a large demand for the product and the plant was kept very busy. It is not definitely known but it is regarded as altogether probable that the plant will be rebuilt at once.

JUMPED FOUR STORIES.

Cricketer Law Commits Suicide in a Philadelphia Hotel.

Philadelphia, Sept. 26.—Sutherland Law, the famous cricketer, committed suicide early this morning by jumping from the fourth story of the Colonnade Hotel, where he had been stopping for several days. He had been ill, and was under constant care of a physician. He appeared to be better yesterday morning, but during the afternoon he complained of hearing voices and asked the hotel people to drive them away.

Shortly after 1 o'clock this morning he arose from his bed and jumped from his bedroom window, crashing through a skylight. He died in a few minutes after reaching the hospital.

Law was for years one of the best-known cricket players in this country. He played in all international matches.

Two Coachmen Poisoned.

New York, Sept. 26.—William Devine and Edward Murphy, both coachmen, were found dying of poison at a Pearl Street lodging-house at 4 o'clock this morning. An ambulance was called from Hudson Street Hospital, but Devine died before it arrived.

Murphy was taken to the hospital, but is not expected to survive. The ambulance surgeon, who was called, declared at first that the men were suffering from heart failure. On a second examination he said that the men had been poisoned. Detectives are now at work on the case.

The Banana Business.

(From the Camden Review.)

Immense fortunes have been made out of the banana business. Revenues do not accrue alone from the sale of the fruit, for the leaves are used for packing; the juice, being strong in tannin, makes an indelible ink and shoe blacking; the wax found on the underside of the leaves is a valuable article of commerce; manila hemp is made from the stems, and of this hemp are made mats, plaited work and lace handkerchiefs of the finest texture. Moreover, the banana is ground into banana flour. The fruit to be sold for a dessert is ripened by the dry warmth of flaring gas jets in the storage places in which it is kept, and immense care has to be taken to prevent softening or overripening. The island of Jamaica yields great crops of this useful and money-making fruit.

A CALL FROM THE LORD MAYOR

London's Chief Official Visits America's Commissioners.

New York, Sept. 26.—The World publishes the following, dated London, September 25:

The lord mayor of London, the Right Hon. Horatio Davies, M. P., today paid an early call in his gorgeous state equipage, with footmen in brilliant liveries, upon the United States Peace Commission at the Hotel Cecil.

The Commissioners were out at this time, but the lord mayor returned in the afternoon, when he was received by Judge Day and his colleagues, and extended to them a hearty welcome to London, on behalf of the ancient city corporation. The lord mayor expressed a sense of the pleasure and honor it would give him to entertain the Commission at the Mansion House, if their visit permitted them to accept his hospitality.

Mr. Day, on behalf of the Commission, thanked the lord mayor warmly for his courtesy, and said that the Commission felt much indebted to him for the honor of his visit.

It is almost without precedent for the lord mayor of London to pay a visit of ceremony on Sunday. He said to the World correspondent:

"I was anxious to testify to the sentiment of good-will and affection that exists among the people of London toward the United States, so I lost no time in making a call on the United States Peace Commission."

Members of the Commission passed a quiet day, most of them going out for a carriage drive in the afternoon.

There was nothing in the nature of a conference among them.

Senator Gray has somewhat recovered from the neuralgia and went out in the afternoon with the others, but Senator Davis was not well and remained in his room throughout the day.

All arrangements have been made for the departure of the Commissioners for Paris tomorrow at 11 a. m. They will reach Paris shortly after 7 p. m.

Henry White, charge d'affaires, visited the Commissioners yesterday, accompanied by Second Secretary Ridgeley Carter.

Senator Proctor, of Vermont, is also staying at the Hotel Cecil, having returned from a visit to the Island of Jersey, whither he went to purchase a number of cattle for transport to America.

Senator Proctor says this was the sole object of his visit to Europe, but he will go to Paris in a few days for a short stay.

Much amusement was caused today by the action of the proprietor of the Hotel Cecil, who, intending to pay a graceful compliment to his guests, raised the American and Spanish flags side by side.

A SHOWER OF GREENBACKS.

Trenton Linemen Astonished by a Rain of Real Money.

Trenton, N. J., Sept. 26.—It rained money here Saturday. Never has such a shower enriched the earth.

Some linemen were lucky enough to be caught in the storm of bills and retained their presence of mind sufficiently to catch some of the descending bank notes. But they did not play snowballs with them, nor did the money stick to them as snowflakes do.

Joseph Harrison was on the crosspiece of a telegraph pole and with some of his fellow-workmen was stretching wires on West State Street.

A piece of green paper, floating down grazed Harrison's nose, and, being intelligent, he recognized it as a $10 note and made a grab for it. But it escaped him.

Looking up Harrison saw many more banknotes gently wafted through the air and descending around him. He wrapped his legs more tightly around the pole and crosspiece and with his arms free made frantic clutches at the elusive cash.

But glancing around he saw the other linemen descending the poles quicker than ever monkey got down a tree, and he followed their admirable example.

On the ground they were chasing and gathering the flying bank notes, when a woman's voice sounded shrilly and excitedly:

"That's my money! that's my money! Drop it! Or, better, pick it up and bring it to me. There's a reward for each of you."

Miss Emma Titus, a wealthy young woman, was shrieking from the window of her home. She had carelessly placed a package of money, about $1,000, on the window sill of her room and a gust of wind blew the money out of the open window.

To each lineman Miss Titus thankfully gave $5, so the shower, after all, did not leave them poorer.

A FETE DAY IN PATERSON.

Citizens Turn Out to Welcome Returning Volunteers.

Paterson, N. J., Sept. 26.—Paterson has a half holiday today. At noon all the factories and mills closed down in honor of the returned members of the Second Regiment, New Jersey Volunteers. All business houses and municipal buildings are decorated with flowers and flags, and bunting is erected at the City Hall at Hamilton and Market streets, under which the boys will parade.

Mayor Hinchliffe and the common council will review the parade from the city hall. After the parade there will be a banquet and speeches. The boys return to Seagirt in the morning to be mustered out.

HOME ON THE YUCATAN.

Safe Return of Soldiers From Ponce and Santiago.

New York, Sept. 26.—The transport Yucatan, Capt. Robertson, arrived this morning from Ponce and Santiago with 134 officers, private soldiers, and civilians, the latter mostly discharged laborers and packers. These returned officers and men are members of different regiments, and are mostly convalescents, sent home to be discharged or mustered out.

All are well and none has been ill, and as the transport has been at sea for a longer period than the incubation period of yellow fever, she was permitted to proceed to an anchorage off Liberty Island, where she will await orders from the quartermaster's department.

DR. HALL'S SUCCESSOR.

Dr. Purves, of Princeton, May Occupy the New York Pulpit.

New York, Sept. 26.—It is learned upon excellent authority that the Rev. George T. Purves, professor of New Testament literature and exegesis in Princeton Theological Seminary, and one of the most learned and brilliant pulpit orators in the Presbyterian church, in November will probably and accept the pulpit of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, made vacant by the death of the Rev. Dr. John Hall.

The salary and income of this famous pastorate is about $25,000, and the church can well afford to pay Dr. Purves handsomely. Princeton's faculty, however, would consider the loss of Dr. Purves a calamity to the institution. The doctor declines to talk of his prospective call.

A Phase of Spanish Diplomacy.

(From the Rochester Times.)

Our Government understands now why Spain is in no haste in agreeing upon a treaty of peace. It must perceive that the Madrid government clings to the hope that by protracting the work of the Peace Commission as long as possible, complications may arise which will enable her to renew the war as an ally of Germany and, perhaps, of some other European power.

On a Rocky Ledge.

(From the Omaha World-Herald.)

The brazeclad ram Hanna seems to have rammed itself fast on a Sherman reef.

UNTENABLE CLAIMS OF SPAIN.

Opinions of Frederic R. Coudert Concerning Her Contentions.

New York, Sept. 26.—Frederic R. Coudert was yesterday asked for his opinion as to the soundness of the contention of the Spanish Commission at Havana that Spain is at this time the absolute sovereign in Cuba and that the powers of the American and Spanish Commissioners are limited solely to the question of the evacuation of the island.

Mr. Coudert was also asked if he believed Spain was legally entitled to the possession of the ashes of Christopher Columbus, the Spaniards asserting that the ashes came under the classification of "personal property," which, under the terms of the protocol, is exempt from seizure by the United States. It is declared in certain quarters that the United States is entitled to possession of the discoverer's relics and that Spain cannot legally remove them from Cuba, but must surrender them with other property which property belongs to this government by right of conquest.

Mr. Coudert said: "It is illogical to claim that Spain has absolute power and control over Cuba. To make such a claim as this is to disregard or forget the fight at Santiago, the destruction of Spain's fleet, the surrender of Gen. Toral and all those events which accompany the surrender of part of Cuba. Spain is bound to surrender the other part of Cuba, of which Havana is the citadel, at some time not yet fixed. Her rights, such as they are, depend on the terms of the protocol and on reasonable constructions to be placed under the rules of international law upon her undertaking to withdraw at a date still to be fixed.

"Upon the construction of this protocol and of these rules depend other questions—namely, the right to the remains of Christopher Columbus. I know of nothing which will prevent the Spanish from exercising a pious duty to the most illustrious Spaniard Spain has ever produced. There is not in legal contemplation, at least, any monetary value to be attached to the greatly distinguished remains, although as curiosities and relics they would probably produce a high price at auction; but even then, if the vague rules of international law admitted as valid a feature of the case that such valuation could be placed on these relics, it could not affect the claim of Spain, for she might then claim that the ashes of the distinguished discoverer were personal property, and that she had a right to remove them to her own soil.

"The desire of Spain to keep these venerable bones within her own control, and to give them due reverence in the future, as in the past, is just and natural. She is not bound to deliver them over to the caprice of another nation, which might not treat them with all the reverence which, in the eyes of Spain, at least, they deserve.

"As to the possibility or probability that Spain will endeavor to utilize her time-honored custom to procrastinate and put off the time for evacuation, that is, of course, possible. A clash of opinion might then arise, which, if prolonged, might lead to embarrassment and complications. We should then be driven to insist on Spain's departure from the island. If she refused to comply with our reasonable demand, then the 'last resort of kings' might have to be again resorted to—certainly, a very unfortunate consummation."

SUICIDE ON A SHIP.

A Passenger Hangs Himself in His Cabin.

New York, Sept. 26.—Charles Putzi was the name given by a second cabin passenger of the French line steamship Gascogne, which arrived here yesterday, who committed suicide at sea. From the pains which he took to destroy evidences of his identity, there is reason to believe that Putzi is not his name. He hanged himself in a second cabin compartment when the Gascogne was a day out from Havre.

Putzi purchased his ticket on board the steamship just before the gangplanks were drawn in. He was about thirty-five years old, five feet five inches in height, and had gray eyes. He wore a light brown mustache, his hair being of the same color. The man wore a neat-fitting light suit, a straw hat, and tan shoes.

Putzi, the night of the ship's departure, complained to the steward that his berth was so far aft that the churning of the screw would disturb his sleep, and he was put into a compartment further forward that had accommodations for five persons, but which was empty then. Before retiring he ordered a bottle of beer, and gave the steward who brought it five francs in payment. The steward handed back four francs, but Putzi said, "Keep the change."

A steward failed to arouse Putzi next morning, and the door was forcibly opened. Putzi was found hanging to a beam. He had been dead for several hours. The man had hanged himself with a section of the line used to hoist the colors, which he had cut off.

Search of the body and of the room failed to reveal any clew to the identity of the suicide. There was a cheap silver watch and chain, but neither bore any mark. The man had thrown his hand baggage into the sea, and had no other. He had no money, and there were no letters or papers by which the suicide could be identified.

The body was found on the morning of September 18, and was buried at sea the following morning.

Among the saloon passengers were Leon and Samuel Chesse, twin brothers from Louisiana. According to Steward Peeters, these, immediately after embarking, said their trip from Paris to Havre had been made gloomy by a fellow passenger, whose "evil eye" had cast a baleful influence over them. Putzi was subsequently pointed out as the man whose eye had affected the gayety of these Louisiana twins. They laughed at the steward's statement when questioned about it yesterday.

CRAMPS SEIZED BATHER.

Large Crowds Witnessed a Thrilling Rescue by a Life Guard.

Atlantic City, N. J., Sept. 26.—A brilliant rescue was made yesterday afternoon by Life Guard Charles Davis. C. B. Barrett was swimming when he was suddenly taken with cramps. Hearing his cries for assistance, the guard quickly started to his aid. The sea was unusually rough, and all the lifeboats being out of service, the guard was forced to swim to the drowning bather. After considerable trouble he succeeded in reaching Barrett, and putting him on the life buoy brought him ashore.

Guard Davis was liberally remunerated for his trouble by the father of the boy.

How Dewey Got His Coal.

Capt. Bradford, chief of the naval equipment bureau, is clearing up the business of his office preparatory to sailing for Paris on October 1 to join the American Peace Commissioners as an expert. He is settling up the heavy coal bills incurred during the war and has now adjusted most of them. Some idea of the enterprise exhibited by the equipment bureau may be obtained from the fact that weeks before the declaration of war it had a number of sailing ships quietly creeping toward Asia laden with coal and with nothing to indicate that they were carrying it to Dewey or to render them liable to seizure or detention by the enemy or some severe neutral power. Immediately upon the declaration of war a number of steamers were hurried along with more coal, and in consequence Dewey found himself in possession of no less than 40,000 tons of the best American coal to fight his battles with.

Evasive Passion.

(From the Detroit Free Press.)

"Geraldine is writing a book. She calls it 'How to Win a Man.'"

"That would not do any good in the world. The mystery is how to hold onto him after you have won him."

The Saks Stores

Both the Saks and Smith Buildings will be open TODAY.

Tomorrow the Saks Building will be OPEN for business—but the Smith Building will be closed, to receive the decorator's final touches, before the formal opening of the Greater Saks Stores.

Watch the daily papers for notice of the interesting event.

Saks & Company

Penna. Ave. and 7th St.

DIPLOMATS ARE RETURNING.

Will Soon Have an Opportunity to Meet Colonel Hay.

Col. John Hay, it is expected, will arrive in this city on Thursday, when he will receive his commission as Secretary of State from the hand of President McKinley.

In anticipation of his arrival, many of the diplomats who have been away on their summer vacation are returning to Washington. Count Cassini, the Russian ambassador, and Sir Julian Pauncefote, are both expected here this week.

When Col. Hay takes the oath of office he will at once notify members of the diplomatic corps of his arrival and assumption of his new duties, and will invite them to call at the State Department a few days thereafter for the purpose of meeting him.

One of the first matters which will have to be disposed of will be the selection of Col. Hay's assistants. It is expected the President will also consult him regarding the appointment of an ambassador to the Court of St. James'. The President has not yet selected an assistant secretary, believing that Col. Hay should have a voice as to the person to be named. The President has not offered the British post to any one since tendering it to Senator Hoar and Secretary Long. Who will be selected, the President himself does not know.

So far as diplomatic questions are concerned, there is a feeling in Administration circles that the claims against Turkey are to be pressed. The question is to be left to discussion between the President and Col. Hay. It is presumed that the matter will be kept in the channels of diplomacy. For the present, at least, the President would be averse to the employment of the navy in making a demonstration having as its object the collection of the claims.

YELLOW FEVER SITUATION.

Marine Hospital Officials Believe the Disease Has Done Its Worst.

The Marine Hospital officials believe that the yellow fever in the South has done its worst. While the inhabitants still flee panic-stricken from Jacksonville, Memphis, Galveston and other infected and threatened points, Surgeon General Wyman does not believe that the disease will spread with any more alarming strides before the arrival of fever's great foe—frost.

The office of the Surgeon General is being besieged daily with telegrams and letters of inquiry regarding the danger to be incurred in visiting this or that locality. In brief it may be said that Memphis has quarantined herself against the world, the State of Alabama will not receive visitors from any point unless they are armed with authority from the health officials or are furnished with first class bills of health; and the more dangerously infected localities like Jackson, Orwood, Holly Springs and Taylors are bottled up tight by cordons of armed men who are resolved to prevent the ingress or egress of everybody not connected with the hospital service.

Trains in the neighborhood of infection do not stop for passengers unless such travelers are billed through to the North. No cases have yet appeared in Alabama and no suspects are under examination in that State. At Jackson, Miss., all citizens and strangers must be in doors after 9 p. m.

No deaths have been reported to the Marine Hospital Department for the last twenty-four hours.

SENATOR MORRILL'S SERVICE.

His Friends Say That He May Resign This Winter.

The proposed resignation from the Senate this winter of Hon. Justin S. Morrill of Vermont formed an interesting topic of discussion at the White House today, especially as his retirement from the Senate will necessitate the appointment of a chairman for two important committees.

Senator Morrill is eighty-nine years old, and during his long public career he has served twelve years as a member of the House of Representatives and thirty-two years in the Senate.

He proposes to resign, his friends say, this winter, in order to give the Vermont Legislature an opportunity to elect his successor. Senator Morrill has completed half of his sixth term in the Senate, and it is stated on excellent authority that he will not serve another term.

He is chairman of the Finance Committee of the Senate. Senator Allison, who is second on the Finance Committee, will, it is believed, be made the chairman. Mr. Allison is now chairman of the Appropriations Committee, which is considered next in importance to that of finance.

Senator Hale is second on the Appropriation Committee, but it is not thought that he would accept the chairmanship, as he will prefer to remain at the head of the Committee on Naval Affairs. Therefore, the chairmanship of the Committee on Appropriations will, no doubt, fall to Senator Cullom, who is third on the list.

DR. CONNOR HERE.

Ninth Member of the War Commission Calls on Mr. McKinley.

Dr. Phineas S. Connor, of Cincinnati, who was on Saturday appointed a member of the Commission to investigate the War Department, called on the President this morning to pay his respects. Mr. McKinley stated to him in effect what he had already stated to the other Commissioners. Dr. Connor will be an important member of the Commission, as he is the only medical man in its make-