

**THE EVENING TIMES.**  
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CIRCULATION STATEMENT.  
The circulation of the Times for the week ending December 9, 1899, was as follows: Sunday, December 3, 20,960; Monday, December 4, 42,957; Tuesday, December 5, 42,957; Wednesday, December 6, 42,957; Thursday, December 7, 42,957; Friday, December 8, 42,957; Saturday, December 9, 42,957.  
Total, 274,228.  
Daily average, 39,175 (exclusive of Sunday).  
The Advertiser's Guarantee Company, of Chicago, has been notified of the circulation of THE EVENING TIMES, published at Washington, D. C., by the Chicago Advertiser's Guarantee Company, of Chicago, Ill., for the month of October, 1899, was 40,000 copies.  
THE GUARANTEE TO THE ADVERTISERS OF THE COUNTRY BY A BAND OF \$50,000 IN THE FIDELITY AND DEPOSIT COMPANY OF MARYLAND, DEPOSITED WITH THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO, ILL., BY ADVERTISERS' GUARANTEE COMPANY, BY J. K. MASON, President.

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1899.**  
**Gatacre's Reverse at Stormberg.**  
In England the week opens with the British public in a condition of mingled surprise, sorrow, and anger. The defeat sustained by Major General Sir W. F. Gatacre at Stormberg Junction comes as an amazingly bad campaign opening, although from a military point of view it is not nearly as serious as it appears when regarded politically. In the present condition of Afrikaner sentiment in Northern Cape Colony it may be looked upon as a disaster almost certain to lead to a rebellion open and serious enough to occupy the sole attention of more British troops than are now in the colony. Without thinking of any operations against the Free State.  
Merely considered as a military reverse, which it seems sufficiently bad, there is nothing intrinsically terrible about the affair, and there is no just reason apparent as yet to criticize General Gatacre severely. As matters look, his loss in killed and wounded was not great in the circumstances reported—if the truth has been told. The fact that nearly six hundred of his troops are reported as missing is uncomfortable, and indicates that more of Buller's officers and men will at their Christmas dinner in Pretoria, than was considered probable a few days ago. Of course, Gatacre comes in for a sound rattling all around for not knowing his ground, for not having the position he proposed to attack thoroughly scouted, and for trusting in native or Afrikaner guides. He is entitled to be heard on all these points before it would be just to condemn him.  
Gatacre evidently walked into a trap, but whether he could have avoided it by the exercise of his wits or means remains to be proved. He is an officer who has seen much and hard service in India and Africa, is a graduate of the Staff College, and ought to be a strategist. Probably the whole trouble with Gatacre arises from the fact that he has been left to keep the Boers between Queenstown and the Orange River moving and watching him, with one beery little brigade, and has been unable to attack strategically, or to spare troops for necessary reconnoitering purposes. He admits that he was unaware of the superior force ready to meet him at Stormberg. This might readily be and no blame attach to him. The Boers are so mobile, being all mounted and habitually moving with a minimum of impediment, that they might readily have tricked the British brigadier as to their numbers. They could have had the small force at Stormberg exactly as it was reported to Gatacre, and they could also have had three or four extra thousands scattered over a radius of twenty or thirty miles, ready to concentrate when their enemy should move. This represents a risk which will always be found in grave one to small British columns throughout the war.  
On the whole, the greatest admirer of the British army will feel bound to admit that, so far, its commanding officers have not demonstrated generalship equal to that of their antagonists. The most friendly analysis of Methuen's movement from the Orange River to Modder would hardly fail to show that in strategy and grand tactics he has been outclassed by Cronje. But for this is not an exceptional instance, and for that reason we are inclined to suspect that if a number of well-known staff officers belonging to two at least of the great European armies were to be looked for at their home addresses, it would be found that they were absent on sick leave, or in South America on "scientific missions."

It is quite apparent to the disinterested observer that Sir Redvers Buller and his division and brigade commanders will have to allow for this probable factor in future operations. It is to be feared that they all went into the South African war imbued with the idea that tactics which were good enough against Pathans and Derivishes would serve equally well against Boers. If so, they are paying dearly for the mistake. The truth is that the British army and its officers have not met a civilized enemy since the Crimean war. Their experience and successes have been won altogether in war with savages or barbarians. Some of the London military writers doubtless would hold that the difficulties of the South African campaign were quite paralleled by those encountered by Lord Roberts, in his Abyssinian expedition. He had a worse country to advance through, but his forces were not equal to the Boers in fighting man, were without artillery, were not scientifically trained or led, and what is important were dismissed, so that the British general was able to buy up one native chief after another, as he moved into the country toward Magdala.

Gatacre's check may perhaps affect the further advance of Methuen, and even delay operations on the Tugela River line in Natal. Probably the dispersal of the Boers at Stormberg was intended to open the ball. If so, the chandelier has fallen on the first quadrille, and the dancers cannot be much elated.

**Perpetual Copyright.**  
Some discussion has been created in literary circles by a movement to secure perpetual copyright. The "Literary World" has secured from authors and publishers a great many opinions on this subject, and the consensus of opinion seems to be against the making of the copyright perpetual, though it seems to be the general feeling that some extension of the present limitation would be a good thing.  
Nothing can be clearer than that the

men who help to shape the thought of a people, who give to it histories, biographies, songs, epics, and that subtler form of history known as fiction, should be rewarded in some measure. They should be secured, if possible, against want, and be enabled to secure their families against such a contingency. Some people have an idea that an author does better work when he is not quite sure how he is to pay his grocery bill. They draw this conclusion from the biographies of struggling authors who, perhaps, lived on beggarly clerks' salaries while they were giving to the world books of unmeasured value. But it should be understood that sometimes good work is done not because of hard conditions, but in spite of them. At any rate, an author is likely during the years in which he is striving to win recognition to have a hard enough time to last him for the rest of his life, and the greater and more peculiar his genius the more likely this is to be so. The artistic temperament in itself furnishes trials enough for any ordinary man, and no real genius was ever spoiled by having money or absolutely crushed by the lack of it. It would not diminish the probability of a golden age in literature if some way were arranged by which a successful writer could be relieved of all anxiety for his own future and that of his family, and most writers are Bohemian enough not to care for much more than a reasonably comfortable living.

Though good work can sometimes be done despite poverty, the world will never know how much it may have lost by condemning its poets and novelists to turn out "pot-boilers" for the sake of their families. Most of Dickens' artistic faults are due to this very thing. Eugene Field, in our own generation, might have done twice as much as he did for the delight of his fellow-countrymen had he not been obliged to make his living by work which was in great measure mere routine. Of course, a thoroughbred good man can pull a coal cart, but it is not very good economy to make him do it.

However, the public has some rights in an author's work, and perpetual copyright might interfere with some of these. It is desirable that all good literature be put on the market for as small a price as possible, so that people who have but little money to spend may educate themselves as widely as possible. It seems as if an extension of the present limitation would answer all purposes. It might be extended to a long term—a Boston publisher suggests that the term be fifty years, with a provision for further extension to cover the lifetime of the author if he should outlive the fifty years. This would probably be a great concession as anyone could ask, and it would not interfere seriously with the rights of the public. Under such a general law most of the best literature in this country would be outside the copyright limitations, and after people have read the literature of their own country from its beginning to a comparatively recent date, they are usually able to select what they want most from the literature of the current year; and that is about all which the average citizen can expect to do. The clerk, the mechanic, and the farmer in this country cannot own large libraries, but they can buy some standard books and a few good magazines, and from time to time the best of the new books, securing the reading of other current literature by means of the town library.

**A Chicago Idea.**  
There is a shade of the altruistic in the experiment which is to be tried by Superintendent Sloan, of the Chicago House of Correction. He proposes to undertake the reformation of women prisoners in a way that, to say the least, is decidedly unique, for he will not hire anybody to lecture them, to preach to them on the evil of their ways, to impress upon them the low state to which they have fallen, and the miserable disgrace that has come upon them because of their transgressions; he will simply put them at work, cultivating flowers and let the tender thoughts awakened by contact with delicate blossoms work the hoped-for metamorphosis in character.

The superintendent has erected three spacious greenhouses in which to grow roses, carnations, and chrysanthemums for the Chicago market. This is the more practical phase of the project, for it is evident that he intends to make the enterprise a self-sustaining one, and will not compel the Commonwealth to foot the bills for his interesting effort to rescue unfortunate creatures from the toils of sin. It is stated that Mr. Sloan will select as his housework workers the most hardened types of the feminine offender now in the big prison, cherishing the hope that an association with growing plants will soften their natures and make them susceptible to better moral influences.

The shallow-minded may find a wealth of amusement in this proposition; those who are really guided from phase to phase of life, with superficial glance, will see an abhorrence for anything that suggests a problem or the solution thereof, will not penetrate the possibilities of what seems to be such a simple—they may call it absurd—idea. There is something in a sweet and fragrant flower that suggests peace and good-will, amity, forgiveness, unswerving innocence, and all the finer attributes of the gentlest natures. Blossoms suggest the rosy-cheeked child in a field of daisies, the gentle girl with violets in her corsage, the bride with orange blossoms entwined in her hair and roses in her hand, the bright spot signifying loving unforgetfulness in the chamber of the invalid, the quiet eternal peace of a life well spent.

Violence and wickedness seem as far removed from the fragrant blossom as a mile from pole, and the thoughts inspired by the bud and the bloom are manifestations of the best that is in man and woman.  
What memories may be awakened by the cultivation of flowers in the Chicago penal institution none can venture, but the better instincts of those hardened by repeated transgressions are more likely to become aroused in this way than by brooding in the maddening monotony of bare walls, iron bars, and stern keepers. Who can say that the odor of a rose will not revive a dying conscience or that a simple carnation, nurtured to its full beauty by an unfortunate creature, may not recall the flower garden that once bloomed in homely magnificence in some far away village for years has been but a dim memory? An honest sentiment properly aroused will prove the key to unlock more hardened hearts than people are willing to admit in this cynical age. And sentiment that will aid the work of reform cannot be instilled into any human being, however degraded, by the manipulation of a club or the infernal rules of an institution for the wicked.

Superintendent Sloan apparently recognizes the fact that true reform must always come from within, not from without. He seems to be an official with ideas and not a mere mechanism, which disposes of each unfortunate that comes along in the same routine way and lets that end it. Although

the Chicago superintendent's plan is Utopian to a degree, it is well worth the trial he is to give it.

**An Unwelcome Prisoner.**  
If it be true that the Tagal leader Alejandro has surrendered to Major General MacArthur, the Government will be likely to experience some embarrassment as to what to do with him. Strictly speaking his general status is that of a municipal rebel, guilty of treason and murder. In this respect he is on an exact plane of equality with Aguinaldo, Pío del Pilar, and the other so-called Filipino generals. They have never been recognized as belligerents and cannot under the law of nations properly claim the treatment accorded to prisoners of war by civilized states.

But Alejandro's case differs from that of some of his companions in crime in one important particular. He is not only not entitled to consideration as an honorable enemy, but he has individually and deliberately forfeited his life by an attempted act of atrocity which it would be impolicy for the Government to overlook, even were it to spare the lives of Aguinaldo and other Malay cutthroats. For this Alejandro is the native who, after Gilmore and his men had been captured, stood them up bound and unblinded to be shot in the back, and would have carried out his murderous intention if some one in superior authority had not interfered.

Even if the insurgents had been recognized as belligerents, and it was the intention of the United States to treat the surrendered bands and their officers as foreign enemies with whom we had been at war, would be treated, Alejandro, on account of his perfidy in the Gilmore episode, would stand outside of the pale of mercy, as an outlaw. Whatever Mr. McKinley and his advisers may intend with respect to other prisoners, this one should have short shrift and a halter, just as soon as his captor has secured the necessary evidence upon which to hang him.

It is reported that the President desires to be extremely kind and forgiving to those who have taken part in the Aguinaldo mutiny. But such amiability as would save the neck of this particular miscreant would be fatal to our prestige in the Philippines. Asiatics are incapable of understanding such benignity, and instead of regarding it as an evidence of Christian spirit, would look upon it as a sign of American cowardice. But aside from that, every principle of justice demands that a creature capable of the offense against humanity that Alejandro tried to commit in ordering the butchery of Lieutenant Gilmore and his crew, should be tried by drumhead court-martial and summarily executed.

Chairman Jones, of the Democratic National Committee, at once should issue a proclamation designating the 2d of January next—the feast of St. Swithin—as a day of "fasting, humiliation, and prayer," to be observed by all Democrats everywhere, and also in South Dakota. The propriety of this action is suggested by the fact that in rearranging the Senate committees, the Republicans have not only cut down the minority places to the vanishing point, but have notified their victims that, in the assignments, Senator Pettigrew is to be considered as a Democrat. If the Hon. James K. Jones has done anything to Allison to deserve such a contemptuous revenge, he ought to repent quickly. This is a little too much.

Long is again doing his level best to get his friend and protector into an unpopular and ridiculous position. He wants President McKinley to ask that the thanks of Congress be extended to Sampson "for highly distinguished conduct in conflict with the enemy, as displayed by him in the destruction of the Spanish fleet at Santiago de Cuba, on July 3, 1898." As Sampson was in the line of duty, and in the line of duty, he would not have been legally in command, the Long proposition must be taken as indicating that not only a Congressional investigation, but a commission de lunatico inquiring is needed in the Navy Department.

Unless the charge that Major John A. Logan was shot by his men, and not by the Tagals, is sufficiently supported by evidence to bring the crime home to the perpetrator, it seems to us that the press should drop the matter out of consideration for the feelings of a desolated wife and a sorrowing mother. Logan is dead. Those to whom he was dear cherish his memory as that of a hero. It is the refinement of cruelty to raise such a hideous nightmare as the murder story to further wrench their wounded hearts.

**POSTOFFICE FRAUD ORDERS.**  
Officials Issue One Against an Investment Syndicate.  
Since the exposure of the methods of the Franklin Syndicate, and the consequent fraudulent use of the mails in conducting such operations, the Postoffice authorities have been busy issuing fraud orders restraining smaller "syndicates" from using the postal service to further their schemes. The latest of these orders was issued today, in the name of Charles H. White, of New York, who conducted his operations under the name of White's Information Bureau. He advertised to pay large dividends to persons investing their money with him. White's scheme is said to be the same as the Franklin Syndicate's. He is said to have gotten away with \$200,000, and at present his whereabouts is unknown.

**A WHIPPING POST MOVED.**  
Its Location in a Delaware Town Too Prominent.  
GEORGETOWN, Del., Dec. 11.—The levy court last week ordered the whipping post removed from the courthouse yard and erected upon the jail property. The former location was one of the most prominent in the town—within a few feet of the courthouse, near hotels, postoffice, bank, and other public places, giving people an unobstructed view of the whippings.  
This location in the future will be very obscure. In struggle with the law, it was witnessed by one-fourth as many people as when the post was located near the courthouse.

**An Unnecessary Rebuke.**  
A youthful Stockton man rushed to catch a river boat for San Francisco, but was about two minutes late. The steamer was five feet out and he reached the dock. He swung his grip aboard and, jumping, caught a rope and fell into the water. Every eye was turned to the captain, leaning over the side, saw his intruder. "Here you are," he said, "you're late, but don't you ever do that again!" The passenger had hauled himself aboard by this time, and, turning a look at the captain, said: "What do you think I'm going to do—jump back and try it over?"

**OUR TROPICAL IMPORTS.**  
The United States benefited by the New Spanish Possessions.  
The capacity of Cuba, Porto Rico, Hawaii, and the Philippines to meet our constantly growing requirements for tropical products and the markets which they can supply for our farm productions and manufactures in exchange are attracting renewed attention with the re-assembling of Congress and the questions naturally coming before that body. The annual importations of tropical products into the United States amount on an average to fully \$250,000,000, and are composed of raw materials required by our manufacturers or foodstuffs demanded by the general public. The most important items in the fiscal year 1898 were sugar, \$95,000,000; coffee, \$55,000,000; rubber, \$32,000,000; fibers, \$20,000,000; tropical fruits and nuts, \$18,000,000; tropical gums, \$15,000,000; and other tropical products, \$12,000,000. The total value of these imports was \$250,000,000. The principal products of Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Hawaiian Islands, while these items with hemp added form the chief exports of the Philippines, hemp alone forming the largest item of our present importations from those islands.

The demands of these islands for the classes of agricultural production and manufactures produced in the United States is also very great. In the past, Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippines have drawn most of their supplies of these articles from Spain. The importations into Porto Rico from Spain in 1896 amounted to \$7,900,000, into Cuba from Spain in 1896, \$48,000,000, and the Hawaiian Islands from Spain in the same year, nearly \$5,000,000, and all of these were either productions of agriculture or manufactures. Adding to these the supplies drawn by those islands from Europe, the total value of the market which they offered for agricultural products and manufactures, aside from those which they already drew from Europe, was \$25,000,000 in that year.

In response to demands for information along these lines the Treasury Bureau of Statistics has prepared a series of tables showing the imports into the United States from Cuba and Porto Rico, and the imports into those islands from Spain and other European countries. In the statement for the years 1893, 1896, and 1898 are separately shown, those of 1893 being under the reciprocity agreement, while those of 1896 show the trade immediately preceding the war. In the imports from Spain, 1893 and 1896 are selected as fairly typical years prior to the interruption by war. The amounts are as follows: 1893, \$4,008,623; 1896, \$2,296,653; 1898, \$3,394,573; 1893, \$18,468; 1896, \$50,467; 1898, \$13,560; 1893, \$248,838; 1896, \$189,189; 1898, \$189,189. The total sum of imports into Spain from Porto Rico in 1896 was \$5,376,457. The decrease in free, and increase in dutiable imports into the United States from Porto Rico in 1896, and 1898, respectively, are due to the transfer in 1894 of sugar and molasses from the free to the dutiable list. The commercial reports of Germany, England, and France do not state separately the value of the imports of sugar and molasses from Cuba and Porto Rico, but the total imports were: In 1896, into the United Kingdom, \$179,225; Germany, \$3,327,295; France, \$3,294,476. The principal sugar imports were coffee, imported to the United States from Germany, Italy, and in all forms, and the United Kingdom, mahogany. The United States imported from Cuba in 1893, a total sum of \$78,705,206; in 1896, \$48,000,000; and in 1898, \$21,717,103. Those free of duty in 1893, amounted to \$56,049,639; in 1896, \$2,474,762; in 1898, \$276,000; dutiable in 1893, \$12,557,137; in 1896, \$7,942,297; in 1898, \$14,356,500. The total sum of free imports of sugar and molasses in 1896 and 1898, compared with 1893, are due to the transfer in 1894 of sugar and molasses from the free to the dutiable list.

Spain imported from Cuba in 1895, material to the amount of \$8,551,294.

**POSTOFFICE AUTOMOBILES.**  
Several Unofficial Tests Made in This City.  
Postmaster Wilson, of Brooklyn, was in the city Saturday, on business connected with his department, and unofficially with several other automobile tests, with the idea of introducing them in the mail collection service of Brooklyn. Mr. Wilson expressed himself as being thoroughly in sympathy with the Postmaster General's suggestions to Congress on the subject, and said that he was particularly in favor of the machine which is operated by steam.

Postmaster Merritt said to a Times reporter today that the horseless vehicle was, in his opinion, just the thing for paying large dividends to persons investing their money with him. White's scheme is said to be the same as the Franklin Syndicate's. He is said to have gotten away with \$200,000, and at present his whereabouts is unknown.

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**CONGRATULATIONS NOT IN ORDER.**  
The Ex-Confederate Was Pressed and Tied by Conflicting Emotions.  
The performance of the night before, when he had appeared at the entertainment at a charity function, had been a success. He had paid his debt for his services, was the cause of it all.

A friend burst in upon him to offer congratulations. The friend had not attended the recital. "What did you see?" he asked, "I saw the young man's hand in both his, as he held the audience carried away."  
"Yes," he said, "I saw the young man's hand in both his, as he held the audience carried away."  
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**DOLLAR DINNER PROPOSED.**  
Committee Reorganized to Repeat Last Year's Political Feast.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—The workingmen's Jeffersonian Dollar Dinner Committee, which created the rumpus last year that resulted in the rival dollar dinners, was reorganized this evening at 45 University Place. A. J. Boulton was chairman, and D. B. Van Vleck acted as secretary. About a dozen of the leaders in the last workingmen's dollar dinner movement attended the meeting. The meeting was called to arrange for giving a dollar dinner in honor of Lincoln's birthday next February.

It was decided to invite William J. Bryant and former Governor Algeid and not to touch the date of the dinner until word reached the chairmen from them as to whether they can attend. If they can attend, they are to be requested to name the date nearest to Lincoln's birthday that will be most convenient for them.

It was decided to invite Senator Mason and one or two other Republicans who are opposed to the present Administration. An invitation committee consisting of J. J. Foster and John S. Crosby, D. B. Van Vleck, W. J. Bourke, and A. J. Boulton, was appointed and the meeting was adjourned subject to the call of the chair.

**FOR SENATOR FROM IOWA.**  
An Important Point Scored by Friends of Mr. Gear.  
DES MOINES, Dec. 11.—The friends of John H. Gear have scored an important point in the campaign for his re-election to the United States Senate over A. B. Cummins, member of the Republican National Committee.

The friends of Cummins are trying to organize the lower house in the interest of their man by electing a speaker who will make up the committees in a way to promote his candidacy. The Gear managers have been handicapped by meeting this plan of campaign by having two candidates for speaker in their ranks.

One of them, M. L. Temple, has how withdrawn in the interest of the other, D. H. Bower, who will probably be elected over W. L. Eaton, the Cummins candidate, as Gear men are believed to be in a majority. It is greatly beneficial to Gear's chances.

**A COMPLIMENT TO LOWENDES.**  
Maryland Agricultural College's Resolutions of Regret.  
COLLEGE PARK, Md., Dec. 11.—The board of trustees of the Maryland Agricultural College have passed resolutions regretting the termination of the services of Governor Lowndes as president of the board. In the resolutions they say that they have always regarded him as a friend of the institution, and that his services have tended to the improvement and elevation of the college.

A committee composed of Messrs. W. Scott Whiteford, Murray Vandiver, and David Seibert will go before the legislature this year and try to secure an appropriation to add to the main building and erect buildings for the professors on the college grounds.

**CHICAGO NEEDS MONEY.**  
The Big Town Faces to Face with a Financial Crisis.  
CHICAGO, Ill., Dec. 11.—Chicago is facing a financial crisis and is confronted by the fact that with increasing expenses she has constantly decreasing revenues. A special session of the legislature is looked upon by the city officials as the only means whereby relief can be obtained.

Chicago received \$4,420,000 for corporate purposes from the tax levy—not enough to maintain the city and fire department—and the city had to depend upon \$1,000,000 in other special sources of income for its maintenance. It has been supposed that instead of \$4,420,000 the city would obtain \$6,000,000 or \$7,000,000 at least from the tax levy, but the figures from Springfield have shown that the maximum possible will be \$4,600,000.

**CONSUL MACRUM'S MISSION.**  
It Is Believed He Has Advised He Feared to Trust to Cable.  
EAST LIVERPOOL, Ohio, Dec. 11.—Friends here of Charles E. Macrum, United States Consul at Pretoria, say that he secured leave of absence from his post in order that he might bring to this country information that he is unwilling to trust to the cables.

Recent letters furnish a clew to his mysterious mission. They prove that he was on the best possible terms with President Kruger, and in letter after letter he says plainly and fearlessly that he believes the Boers have been forced into an unjust war. Aldebert S. Hay, son of the Secretary of State, who has been appointed to the place, is a noted Anglo-American.

Macrum's friends here say that after he took charge of the British interests at Pretoria his relations with the Boer Government were more friendly than ever, and that he was fully prepared to stay at his post until the necessity arose for him to bring home important state secrets.

These are believed to be from President Kruger, who has asked Macrum to return to the United States, and to go to this country, if not in alliance with Great Britain, to render as great an aid to the Transvaal Republic as France did to the American, for then Europe would immediately intervene.

**WHAT THE HAWAIIANS WANT.**  
Robert Wilcox Discusses the Needs of the Islanders.  
SEATTLE, Wash., Dec. 11.—Robert Wilcox, the Hawaiian Royalist who was sentenced to thirty-five years at hard labor for inciting a revolution, and who was subsequently pardoned by President Dole, is in Seattle, on his way to Washington.

In an interview, he said: "I am a native-born Hawaiian, and it is a territorial form of government is established, the natives desire one of their number for governor. They have selected a position, and they will give it to me. I shall urge my own appointment."

"We want the crown lands apporportioned among the rightful heirs, my wife and I shall be one of them. I have been elected over W. L. Eaton, the Cummins candidate, as Gear men are believed to be in a majority. It is greatly beneficial to Gear's chances."

**HOPE FOR THE NIAGARA GONE.**  
More Proofs That the Steamer Went Down in Lake Erie.  
BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 11.—Conclusive evidence of the sinking of the steamer Niagara, with twelve persons on board, near Long Point, while the boat was on its way from Port Perry, Georgian Bay, to Buffalo, last night, was found yesterday by tugmen patrolling the beach. The tug, mostly from Port Colborne, Ontario, picked up many pieces of timber which have been identified as having come from the missing steamer. The owners of the boat say they have given up hope. None of the bodies have been found, and an accurate list of the lost may never be had, as the only list known of was in the boat when it went down.

One of the first men to discover the wreckage was John Morrow, vice-mate of the steamer M. T. Groves, which was in the creek on the Niagara. She leaves two sons, one of them a sailor, in Marine City, Mich., where the family lived.

**CHILD PREVENTS A STRIKE.**  
Altoona Girl Defies Eight Hundred Workmen and Wins.  
ALTOONA, Pa., Dec. 11.—The remaining child of a family of 800 strikers, on little girl prevented a tieup at the Altoona silk mills.

One hundred workers employed at the mills stopped work because their demand for increased wages was refused.

**WRECKED SEAMEN LANDED.**  
Crew of an Abandoned Bark Safely Rescued.  
NEW YORK, Dec. 11.—The Belgian steamer Wordworth, of the Tampore and Holt Line, Captain Graham, arrived in Quarantine last night from Brazilian ports, having on board the first and second lifeboats, and the crew of the Norwegian bark Johannes, Captain Pendriker, who were taken on board at Barbados. The Johannes left Albany, Australia, bound for London, laden with a cargo of hard wood logs, on November 17.

She sprung a leak, and after continually pumping for eleven days, on November 28, all hands abandoned the vessel and took to the boats, keeping company with one another for five days and four nights, finally landing at Barbados, where they were sent to New York by the Norway bark Johannes, Captain Pendriker, remained in Barbados awaiting a steamer for Europe.

**BRITISH NAVY RESERVES.**  
Training of a Force in Canada Under Consideration.  
TORONTO, Ont., Dec. 11.—It is not generally known that the British Government is making preparations for organizing a training of a royal navy reserve in Canada. Toronto authorities recently wrote Sir Louis Davies, Canadian Minister of Marine, for permission to place a vessel in Lake Ontario, to serve the purpose of a school for men for service in the royal navy. Sir Louis Davies has replied as follows:

"The whole subject of the organization and training of a royal navy reserve for Canada is not a new thing. It has been in the past, under the care of Her Majesty's Imperial and Canadian Governments."

**CURRENT HUMOR.**  
Two Nonentities.  
From the Chicago Tribune.  
"Ah, here is my friend, the dodo," affably said the J. F. Jones, who was sitting sympathizing with each other, friend Dodo. "We are both extinct."  
"I am not so sympathetic between," coldly replied the dodo, turning its tail feathers on the other shade. "I really existed once, and you never did."

**A Lively Infant.**  
From the Chicago Tribune.  
"The automobile is in its infancy."  
"Well, I hope when it grows up it will make noise."

**How She Did It.**  
From the Chicago Tribune.  
"They say Maud didn't succeed as a nurse in the hospital."  
"No; she succeeded the patient every few minutes to ask him if he was comfortable."

**Cynicism.**  
From the Baltimore American.  
Mrs. Resden—Don Dan is a man of high principle, anyway. He got up and left the theatre in Paris when the ballet came on.  
Mrs. Resden—He got up to find where the stage door was located.

**Natural Curiosity.**  
From the Chicago Tribune.  
"Say, Cap'n," said the man from beyond the suburbs, "do you ever fall while you're walking?"  
"I fall every day, regular," solemnly replied the advertising farmer. "Go to do it. It's a part of my contract. You see, I fall when I come to a place where there's no road."  
"This is why an eager spectator followed him as he went by and then went home a disappointed man."

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