

THE INTELLIGENCER.

Published Daily, Except Sunday, by The Intelligencer Publishing Company, 10 & 27 FOURTEENTH STREET.

TERMS: Per Year, by Mail, in Advance, Postage Prepaid. DAILY (SIX DAYS IN THE WEEK) 1 YEAR... \$2.00

Persons wishing to subscribe to THE DAILY INTELLIGENCER can do so by sending in their orders to the INTELLIGENCER office on postal cards or otherwise.

Rejected communications will not be returned unless accompanied by sufficient postage.

THE INTELLIGENCER embracing its several editions, is entered in the Post office at Wheeling, W. Va., as second-class matter.

Telephone Numbers: Editorial Rooms 823, Counting Room 822.

The Intelligencer.

WHEELING, DECEMBER 21, 1896.

Secretary Olney's Statement.

A remarkable statement comes from the secretary of state. He declares that "the power to recognize the so-called republic of Cuba as an independent state rests exclusively with the executive."

To recognize the independence of a community involves the possibility of war. In the case of Cuba, for example, Spain wishes us to understand that if we recognize we may have to fight.

How the President can take the stand that he will refuse to be directed by Congress in a matter so important, is hard to comprehend.

It is one of the misfortunes of our business situation, in so far as it is affected by tariff laws, that any effort to improve it through more protective tariff laws will for a time operate unfavorably.

As soon as it is known abroad that duties are to be increased there is a rush of foreign merchandise to take advantage of existing lower duties.

More than this must be true; and this brings us to the most important feature of the incident. The President must approve the policy of making a statement of this surprising character touching a matter still with a committee of Congress and with seeming intent to forestall the action of the legislative branch of the government.

It may be best for the country to let the Cubans fight it out, refraining from recognizing their independence until that shall have been as indubitably won by force of arms as Spain herself will recognize it.

Nevertheless it has not been thought either the privilege or the duty of the President to do all the thinking for his countrymen. The constitution permits him to do some of it and requires him to do some of it, but Congress is required to do some as well, and with that duty it has not been thought that the President could interfere.

The voluntary suggestion of the secretary of state, which it is evident that he desires to put out just at this time, indicates very clearly that other views are held at the white house. The whole thing is enough to take the country's breath. It is certainly without precedent in our history.

Wholesome Republicans know how whom they have to whip. All they have to do this is to move right ahead, and the whipping will be handsome and conclusive.

Democratic City Primaries.

In their primary election on Saturday the Democrats of Wheeling polled 2,045 votes. A week before the Republicans polled 4,910 votes. The Republicans lead by 2,865 votes—more than the Democrats polled. It may be said that there was no contest for mayor. That went by default. There were three candidates for chief of police, and the three polled a combined vote of one less than the vote for mayor.

But it may be said further that there was no great effort made to get any of the nominations, and that the whole thing was let go by default. Well, that means something. What does it mean? That our Democratic friends in Wheeling have no hope of electing anybody to a city office. To this complexion has it come at last. It is useless for a Democrat to run for a city office in Wheeling.

If the Republicans were to select unworthy men the case might be otherwise. As it stands to-day, the Republicans offering a first class ticket which well advised Democrats think it is idle to oppose, there is to be no serious opposition. The Republicans will walk away with everything in sight. Not very long ago the situation was just the reverse.

There has been a great change in public opinion since the Democrats had Wheeling all their own way. There must be another radical change before they can have it so again.

John Randolph Butts will be the next mayor of Wheeling if he lives; and he will win in a pleasant little center. A party that polls but 2,045 votes at its primaries can't defeat him.

A Mistaken View of Us.

A London newspaper pretends to think it "singularly humiliating that the American market should go to pieces at the remote prospect of war with a power which is commonly described by courtesy as second class." That is to say, humiliating to Americans. Our esteemed British contemporary may not understand the difference between a stock market scare and a state of mind that would cause the American people to shake in

the knees. The artists of the stock exchange require very little to set them going, up or down.

It may require something more than for Spain to make faces at us before this country will have its equilibrium seriously disturbed. While we are on this point, we do not happen to recall any time in our history when this country, from the colonies down, has been frightened out of its great American spots by anything or anybody in the world.

No good friend of Spain will try to mislead her into the belief that she would find war with us a pleasant yachting cruise. For if Spain falls into a war with the United States it will be some time before she will be able to sit up and receive company.

Before Weyler retires for the night he looks under the bed to see whether Macco's ghost is lurking there. Poor Weyler!

Not Just Yet.

New Mexico, Arizona and Oklahoma would like to come in as states. New Mexico has a population of about 175,000, Arizona has about 70,000 and Oklahoma about 105,000. The indications are that these territories will not come in immediately as states. We have about as many of that kind of states as may be thought necessary to give variety to the whole.

It is suggested that the three might come in as one state. Combined they have 10,000 square miles more than Texas has, and Texas has about ten times as much population. The proposition to make one state of the three territories is three times as good as the proposition to make three states of the three territories, and yet it is doubtful whether the one-state idea will take a very firm hold on Congress.

The region in which these territories lie is regarded as a disturbed area whose influence in the affairs of the country it is not desirable to increase. It is probable that the storm will have to blow over and the clouds roll by before there can be any more entries from that part of the country.

Meanwhile the people out there will continue to have the distinguished consideration of the rest of their countrymen.

Christmas is coming along at a lively pace. Be ready to receive it with a glad heart.

A Misfortune of Tariff Legislation.

It is one of the misfortunes of our business situation, in so far as it is affected by tariff laws, that any effort to improve it through more protective tariff laws will for a time operate unfavorably.

As soon as it is known abroad that duties are to be increased there is a rush of foreign merchandise to take advantage of existing lower duties. Then the country must work off the surplus by consuming it, before it can feel the thrill of a new industrial life.

The ideal way to pass a tariff bill of higher duties would be to rush it through and make it operative before the foreign influx could get here. But this is not possible, and to get the benefit of more protection the country will have to pay still more than it has paid for the folly of giving power to a party that has given less protection.

This is a forceful object lesson which the present generation is not likely to forget.

White or green, Christmas is a great time for the young people. And there is but one youth in any life!

Cheap Money.

Europe is in our debt for products bought, and the balance should be coming over to us in gold; yet it is expected that presently we shall be shipping gold to Berlin.

The Financial Chronicle explains this anomalous movement by noting the fact that there is an unnatural congestion of money in New York, making money cheaper there than in Europe. So Berlin comes to the front to make the difference between 2 1/2 per cent interest and 5 per cent interest, not a small profit where millions are involved.

Our free silver friends will squirm when they hear that to-day New York is the cheapest money market in the world. If they have the collateral they can get the money. But what they want is to borrow money on prairie atmosphere.

The cities of Providence and Hartford have recently borrowed money at 3 1/2 per cent. This shows very high credit, and it shows that in this country money is not scarce where credit is high. We doubt very much whether any free silver community could place a loan at any such figures. In money-lending, as in fire insurance, the moral risk is taken into account.

If Senator Allen persists in his desire to have an inquiry into the expenditures of the recent campaign he will get himself disliked by the silver mine owners. Does he think for a moment that the Pirates of the Rockies are eager to have their bank accounts turned inside out for the benefit of the vulgar herd?

When the Cuban resolution comes up in the senate more than one senator may be expected to present some views touching the attitude of the administration on the Cuban question; and they will not all be mildly expressed views. Some of the speeches will be flippers.

If Major McKinley were to accept all the invitations he receives he would spend the remainder of his life keeping the engagements. This is what it is to be a man of the people.

It is noticed that men shot up in Spanish prisons in Cuba are not so fleshy as when they went in. Some who lie in Cuban graves have carried still further the flesh-shedding process.

Just wait until you hear Senator Morgan on the Cuban policy of the administration. There will be music in the air when this Democratic senator begins to twang his lyre.

Spain may not cut much ice with Congress, but it ticks her immensely to know that there is a place for her at the first table in the white house.

No, the President will not be impeached on account of the Cuban matter. He will merely have some tar burned on him.

From all accounts cold comfort awaits ex-Queen Lal in Washington. If she had any really friendly feeling for her good and good friend, Grover, she would not

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visit Washington at all. Her presence there will embarrass him more than a duck hunt without ducks.

Secretary Olney raises an interesting question. Is the President to boss Congress?

THE LINSLEY INSTITUTE.

An Argument for Such Schools—In Time of Peace Prepare for War.

Seattle (Wash.) Post-Intelligencer: The annual report of Inspector General Breckinridge, of the United States army, devotes considerable space to the subject of military instruction in the colleges where a regular army officer is detailed for that duty.

It is also suggested that benefit might be derived from the encouragement of competition between the cadets of the various colleges and schools. With the always possible contingencies before the country of a war, there is some encouragement in the figures, which show that among the best educated young men of the country there is annually leaving college a very large contingent who are familiar with the primary drill and duties of a soldier.

Many of these young men, having obtained this slight military training during their school days, will acquire such an interest in military affairs, that, on leaving college, they will naturally attach themselves to the existing militia organizations, and will furnish first class material not only for the rank and file but for officers in the militia. In this manner the country will always have a practical army reserve, maintained at comparatively little expense, and which, on very brief notice, would be ready to supplement the small regular army with a large body of troops well drilled in the minor tactics, and requiring but little additional experience to become good soldiers.

RETURNING HOME.

But Enough of the Federation of Labor Delegates to Do Business.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 20.—Many of the delegates to the sixteenth annual convention of the American Federation of Labor returned home last night and to-day, but all the officers, committeemen and others interested in unfinished business, remain for to-morrow's session. Mass meetings were held to-day of the bakers, brewers, building trades and other amalgamated associations, at which addresses were made by the national officers of the different organizations.

All organized trades having union labels held a joint meeting to urge organizations to purchase only such goods as bore the union label. The committee completed their work to-day and it is stated that the convention will be able to conclude to-morrow night.

National Board of Trade.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Dec. 20.—Among the subjects that will be presented before the National Board of Trade by the delegation from the Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce, are recommendations favoring uniform freight classification, revision of the tariff, retirement of the greenbacks, reduction of the tax of bank notes to one-half of one per cent, increase of speculation of national banks to par value of bonds deposited, establishment of a national clearing house, issuance of no bank notes for less than five dollars after July, 1898, international bimetallic system, extension of the Torrens system, improvement of the interior waterways, adoption by all nations of a monetary unit of a common value and the establishment of a department for the development of commerce and manufactures.

Another Room.

Eastern Man—Now is the Cosmopolitan City, the "Western" Wonder of the "Western World" and "Hole of the Plains" prospering?

Western Man—Evidently! Evidently! We've got two stores and a blacksmith shop in full blast now.—New York Weekly.

I SUFFERED for two weeks with neuralgia, and Salvation Oil gave me immediate relief. Wm. A. Williams, 313 Madison Street, Baltimore, Md.

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By using "The New Great South American Kidney Cure." This new remedy is a great surprise on account of its exceeding promptness in relieving pain in the kidneys, bladder and back in male or female. It relieves a retention of water and pain in passing it almost immediately. Save yourself by using this marvelous cure. Its use will prevent fatal consequences in almost all cases by its great alterative and healing powers. Sold by R. H. List, druggist, Wheeling, W. Va.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS. YOUNG MAN—MANAGER FOR THE ESTABLISHED business, experienced and energetic, wanted for weekly, full-time position. Money secured. Address: J. H. GIBB, care of Intelligencer.

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AMUSEMENTS. OPERA-HOUSE. CHRISTMAS. SATURDAY NIGHT, DEC. 26.

DANIEL SULLY, In His Great Play, O'BRIEN, THE CONTRACTOR.

PYTHIAN HALL. COMING WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21 AND 22, 1896.

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