The Wheeling Daily Intelligencer.

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SUGAR INDUSTRIES

Heard by the House Ways and Means Committee.

THE CONFLICTING INTERESTS

Of the Producers, Refiners and Importers Brought Out in Sharp Contrast—Producers Want Higher Duties or the McKinley Bounty—United States Could Now be Producing all the Sugar Consumed Had the McKinley Law Not Been Repealed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—The third day of the tariff hearings given by the ways and means committee was devoted to the sugar schedule. Four interests were represented, the importers, cane growers, beet raisers and refiners.

The importers were heard first, Mr. John Farr, of New York, opening the argument. Their recommendations as presented by Mr. Farr were:

First, on all sugar testing 75 degrees or less a duty of 1 cent a pound, adding .03 cent per degree to 100 degrees.

Second, an additional duty of about ¼ of a cent difference on all sugars above 16 Dutch standard in color, to prevent refiners from entering refined sugars at the same duty as raw sugars of the same test.

Third, an additional discriminating duty on all sugars from bounty paying countries with authority to the President to raise lower duties on goods from these countries as the bounties were raised or lowered. This scheme, the importers estimated, would yield the government a revenue of $30,000,000 per year, the amount of sugar paying duty being about one and a half million tons; the average polariscope test being 92 degrees.

In reply to questions from Chairman Dingley, Mr. Farr declared there was no undervaluation of sugars imported now, but owing to the strict interpretation of the law by the customs officials the tendency was to pay more duty than the law called for. Appraisals were made on the basis of the estimated values in Trinidad and other countries where there were no market values.

"What would you say," asked Mr. Dingley, "to the statement furnished the committee by Henry A. Brown, of Massachusetts, that the invoiced value of all sugar imported in 1893 was an average of 3-10 cents a pound under the London valuation?"

Mr. Farr considered the statement untruthful and entirely theoretical. London valuations were not representative, as Germany had absorbed the business. London prices on cane were merely nominal.

The Sugar Trust.

Mr. Farr was questioned by Mr. Payne, of New York, on the effects of the operations of the American sugar refining company on the business. The importer asserted that only in occasional bargains could the American refining company buy its goods cheaper than other firms. Its influence had been to reduce the price of sugar throughout the world. Under the present differential rate of 3-10 of a cent the importations of the last year had been 65,000,000 tons larger than ever before. A differential of ¼ cent a pound would enable the soft white sugars to compete with the centrifugal refined.

Mr. Solen Humphreys, of New York, chairman of the committee appointed by the sugar trade, explained the difficulties of an ad valorem tariff on sugar and made a plea for a specific system. The change, he said, was unanimously demanded by the trade. Ad valorem valuations were unjust and impractical on account of fluctuations in prices.

The sugar schedule had given the treasury department more trouble than any other feature of the tariff act now in force. It had been estimated by the department that it would yield a revenue of $13,000,000, but for the past year the revenue had been less than $20,000,000 and under existing conditions it would not exceed $21,000,000 for the current year.

Higher prices for raw sugar undoubtedly would be the result of the schedule asked, Mr. Humphreys continued, but the advance would be so small it would not be felt by the average family. A duty beginning at ¾ of a cent at 75 degrees would yield $43,000,000 revenue. Production of sugar was now regulated by consumption and no reduction in prices could be expected for several years.

Speaking of bounties, Mr. Humphreys declared they were a disorganizing factor in the sugar business of the world. The German government recently had raised the bounty to something over ¾ of a cent a pound, which enabled Germany to dispose of all her surplus product. The system was working ruin to all the British islands so that they must resort to the same scheme or go out of the business. Instead of 1-10 of a cent on bounty sugar imported into this country the additional duty should equal the bounties.

P. J. Smith, another New York importer, made a brief argument against ad valorem duties.

The Cane Growers.

Col. J. D. Hill, of New Orleans, representing the cane growers' association of Louisiana, was the first to speak for the producer. He argued for a restoration of the duty of the act of 1883. He spoke of the stimulation produced by the bounty act of 1890 with the duty imposed therein on refined sugar, and frankly said if a similar provision could be made in the prospective law and its permanence guaranteed the sugar producers would prefer it. But all things considered, they asked for a re-enactment of the provision in the act of 1883. He produced figures to show the reduction of the price of refined sugar under the operation of the act at the times when the crops were being marketed to show the benefits to the country at large from home competition.

Col Hill laid special stress on the dangers arising from the disposition of all continental countries producing sugar to give export bounties. He said that no industry offered so wide and so distributive results as the sugar industry, and he gave figures to show the widespread stimulus it gave to other industries. In reply to a question by Mr. Johnson, of North Dakota, Col. Hill expressed the opinion that with the protection asked the cane and beet sugar industries of the United States could produce enough sugar to supply the consumption of this country. He further declared that he had not the slightest doubt if the bounty of 1890 had been continued during the term of years provided for, the sugar growers would have supplied the consumption by the time the bounty period expired.

The cane growers asked:

First, that specific duties dependent on both polariscope test and color standard be imposed in lieu of ad valorem duties.

Second, that commencing with 1.40 cents for sugar testing 75 and under 16 Dutch standard the rate be proportionately increased.

Third, that duties equal to export bounties be imposed to offset them.

Fourth, a proportionate duty on molasses.

Fifth, that the new law have effect from the passage of the act.

Sixth, that reciprocity treaties, if adopted, be without injury to the domestic sugar industry, on lines which recognize the overshadowing importance of developing sugar production in the United States, and by such methods as insure a protection equivalent to that suggested.

J. H. Sipher, of this city, was called by Chairman Dingley and gave it as his opinion that the cost of refining by the sugar trust was not to exceed one-fourth of one cent, while the cost of refining in Louisiana would perhaps reach three-eighths of one cent.

Mr Humphreys was recalled and asked the cost of refining sugar, but he said he did not care to set his opinion against *actual refiners*. He thought, however, in a general way that the cost of refining sugar testing 96 degrees was about as stated by Mr. Sypher, but sugars of lower grades, with more impurities would of course, be much more; for instance, it would cost one-half of a cent to refine sugar of 85 degrees. In reply to a question by Mr. McMillin, Mr. Humphreys said that the sugar trust was a combination of all the sugar refineries existing at the time (1887) it was organized, but there were now several refineries outside the trust and he had heard of others in contemplation, which led him to believe that the number would be increased in the next few years.

Favors a Bounty.

Mr. Oxnard delivered an argument in favor of a bounty and proceeded to quote departmental reports and authorities to show that this country had soil, climate, energy and capital requisite to the production of all its own sugar. Every other nation, even Sweden, which could supply itself with sugar, had taken every measure to do so.

Even little Bulgaria had liberal duties and bounties enforced for this purpose.

Cost of labor, uncertainty as to legislation, export bounties in other countries and decline in prices were all operating to keep capital out of investment in beet sugar. Germany now pays 27.32½ and 38 3-10 cents per hundred pounds export bounties, according to the quality of the sugar, and could afford to sell sugar in New York at 13½ cents per hundred pounds less than American producers, and occasionally to sell surplus products below the cost.

Give American a reasonable bounty guaranteed to continue for a reasonable time and they would work wonders. The American was now obliged to compete with African cheap labor, as Egypt in the last fiscal year had sent $3,257,000 worth of sugar to the United States in British bottoms which carried no return cargoes. With wars in Cuba and the Philippines cutting off supplies from those islands, Germany was endeavoring to capture the American market.

The estimated duties remitted by the United States on Hawaiian sugar are $61,000,000. He thought it was unjust to encourage these importations at the expense of revenue and our home producers. He urged the abrogation of the agreement. Speaking of the conflicting interests involved in giving adequate protection to the sugar growers, he pointed to the sugar refiners, who bought and refined the product, and to the millers of flour and others who desired to use sugar in reciprocity agreements to obtain concessions for themselves. The refiners wanted the lowest possible duty on raw and the highest on refined.

While owing to the condition of the treasury it might not be feasible to reenact the bounty scheme of 1890, he thought the dual system proposed by the senate amendments to the Mills bill in 1888, which impose a duty and also gave a bounty, were now entirely practicable.

For a Dual Policy.

Mr. Oxnard took strong grounds against any reciprocity. He thought a dual policy (both duty and bounty) would be fair to all interests, and jeopardize none. Such a policy, he said, would increase the revenue out of which the bounty could be paid and would encourage the sugar industry. The schedule he proposed was a duty of one cent per pound on all sugars testing seventy-five degrees or less; three cents per hundred pounds additional for each degree between seventy-five and ninety-six degrees and four cents per one hundred pounds for every additional degree between ninety-six and one hundred, with one-fourth of a per cent differential on sugars above sixteen Dutch standard. He asked for the McKinley duty on molasses and contravailing duties against bounty paying countries on both raw and refined sugars. The bounty he proposed was three-fourths of a cent per pound; one-fourth to go off at the end of each four years, the whole bounty to cease in twelve years.

Mr. Oxnard, in answer to questions from Mr. McMillin said that the eastern and western refineries had divided the American markets between them and agreed not to infringe on each other's territory, the Hawaiian treaty helping that agreement.

Herbert Myrick, president of the Orange-Judd Company, spoke in the interests of the farmer. His argument was exhaustive and was largely devoted to showing the advantage of the production in this country of the sugar consumed here. It was an economic crime, he said, to compel American farmers to raise staples in competition with the cheap land and labor countries, with which to pay for imported sugar, besides standing the freight and commission both ways.

They have found by experience and scientific tests that from the Hudson river to the Pacific, from the Carolinas to the lakes, they can grow sugar beets as rich or richer in saccharine contents than those of Europe.

The sugar beet industry, he said, was on the high road to success under the McKinley law. Its repeal had brought it to a standstill.

Beet Sugar Bounty.

Senator Perkins, of California, presented an argument in favor of the imposition of a specific tax of one and one-half cents a pound on imported raw sugars. He showed that the consumption of imported sugar by the United States is about 1,700,000 tons a year, all of which, if the sugar interest is protected, he said, can be produced in a few years within our borders. He showed that the area capable of producing beet sugar was sufficient to more than supply the demand of the United States and that sugar beets can be raised on soil ranging in character from the alkali plains of the Pecos river in Utah to the rich soil of California. He pointed out the fact that France alone produced sugar beets enough to manufacture all the sugar of this character. Austria is also a large producer. These countries, he said, have protected their interests so it has been able to increase to its present vast dimensions and are now increasing the bounties and duties in order to protect their respective producers against the competition of the other European beet sugar countries.

The sugar producers of the United States thus are forced into competition with the protected sugar of Europe and for this protected sugar are paying out nearly $100,000,000 per year. This sum, he argued, should be retained in the United States and paid out to our laborers, farmers and mechanics.

The importance of the beet sugar interests was set forth, it being shown that the benefits conferred upon a country by giving a new source of revenue to its farmers, by building up new and flourishing communities wherever a beet sugar factory is established, and by the addition to the general prosperity which it makes, furnished the reasons for the protection of beet sugar, by foreign nations. The senator quoted from the report of United States Consul Muth, who urged upon the United States the necessity of protecting the American sugar interests.

QUAY'S TACTICS.

One of Wanamaker's Managers Arrested on a Charge of Bribery.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Dec. 30.—A sensation was created here to-night when E. A. Van Valkenburg, one of the Wanamaker managers, was *arrested on a* charge of bribery. Mr. Van Valkenburg made a statement that he knew of orders having been issued to have him arrested on a charge of bribery.

The information for Van Valkenburg's arrest was made by C. A. Gibson, before J. J. Kuebler, a Pottsville justice of the peace, and the Wanamaker manager is charged with attempting to bribe representative Webster C. Weiss, early in December.

Mr. Van Valkenburg demanded an immediate hearing and, guarded by four detectives, he was taken before Mayor Patterson, who declined to take bail for a hearing before a justice and turned him over to Detective M. Sweeney, of Scranton, who will take him to Pottsville to-night for a hearing at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

The Penrose managers declare they knew nothing about the charge, and claim they had no intimation of the arrest.

FAMOUS SUIT ENDED.

Governor-Elect Tanner's Libel of Ex-Mayor Hopkins Dismissed.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—The libel suit of ex-Mayor Hopkins against John R. Tanner, governor-elect, was dismissed to-day. The suit, which grew out of the state campaign of 1894, was dismissed by stipulation and without costs to either of the parties.

A circular was sent out by Tanner as chairman of the Republican state central committee and alleged that money had been extorted by Hopkins, then mayor of Chicago, from the gamblers and other vicious elements of Chicago to swell the Democratic campaign fund. Tanner filed a plea on which were the names of many gamblers, who it was alleged were assessed, and the plea was one of justification. Judge Adams decided about a year ago that the plea was not sufficient to justify the declaration made in the circular and since that time nothing has been done in the case until to-day.

American Bar Association.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—To-day's session of the American Lawyers' Association was almost exclusively confined to the discussion of a national bankrupt law.

All the speakers favored a bankrupt law similar to the Torrey bill, which has been before Congress for several sessions. These officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President, V. B. Baggott; first vice president, T. A. McCarlin; second vice president, J. A. Cavanaugh; secretary and treasurer, J. C. Francisous

Hotel Man Fails.

GOUVENEUR, N. Y., Dec. 30.—James C. Lee, proprietor of the Edgewood hotel at Star Lake, in the Adirondacks, and largely interested in several other ventures, made an assignment to-day. The liabilities will be heavy. Mr. Lee owned property in Denver and Buffalo and at Murray Hill Park, the resort on the St. Lawrence. Last winter he enlarged the Edgewood so that it became one of the best hotels in the Adirondacks. The season was a failure, however, and he lost heavily. All of Mrs. Lee's property goes with that of her husband, for the benefit of the creditors.

Not a Financial Difficulty.

PLATTSBURG, N. Y., Dec. 30.—George T. Murdock has been appointed receiver for Witherbee, Sherman & Co., upon application of interested parties, members of the firm, who desired a partition and sale of the property. The firm is in no financial difficulty and has no indebtedness. The partnership expired by limitation in September. The property, consisting of extensive iron ore mines and furnaces at Fort Henry, is valued at from $2,000,000 to $3,000,000.

Ordered to Chicago.

DENVER, Col., Dec. 30.—Joseph Talbot, national bank examiner, in charge oof the American National, of this city, which is about to reopen, has received notice from Comptroller Eckels to proceed to Chicago at the earliest convenience to take charge of the banks that have recently failed in that city.

Merchant Assigns.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Charles C. Ross, surviving partner of Charles G. Ross & Co., dry goods commission merchant, has assigned to John C. Hays, without preferences. The amount involved is reported to be about $50,000.

The Tammany Split.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The long continued strife between the Tammany factions led by county clerk Henry D. Purroy and John C. Sheehan, chairman of the Tammany executive committee, broke out into open war to-day, when Purroy and his followers announced their bolt from Tammany. Both Sheehan and Purroy gave out statements which were bitter in their personalities toward each other.

Tammany Extends No Olive Branch.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The general committee of Tammany Hall met to-night and adopted a long series of resolutions presented by Thomas F. Grady. They denounce trusts, favor cheaper gas and telephone rates and condemn the present city administration, but extend no olive branch to the Democrats who bolted Bryan last fall.

Colorado's Production.

DENVER, Col., Dec. 30.—Following statement of bullion operated on at the Denver mint during 896, was furnished to-day by Chief Puckett:

Gold, $4,218,661; silver $27,373; total, $4,246,234.

Last year's total was $4,280,220.

The total furnished by Colorado this year is $3,938,565, an increase of $61,353 over last year.

A Hopeless Task.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—The Progressive Democratic club to-night decided to work for the nomination of William J. Bryan for President in 1900, and issued invitations to all Democratic organizations in the north to attend a convention to be held in January.

Suspended Work.

ZANESVILLE, O., Dec. 30.—The superintendent of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad shops at this place, has received orders to close down the shops until further notice. Four hundred men are thrown out of employment. No reason is given for the order.

Window Glass Men Agree.

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—The meeting of window glass makers and jobbers terminated to-day. The rebate agreement reached yesterday was formally ratified and it was definitely announced that there would be no increase in prices.

TO KEEP A PLEDGE.

Bill Framed to Confer on Major McKinley Power

TO APPOINT U. S. DELEGATES

To an International Conference on Bimetallism, as Advocated in the Republican Platform—He will Have Exclusive Right to Name the Delegates and the Number—Senator Wolcott's Conference with the President-Elect—All Members of Committee but One Present.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 30.—The Republican caucus committee appointed to draft a measure providing for an international conference to secure the re-establishment of bimetallism was in session for two hours to-day and when it adjourned had agreed upon a bill to be presented to the Republican caucus which will be held soon after the assembling of Congress next Tuesday.

The bill agreed upon is brief and merely confers upon the President the right to appoint delegates "to any conference which may be called which has for its object the re-establishment of bi-metallism." It does not distribute the selection of delegates, as did the legislation of the Fifty-third Congress, between the President and the two houses of Congress, and moreover leaves the number to be selected entirely to the discretion of the President.

Senator Wolcott gave the committee a full account of his conference with President-elect McKinley, from which he had but just returned, re-assuring them of Mr. McKinley's hearty interest in the committee's proceedings and his earnest desire to do all in his power to carry into execution the promise of the St. Louis convention to secure international bimetallism, if possible.

It was announced after the close of the conference to-day that the committee would press for early consideration of its bill with the hope of securing all the legislation needed at this session—so that Mr. McKinley could take whatever steps he might deem proper to carry it into effect immediately upon entering upon his duties as President. It was intimated that he was anxious to have a conference next spring, and have it under way by the time the tariff bill should be up for consideration. It was also stated by members of the committee that they were very hopeful of securing a conference, and also that they were "by no means hopeless as to the result" of such a conference when once secured.

All members of the committee were present at the conference except Senator Hoar.

IVORY'S COUNSEL

Sends a Queer Letter to the Irish National League President.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—William Lyman, president of the Irish National Alliance, has received a long letter, purporting to come from Charles Russell, of the firm of Russell and Day, solicitors for Ivory, the alleged dynamiter. The letter sets forth that in the opinion of the counsel, Carson and Taylor, and in their opinion also, it would be better for the accused to plead guilty, as he undoubtedly would be convicted, and his sentence would be heavier.

It was stated that Ivory would act only on Lyman's advice or consent. Mr. Lyman says he cannot understand why such a communication should have been sent to him; that he knows very little about Ivory, and is anxious to aid him only because he believes him to be absolutely innocent of the charge brought against him, and, as a true Irishman, he would not undertake to advise a man about something of which he had no knowledge. Lyman further states that counsel and witnesses from this side would be on hand for the trial.

Peculiar Case.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—An autopsy upon the body of David Blakely, managing editor of the St. Paul Globe, once city editor of the St. Paul Pioneer Press, and late manager of Sousa's Band, was held to-day in the presence of representatives of Mrs. Blakely and the insurance companies who had issued policies to Mr. Blakely. Mr. Blakely died on November 7, and the dispute which led to the autopsy is over the question whether death was the result of an accident sustained some time before, or was due to natural causes. Coroner Tuthill said after the autopsy that the body was so badly decomposed that it would be at least six weeks before the exact cause of Mr. Blakely's death could be definitely determined.

Family Asphyxiated.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—A family of four persons were asphyxiated at their home in the northern portion of this city to-day.

John Lichtenberg, a cabinetmaker, his wife Lizzie, and their two children, Willis, twenty-two months old, and Jacob twelve weeks old, camprised the family. When Lichtenberg was missed to-day a messenger was sent to his rooms. There the two children were found dead and the parents unconscious.

The physicians who were called decided that asphyxiation was the cause and that Mrs. Lichtenberg probably would die. The origin of the noxious gas, however, has not been discovered. There is nothing to indicate that anything but an accident caused the mischief.

Result of Carelessness.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 30.—A shifter and two cars jumped the trestle in the Baltimore & Ohio yards at Tenth street and Second avenue to-night. George Smith, a brakeman, supposed to be from Hogansburg, N. Y., was horribly mashed and was taken from the wreck dead. James Fresh, another brakeman, had his back broken and will die. The accident was the result of a misplaced or carelessly connected switch.

Mrs. Dr. Fitch Dead.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

FAIRMONT, W. Va., Dec. 30.—Mrs. Sallie L. Fitch, wife of Dr. Dorsey P. Fitch, of this place, died this morning, after a lingering illness, of consumption. She was the daughter of M. W. Raymond, of this place. She was about thirty-two years of age and left two interesting children, a son and a daughter. The funeral services will be held on Friday morning.

Patents to West Virginians.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 30.—Patents granted: Raymond and A. L. Bauer, Wheeling, rotary engine; Ora A. Maple, Stathers Run, puzzle; John W. Woodruff, Wise, non-re-fillable bottle.

New Postoffice.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 30.—A postoffice has been established at Mulvane, Fayette county, and James J. Wood appointed postmaster.

DASTARDLY DEED.

Train Wreckers in South Carolina Commit a Horrible Crime.

RALEIGH, N. C., Dec. 30.—A wreck occurred on the Raleigh & Augusta division of the Seaboard Air Line, one and a half miles west of Raleigh at 12:30 o'clock this morning. A displaced rail which had, without question, been removed but a few minutes before by professional train wreckers precipitated a freight train into a deep cut, totally wrecking ten loaded cars and the locomotive, killing the fireman, Alexander Overby, and seriously wounding the engineer, John Robertson.

The evident intention of the wreckers was to watch the Seaboard Air Line Atlanta special, which was due about that time, but being one hour and twenty minutes late the extra freight was running on the Atlanta's special time. Had this train been on time the loss of life probably would have been horrible. The wreckers left a crow bar and other tools with which they drew the spikes and displaced the rail.

Bloodhounds are being used to locate the wreckers.

POLICEMEN SHOT

While Trying to Quell a Riot Among Italians.

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., Dec. 30.—A desperate riot occurred at Johnsonburg early this morning, which resulted in the fatal shooting of William Bergin, and the serious injury of James McMinn, Charles Glover, Charles Wrathall and several others, members of the police force.

The trouble was begun by a gang of Italians, who became involved in a fight, using knives, revolvers and clubs. The police were sent for, but the rioters, headed by Tom Marone, met them and a fierce battle followed. Marone shot at Chief of Police Walsh, but the bullet struck Bergin in the head. The police closed in and the Italian thrust the weapon against Walsh's breast and fired. A defective cartridge saved the policeman's life, and Marone was knocked down and secured. The other policemen's injuries were inflicted by knives and their clothing cut to pieces. Marone carried a pistol and three knives.

FIREMEN INJURED

At a Blaze in the Wholesale District in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 31.—During a fire at No. 9 Strawberry Court, in the heart of the wholesale section about 1 o'clock this morning, four firemen were injured by the breaking of a ladder. One of them, John Dever, will probably die. The damage to the building was small.

A Fiend Identified.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 30.—Three weeks ago last Sunday night Eddie Grace, ten years old, was killed by eating poisoned candy given to him by a man while he and his sisters were playing on the street. To-night David White, a prisoner in jail for writing improper letters to sundry people, was positively identified by Mr. and Mrs. Amzi Miller as the man whom they saw give the little victim the fatal candy. They are positive of the identity of the man.

The Leonard Counterfeiters.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Three other persons who have been in custody since December 19, are said to have been members of the Leonard counterfeiting gang. They are: William Warren, alias James Morton, his wife, Maggie Warren and Stephen Hudson. It is alleged that these latter were engaged principally in passing the bogus coins upon peddlers and small shop-keepers of the east side. Mrs. Warren is said to have given the officer information which helped to fix the counterfeiting upon Leonard.

Murder and Suicide.

HOLDREDGE, Neb., Dec. 30.—Mrs. D. N. Conrad, a teacher in the public school here was shot by her husband this morning. After shooting his wife twice Conrad turned the revolver on his own head. The trouble arose over their little boy, whom Mrs. Conrad wished to take to Fremont on a visit and Conrad wanted to keep him here. Conrad's wounds are not considered fatal, but Mrs. Conrad is not expected to live, having a bullet near the arteries of the neck.

Shrewd Swindler Arrested.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Alonzo W. Thornton, accused of swindling by means of drafts on banks in which he had no deposits, is under arrest here. It is alleged that his operations were based upon connections which he claimed to have with the advertising departments of a number of newspapers. The prisoner, it is charged, represented to one of his victims that he was interested with vice president-elect Garret A. Hobart, in an advertising venture.

Big Bank Robbery.

DES MOINES, Iowa, Dec. 30.—At Sully, Iowa, a small town near Newton, robbers looted the state bank last night. The bank was incorporated in 1891 with $5,000 capital. The deposits were about $17,000. A. Smith is president and L. A. Sherman cashier. Details of the robbery are hard to obtain because the town has no telegraph connections. It is reported the robbers entered the bank, blew open the safe and carried away an amount of cash estimated at from $5,000 to $20,000.

Officers' Terrible Mistake.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Dec. 30.—Officers Sexton and Brown, of this city, were today indicted at Salem, Ind., on the charge of wilful murder, in the killing yesterday of young John Rippey, whom they mistook for a criminal named Brooks, on whose trail they were. The officers were refused bail, and owing to the intense excitement at Salem were taken to New Albany for safe keeping.

Fire at Defiance.

DEFIANCE, O., Dec. 30.—The dry goods store of C. W. Shoemaker was destroyed by fire to-night. The fire started on the third floor of the building and the cause is unknown. Loss on stock is estimated at $15,000; insurance, $32,000. The loss on the building is about $20,000; insurance $5,000. The building belonged to M. Wertheimer.

Two Women Killed.

READING, Pa., Dec. 30.—Two women were killed by an explosion of dynamite in the house of Elias Eckker, ex-sheriff of this county, at Tuckerton to-night. They were his wife, aged fifty-four years, and her stepdaughter, Mrs. William Seidel, aged thirty. Both were terribly mangled.

Captain Parker Dead.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Captain William H. Parker, of Richmond, Va., died here to-day of apoplexy. Captain Parker was formerly president of the Maryland Agricultural College, and before the war he was professor of astronomy at Annapolis.

An Old Timer Dead.

BOSTON, Dec. 30.—David S. Birdsall, an old-time professional ball player, ager fifty-six years, died here to-day from results of an operation performed a year ago.

WEYLER WORRIED

Report that He Has Received a Warning From Madrid.

MUST DO SOMETHING OR QUIT

In Disgrace—Instead of Cleaning Up the Pinar del Rio Section, as Expected, He is at Far as Ever From Accomplishing It. Unable to Secure Tidings of Rivera. The Case of the Dauntless Causes Jubilation at the Headquarters of the Junta.

KEY WEST, Fla., Dec. 30.—Reports from Artemisa are that Weyler has found it necessary to intrench some of his advanced positions and to build one or two block houses to keep the command of the military road from Artemisa to San Christobel. The insurgents have driven back two of his detachments from the foothills.

Weyler is unable to secure tidings of the movements of General Rivera, and it is reported that he is somewhat worried over the situation. Instead of cleaning the Pinar del Rio section in one month, he is as far from accomplishing it as when he first arrived in Artemisa. Several communications have come to the palace at Havana from Madrid and it is reported that Weyler is told in plain language that he must do something very soon or be recalled.

Information received late to-night is to the effect that the steamer Three Friends was obliged to leave the Cuban coast as it was getting ready to land its cargo. The steamer headed for the Florida coast and having but a few tons of coal on board it landed the men on a key near to Key West, afterward putting in at that port, where it was seized.

The Dauntless has now gone to take the men and munitions of war off the key and will make an effort to land them in Cuba. Before the return of the Dauntless it will also endeavor to land another expedition.

PRESIDENT PALMA

Thinks the Dauntless Case Furnishes an Important Precedent.

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—Tomaso Estrada Palma, president of the Cuban junta, said to-day after reading the order of the secretary of the treasury relative to the Dauntless clearance:

"This is a victory for us so far as it allows the boat to leave port. We have forced the authorities at Washington to give us clearance papers, although some time ago they declared that such boats as the Dauntless could not get them except under stringent restrictions. This is a step forward.

"If a vessel clears for a certain port she has to give a reasonable excuse if she does not deliver her cargo at that point. But stress of weather, you know, or some other accident might compel her to throw her cargo overboard or deliver it somewhere else.

"We in New York know nothing of the Dauntless case. We hope it will result in a proper construction of the law which is now vague and difficult to understand. Even the authorities at Washington are all at sea regarding it, and it will be a good thing that we have got a ruling."

SENATOR GALLINGER

Says the President Could be Impeached if He Refuse to Obey Congress.

BOSTON, Dec. 30.—A special to the Journal from Concord, N. H., says:

Senator Gallinger said to-day he had no doubt that the Cameron Cuban resolutions would pass the senate before March 4.

"If the Cameron resolutions should pass Congress over a Presidential veto," said the senator, "and the President should then refuse to act upon them, he would subject himself to impeachment. There might be some questions whether the house of representatives, which alone has the power to present articles of impeachment, would vote to do so, but there is no question at all whether the President would be liable to impeachment in such an event."

Senator Gallinger was equally confident that a tariff bill would be passed at the extra session.

Feeling Against Weyler.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—The Madrid correspondent of the Standard says:

"There is much animation in political and military circles where tide is setting against Captain General Weyler, who, it is expected, will be speedily recalled unless he gains striking successes.

"Dr. Rizal was shot at Manilla today in the presence of an immense crowd. General Pelavieja absented himself during the execution. Dr. Rizal reconciled himself with the church of Rome and begged hard to be allowed to take part in a civil marriage with his Canadian mistress before he died. His request, however, was refused, as well as the petition of his relatives to be allowed to take charge of his body, lest the funeral should be made a pretext for a demonstration."

Gen. Bosch's Expedition.

HAVANA, Dec. 30.—Dispatches received to-day from General Bosch, dated December 25, say that he arrived safely on that date at Bayamo, province of Santiago de Cuba, with a convoy of provisions, etc., loaded on one hundred ox carts and one hundred mules.

After leaving Veguita the convoy experienced stormy weather on the road and had several skirmishes with the insurgents, who, however, would not accept any real engagement with the Spanish troops.

Similar Case to Dauntless.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 30.—Late this afternoon the collector of customs at Jacksonville wired the secretary of the treasury that the steamer Commodore had applied for clearance upon practically the same statement of facts as in the case of the Dauntless. In response the secretary wired permission to issue papers to the Commodore in substantially the same terms as were issued in the former case. Up to the hour of closing the department no information had been received as to the movements of either vessel or whether the conditions imposed had been accepted.

Weather Forecast for To-day.

For West Virginia, partly cloudy weather Thursday; slight changes in temperature; variable winds.

For Western Pennsylvania and Ohio, generally cloudy, probably local showers in northern portion; colder in northern portion; fresh and brisk westerly winds, shifting to southerly in Ohio.

Local Temperature.

The temperature yesterday as observed by C. Schnepf, druggist, corner Fourteenth and Market streets, was as follows:

7 a. m.	43	3 p. m.	51
9 a. m.	46	7 p. m.	50
12 m.	49	Weather—Cloudy.	