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FIRE IN CAPITOL.

Supreme Court Room Wrecked by Explosion of Gas.

ENORMOUS DAMAGE IS DONE

By the Fire Which Followed—The Entire Central Eastern Part of the Great Marbel Pile from the Main Floor to the Subterranean Basement Practically a Mass of Ruins—Tremendous Force of the Explosion—Loss of the Records of the Supreme Court Irreparable—Law Reference Books Practically Destroyed by Smoke and Water—Cause of the Disaster due to Escaping Gas.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 6.—An explosion and fire at 5:13 this afternoon wrecked the supreme court room and the rooms immmediately adjoining it on the main floor of the capitol. The damage is enormous. The entire central eastern part of the great marble pile from the main floor to the subterranean basement practically is a mass of ruins. The force of the explosion was so heavy that the coping stones on the outer walls, just east of the point where the explosion occurred were bulged out nearly two inches; windows in all that part of the building were blown out; and locked doors were forced from their hinges quite a hundred and fifty feet from the scene of it.

Fire followed the explosion so quickly as to seem practically simultaneous with it. The explosion shook the immense structure to its foundations and was heard several squares from the capitol. It occurred in a small room tightly enclosed by heavy stone walls in the subterranean basement immediately below the main entrance to the old capitol building. In this room was a 500 light gas meter which was fed by a four inch main. Very little gas is used in that part of the building, but at the time of the explosion the gas had not been turned off at the meter. The meter itself was wrecked and the gas pouring from the main caught fire. The flames originating from the explosion darted up the shaft of the elevator which had been completely destroyed by the force of the explosion and communicated with the record room of the supreme court, the office of the marshal of the court and the supreme court library.

Documents and Books Destroyed.

Before the flames could be subdued the priceless documents in the record room had been almost totally destroyed and serious damage had been done in the marshal's office and some minor rooms in the immediate vicinity.

The library of the supreme court, located immediately beneath the supreme court room was badly damaged by fire, smoke and water, water practically destroying the great collection of law reference books. The library contains about 20,000 volumes and was used not only by the justices of the supreme court but by members of Congress and lawyers practicing before the supreme court. Mr. Justice Harlan said to-night that the library was very valuable. Many of the works it contained would, he thought, be difficult to replace. Librarian Clarke, after a cursory examination necessarily made by the light of the lanterns, expressed the opinion that many of the books could be saved, although they had been drenched by water from the streams poured into the library for two hours or more after the explosion occurred.

The most serious damage, in the opinion of the justices of the supreme court, is to the records stored in the sub-basement. These included all of the records of the supreme court from 1792 to 1832. The room contains records of cases and opinions rendered by the fathers of the judiciary of the government. Apparently the documents in this room are either totally destroyed or so badly damaged by fire and water as to be useless.

Irreparable Loss.

Justice Harlan said that while the loss of the records was irreparable, it was fortunate that the later records of the court which are kept in the office of the clerk on the main floor, were not injured. As documents for reference at this time and later Justice Harlan thought these were of far greater value than the records destroyed. Fortunately the clerk's office was not in the least damaged by fire and the explosion did no damage in it, except to blow out one window. The supreme court room was damaged principally by water and smoke the fire not reaching that point. Adjoining the court room, however, both the marshal's office and the senate barber shop furnished food for the flames.

While many theories are offered as to the cause of the explosion, it seems beyond doubt to have been due to escaping gas. At seven minutes after 5 o'clock, Lieutenant Nelson, of the capitol police, detected an odor of gas in the corridor adjoining the supreme court room. Not being able to locate it he proceeded to statuary hall, the old hall of the house of representatives—thinking the gas might be escaping from a burner in that vicinity.

Explosion of Gas.

While he was endeavoring to locate the escape of the gas the explosion occurred. Only a few persons, principally officers of the capitol police, were in the building at the time, but several of them had narrow escapes. Before the fire department, which responded to an alarm sent in by a policeman, three squares from the capitol, had arrived, C. P. Gilem, chief electrician of the capitol, and H. W. Taylor, chief engineer of the house side, had a stream playing into the supreme court record room, which by that time was a roaring furnace. Within a few minutes after the arrival of the fire department, flames were under control, although as a precautionary measure streams were poured into the marshal's office, the library and the subterranean basement for two hours.

No intelligent estimate of the money loss by the explosion and fire get can be made. In the opinion of capitol officials and mechanics who examined the structure to-night, the loss will reach probably $200,000 to the building. The loss on the library and records as stated above, can be scarcely estimated in dollars and cents.

Arrangements were completed to-night by Librarian Clarke, of the supreme court, and Colonel Richard Bright, sergeant-at-arms of the senate, by which the sittings of the supreme court will not be interrupted.

Gift to Catholic University.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 6.—The Catholic University of America, through its rector, the Right Rev. Thomas J. Conaty, D. D., was the recipient on Saturday of a gift of $10,000 for the establishment of a fellowship in the faculty of divinity. The donors are Mary Gwendoline Byrd Caldwell, Marquise de Merinville and her sister, Mary Eliza Breckinridge Caldwell, Baroness Von Zedtwitz. The Baroness Zedtwitz, who is in Paris, cabled to her sister in Washington her desire to unite with her in the establishment of this fellowship, which is in perpetual memory of their deceased parents and is independent of the scholarship founded a few days before by the Marquise de Merinville.

SENATORIAL SITUATION.

The Bearing of the Coming Elections on the United States Senate.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 6.—The control of the United States senate will be determined very largely by the result of the elections next Tuesday, when twenty-three states elect legislatures, which will in turn elect senators. The present party strength in the senate is as follows: Republicans, 43; Democrats, 34; Populists, 6; Silver Republicans, 6.

This gives a majority to no one party and it has proved a fruitful source of doubt in legislation influenced by party lines.

The terms of thirty of the present senators are about to expire, and in most of these cases, the legislatures chosen next Tuesday will elect successors. In seven cases, the legislatures chosen next Tuesday will elect successors. In seven cases, however, legislators already have been chosen and senators elected, viz.: Aldrich, of Rhode Island; Daniel, of Virginia; McComas to succeed Gorman in Maryland; Hanna, of Ohio; Money, of Mississippi; Proctor, of Vermont, and the legislature of Maine, which has been elected, but has not yet chosen a senator. In Oregon also, Simon has been elected to fill a vacancy. These changes, already made, give a net gain of two in the Republican vote, McComas, of Maryland, and Simon, of Oregon. The remaining twenty-three senators are yet to be chosen. Those who are about to retire are: Allen, Populist, of Nebraska; Bate, Democrat, of Tennessee; Burrows, Republican, of Michigan; Cannon, Silver Republican, of Utah; Clark, Republican, of Wyoming; Cockrell, Democrat, of Missouri; Davis, Republican, of Minnesota; Faulkner, Democrat, of West Virginia; Gray, Democrat, of Delaware; Hawley, Republican, of Connecticut; Lodge, Republican, of Massachusetts; Mantle, Silver Republican, of Montana; Mills, Democrat, of Texas, Mitchell, Democrat, of Wisconsin; Murphy, Democrat, of New York; Pasco, Democrat, of Florida; Quay, Republican, of Pennsylvania, Roach, Democrat, of North Dakota; Smith, Democrat, of New Jersey; Stewart, Silver Republican, of Nevada; Turpie, Democrat, of Indiana; White, Democrat, of California, and Wilson, Republican, of Washington.

In several of these cases the election of the present incumbents is expected, but in quite a large number of them much doubt exists. The Republican managers are placing reliance on the fact that they need only a few votes to assure them a clear majority, while the Democrats, Populists and Silver Republicans would have to carry most all of the doubtful legislatures in order to prevent a Republican majority. The states considered most in doubt are West Virginia, New York, Pennsylvania, North Dakota, New Jersey, Indiana, California, Washington and Nebraska, conflicting claims being made in each case. Among senate officials the opinion prevails that the anomolous condition now prevailing of a senate without a majority will end with the coming election and that the legislatures then chosen will give assurance of majority rule in the upper branch of Congress after March 4 next.

IRONY OF FATE.

The Cruiser Maria Teresa Sunk in a Storm—Crew Rescued.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Nov. 6.—The ocean tug Merritt put into Charleston yesterday morning and reported the loss of the cruiser Infanta Maria Teresa, raised by Constructor Hobson, recently, off San Salvador, Bahama, at midnight, November 1, in the midst of a furious storm. Her crew was rescued.

The cruiser left Caimanera, Cuba, on the morning of October 30, in tow for New York. She had already passed Cape Maysi, and started northeast around the Bahamas, when the storm, warning of which had already been sent out, overtook her thirty miles off Walling island at noon Tuesday. After six hours' battling the vessel began to strain in the high seas. Parts of the hull thought to be safe became weakened, the rivets broke and the water made rapidly in the hold. The boilers began to give way, and finally the water extinguished the fires in the engine room. The pumps would not work. The whole vessel showed signs of a collapse, and the men stood stripped, awaiting orders to quit the ship.

The Vulcan was towing the Teresa, while the Merritt rescued 114 of the crew, made up of volunteers from the Cincinnati, Newark and Vulcan. The ropes were then cut, and the Teresa rapidly filled. The Vulcan and Leonidas deserted the Merritt, which put into Charleston with the rescued Captain Crittenden and Captain Lacade, of the Merritt, had his arms sprained. The crew left this afternoon for Norfolk.

NEWPORT NEWS, Va., Nov. 6.—The repair ship Vulcan arrived in Hampton Roads late last night. She started from Santiago with the Maria Teresa, together with the tugs Merritt and Leonidas. The night the Teresa went down she lost track of the two tugs and after a fruitless search for them started for Hampton Roads. The men on the Vulcan were gratified to learn that the Merritt had arrived at Charleston, as they feared that she had been lost.

Great Democratic Fizzle.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 6.—It is related here upon apparently the best of authority, that the Democratic managers at Hinton went to the Chesapeake & Ohio officials to charter a special train with capacity of carrying at least one thousand people to a contemplated meeting at the place named. Senator Daniel and Representative Bailey, he of the coal black hair and great expectations, were billed to speak there.

The railroad company, fearful of the results, demanded a guarantee, which, after some demur, was given. The train was run and it carried just twenty-six persons to the Daniel-Bailey rally.

Rev. Compton will Remain.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

CHARLESTON, W.Va., Nov. 6.—Rev. M. F. Compton announced in his pulpit here to-day, that he would remain as pastor of the State Street M. E. church. Last night he received a telegram stating that he had been re-transferred to the West Virginia conference, and no further change would be made. Bishop Fowler had ordered Rev. Compton to return to his old charge at St. John's church in New York. Both Rev. Compton and the congregation were very much worked up over the matter, the pastor saying this morning that he did not believe in such child's play.

ON EVE OF BATTLE.

Important Elections in Many States To-morrow

LEGISLATURES TO BE CHOSEN

That will Select Successors to a Number of Senators whose Terms Expire—Situation in the Neighboring States of Ohio and Pennsylvania—A Gain of two Congressmen Expected in the Former State—The Fight Against Blackburn — Chairman Elkin Predicts Stone's Election in the Keystone State by a Large Plurality.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Nov. 6.—The campaign ending with the election of Tuesday has been one of the most remarkable in the history of Ohio. Never before were the Republicans so well organized as Chairman Daugherty and Secretary McElroy have them this time, but never was there more uncertainty as to just what the Democrats have been doing during the campaign. Theirs has been a gum shoe campaign throughout, but that there will be a Republican victory goes without saying. The Republican plurality is placed by the political prognosticators at all the way from 8,000 up to 50,000, though the careful ones are claiming it will hover around the 25,000 mark. The popular figure, however, is 40,000.

There are five state tickets in the field, as follows: Republican, headed by Hon. Charles Kinney, of Scioto county, for secretary of state; Democratic, headed by Upton K. Guthery, of Marion county; Union Reform, headed by James A. Graft, of Cincinnati; Prohibition, headed by Thomas Brown, of Muskingum; Socialist Labor, headed by John F. Flynn, of Stark county. Mr. Kinney, the Republican standard bearer, has already served one term very acceptably, and will be re-elected without doubt. In fact, there is no longer any fight being made against him, the Democratic efforts being now all turned against Hon. Joseph E. Blackburn, of Belmont county, the candidate for re-election as state dairy and food commissioner. His duties are such that certain manufacturers of food and drugs are naturally turned against him. Their opposition has encouraged the Democracy to concentrate the fight on him. But the whole Republican ticket will be elected without doubt, from top to bottom. Chairman Daugherty and Secretary McElroy have been very ably assisted in the campaign by Assistant Secretary Martin Cowen, of Belmont county, who has had charge of the interests of Commissioner Blackburn in the fight that is being made on him.

But the chief interest centers in the congressional elections. The people of the state hardly appreciate the fact that this is a matter that is attracting national attention, but the officials at Republican state headquarters have been made to understand it by the congressional committee at Washington. Of the present twenty-one members of Congress from this state, six are Democrats and the remaining fifteen are Republicans. Undoubtedly the Republicans will re-elect their candidates in all of these fifteen districts, and they have strong hopes of gaining two.

PENNSYLVANIA PREDICTIONS.

Chairman Elkin Claims the State for Stone by 131,000 Plurality.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Nov. 6.—Republican State Chairman Elkin, before leaving for his home on Saturday night, prepared for publication an estimate by counties, giving his view of the vote for the three candidates for governor. Mr. Elkin claims the election of William A. Stone by a plurality of 131,000 over Jenks, in a total estimated vote of 950,000. He allows Swallow a total of only 149,760 votes and claims that the latter who carried ten counties in his contest for the state treasurership last year, will not have a plurality in any county. Mr. Elkin concedes that Jenks will carry twenty of the sixty-seven counties and acknowledges a stand-off in three others.

He claims that the legislature will be largely Republican in both branches and predicts the failure of the fusion movement

The following is the chairman's official statement: "I congratulate the Republicans of Pennsylvania on the splendid fight they have made in the contest about to close. The work of the state committee is ended and it remains for the county and local organizations to see that the vote is polled. Our organization is in good condition throughout the entire state and I have no doubt that the full Republican vote will be polled.

"In order to make an intelligent estimate of the vote for the gubernatorial candidates, I asked the chairmen of the various county committees to forward me a conservative estimate of the vote for governor in their respective counties. In addition to this I have received estimates from the members of the state committee in each county."

"As election day approaches the business and laboring men of the state hesitate to cast a ballot that will renew the agitation for free trade, free silver and Bryanism. A great number of people who had been friendly disposed towards Dr. Swallow have concluded that they do not care either directly or indirectly to aid in the election of a Democratic governor whose success would be heralded throughout the nation as a victory for the free silver heresy. If the great states of New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania should elect Democratic governors this year the result would certainly be followed by the election of a Democratic president in 1900. This fact alone has been sufficient to make every thinking Republican stop and consider before he casts a ballot that will in any way impede the progress of the administration of President McKinley.

"Our reports from every part of the state grow more encouraging each day and I confidently expect that the plurality indicated by the above figures will be materially increased next Tuesday. This will certainly be the case if the Republicans turn out and do their whole duty at the polls.

"An earnest and aggressive fight had been waged in all of the congressional districts of the state and while we do not expect that the next delegation to Congress will contain as few Democratic members as the present one, yet we believe a good showing will be made by the Republicans throughout the state on this issue. It is the earnest desire of the Republican organization that Republican congressmen should be returned from every district in the state, if that were possible. It is of the greatest importance that the administraion of President McKinley should be supported by congressmen of his own political faith at the next session.

"The next legislature will be largely Republican in both branches. The fusion movement inaugurated for the purpose of defeating Republican candidates in many counties of the state will very generally fail of success. The fight has been bitterly waged, but the Republicans can go to the polls on Tuesday feeling that the old party will be successful in Pennsylvania, as it ought to be.

(Signed.) "JOHN P. ELKIN,
"Chairman."

Claims Jenks' Election.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Nov. 6.—Chairman Garman in an interview said to-night:

"I estimate that 1,000,000 votes will be cast, divided about as follows: Jenks, 430,000; Stone, 395,000; Swallow, 175,000, which will leave Jenks at least 35,000 plurality. I do not care to give figures as to counties, but our whole effort has been to have cast for Jenks as many votes as we cast for Bryan in 1896, which was 422,000, and my advices indicate that we will exceed that figure. The Palmer Democrats and those who voted for McKinley who now intend to vote for Jenks, will more than offset any Democratic defection to Swallow. The Democratic vote will be out, rain or shine, and therefore I confidently expect Jenks to be elected.

"Any increase in the vote over one million will increase Jenks' plurality, and any decrease of Swallow's vote below 175,000 will also increase Jenks' plurality so that he may have anywhere from 35,000 to 60,000 plurality."

Swallows Claims.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Nov. 6.—The following statement was issued to-night by Dr. Swallow's adherents:

The honest government party congratulates the people of Pennsylvania upon the auspicious omens of the campaign. When the Swallow standard was first unfurled it was with far less confidence than present conditions justify. The enthusiasm with which the people have responded to our appeals, justifies the belief that the death knell of Quayism will be sounded Tuesday. Our accounts from all sections of the state show that the people are aroused and that neither co-operation of the Quay-Elkin and Garman-Guffey machines nor the false statements and misleading assertions of those who are dependent on them for patronage and support can deceive the voters.

The choice is between Stone and Swallow. Upon one side is corruption, fraud and dishonor, on the other is integrity, truth and honor. When the truth is so clear can it be doubted for a moment who the voters should support? Let no one harbor a doubt of the election of Silas C. Swallow.

PURE EFFRONTERY.

A Circular Letter Against Dayton by a Disappointed Office Seeker.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 6.—A copy of a circular letter, which is being circulated in the interest of John T. McGraw, against Mr. Dayton, has reached Washington. For pure effrontery, not to say shameless audacity, this circular takes the lead. John R. Purinton, of Independence, is the agent in this case. He acknowledges that his object in first approaching Mr. Dayton was to get an office. After copying a most cordial response from Dayton to the appeal for appointment in the census office, when it shall be established, Purinton publishes copies of correspondence, in which he is shown to have demanded and received pay for work in the campaign in behalf of his own party candidates, and then, because, forsooth, the census office appointments are not to be made right away—a fact he must have known when he asked for favor—he unblushingly advertises his own participation in a scheme to defeat Mr. Dayton. His efforts to elect Mr. McGraw will doubtless get him the favor of the Democrats, for the time being, but the natural query is "What does he make in the transaction?"

Active Campaign in New Jersey.

TRENTON, N. J., Nov. 6.—One of the most active political campaigns conducted in New Jersey for some years past is closed. Foster M. Voorhees and Elvin W. Crane, the Republican and Democratic candidates for governor, made speaking tours of the state. Mr. Voorhees was accompanied most of the time by Congressman Charles N. Fowler and Mr. Crane by ex-Assistant Secretary of the Navy William McAdoo. The issues discussed were largely of state concern. Much attention was paid on both sides to the labor vote, and the Democrats attacked Secretary Alger's management of the war department.

Besides the governor there will be elected in the state eight congressmen; eight members of the state senate; a full house of assembly and minor county officers. The legislature in joint session will have the selection of a successor to United States Senator James Smith, Democrat, and this is playing as important a part in the campaign as the governorship.

END OF AN ORGY.

A Young Woman Found Dead in a Bath-Tub.

CINCINNATI, O., Nov. 6.—At 6 o'clock this morning Frank H. Woodrow, a prominent stationer, hurriedly summoned Dr. F. Brunning, to Flat No. 7 in the Alta building, at Fourth and Sycamore streets. The doctor was shown the dead body of a woman in a bathtub full of water. Dr. Brunning said it was a case of drowning. Mr. Woodrow, in whose flat it occurred, notified the coroner.

It has been ascertained that the girl's name was Nannie Eversligh, formerly of Ironton, Ohio. She and Mrs. Josie Gerold, a widow, came there together last night. They became companions for the night of Boyd Wessel and Frank H. Wood respectively. Miss Eversligh and Body Wessel had been living together at 132 West Seventh street for a year under the name of Boyd Garfield and Nannie Garfield. Mrs. Gerold is well connected here. It was intended to be a secret meeting in Mr. Woodrow's flat, with no thought of tragedy or exposure. Boyd Wessel is the son of a highly respected business man in this city, and Mr. Woodrow's family connections are of the highest respectability. None of the three survivors of last night's orgies can or will give any account of Miss Eversligh's leaving the bed and going to the bath room.

Mr. Woodrow made the discovery when he went to take his morning bath. All this all three of the parties admit. The police believe much of the night was spent in drinking wine and that few if any of the four were in a condition to know what they were doing. Both young men are under parole arrest and surveillance, pending an examination to ascertain the cause of the bruise on the dead girl's temple. None of the survivors have made any attempt to conceal the facts or to escape, though they left no stone unturned to prevent publicity. The present opinion is that it is a case of suicide or accidental drowning.

THE INTERREGNUM

In Cuba as Viewed by a Promi- Havana Merchant

DEPLORABLE STATE OF AFFAIRS

If his Statements are True—Thinks the United States Government is Dallying Too Long with Spain Over the Evacuation Question—Accusation Against the Commissions Sent to the Island by This Government—A Spirit of Impatience Manifested with the Conduct of the Commissioners.

HAVANA, Via KEY WEST, Nov. 6.—The interregnum between Spain's virtual loss of sovereignty in Cuba and the assumption of full military control by the United States seems indefinitely prolonged, with no immediate hope of relief to a country which daily grows poorer and more depopulated. On all sides the question is asked, how much nearer is the final solution of the problem than it was on the day the protocol was signed?

The feeling among the better class of intelligent and influential Cubans may be pretty accurately summed up in the following observations made to-day by a representative Cuban merchant of Havana to the correspondent of the Associated Press:

"It seems to me—and I think my views are shared by many—that the United States government is dilly-dallying too long with Spain over this evacuation question. Of course, the problem is a difficult one, but the delay is surely unnecessary. The United States has sent here an assortment of commissions, each more self-important and mysterious than its predecessor and each veiling it operations with a cloud of secrecy, which, so far as my own experience goes, really serves the purpose of obscuring issues and concealing very small achievements.

"Almost nothing has been accomplished. The spirit of jealousy fills not only the individual members of all the commissions, but also exists between the different commissions collectively. These rivalries seem to engross the attention of commissioners much more than the serious questions affecting the welfare of Cuba and the dignity and good faith of the United States.

Delay in Evacuation.

"First, we were told that the date of occupation by the United States troops would be November 1, then December 1 was fixed upon, and later we were informed that the date for occupation would be left indefinite. So far as evacuation is concerned, January 1 was named as an ultimate date; but now it is rumored that February 1 has been agreed upon. The fact is, the country at large, whether Cuban, foreign or Spanish, is getting disgusted. The people are losing faith and confidence, owing to the lack of formality displayed by the American representatives. To all questions asking information on these points, the American commissioners, with a superior smile and an assumption of gravity to cover their ignorance, reply vaguely and unsatisfactorily.

Unless the Washington government forces its lethargic commissions into greater activity, Cuba will be an immense graveyard and its fields barren before the United States takes possession. The daily records of mortality show that the population in all parts of the island is dwindling steadily. Entire villages are dying of starvation. On all sides the Spaniards continue robbing and plundering. In the meantime these sage, gossipping commissioners from the United States sit sipping cool drinks by day and seeking shelter by night with mortal dread of fever, yet absolutely impervious to the demands of humanity.

Present Situation.

"The situation created by this uncertainty is still further aggravated by the fact that no one dares sow crops or cultivate lands until the present chaotic conditions show some rays of light to guide agricultural efforts. There is no work for idle hands. Day by day the number of beggars, thieves and prostitutes increases, while the number of those able to relieve distress shrinks in the same proportion. Thus far the United States has sent in the name of humanity a mere pittance of a million rations and the Red Cross Society has sent two cargoes of supplies, as to whose distribution and disposal there have been many unfavorable comments. How far can such relief be expected to go?

"The present conditions cannot be much longer protracted without subjecting the United States to well deserved criticism. More than this, the elements most in sympathy with the United States are slowly but surely falling off and joining the ranks of the opposition. As you are aware, Senor De Castro, the civil governor, only yesterday, issued orders for the arrest of 263 criminals, recently released from jails and the penal colonies at Ceuta and on the Isle of Pines. This step was rendered necessary by the increase, the alarming increase in burglaries, highway robberies and assaults. While the blockade was on the city was ruled with an iron hand, and cases of assault and robbery were almost unknown. To-day, with the release of criminals and the increase of poverty, the list of murders and hold-ups is a very grave matter. In addition to the already numerous paupers and unemployed, driven to beg from sheer necessity there are many discharged Spanish soldiers entirely without means of support. Their number reaches into the thousands. Many boys and young girls of genteel extraction have been thrown on the streets to begin their lives as beggars or thieves, and to bring up in jails and houses of ill-fame. Do the people the of the United States realize these things? Does the government of the United States, morally responsible before the world for the future of Cuba, intend to tolerate indefinitely a delay which day by day makes these bad conditions worse?"

LETTER FROM GOMEZ

In Which he Expresses Full Confidence in the United States.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 6.—Following is an extract from a letter received by Senor Quesada from General Gomez, written October 20:

"I have full confidence in the solemn promises made by the Congress of Washington and for that reason I do not have any fear as to the independence of Cuba. Some time must elapse before our ideal will be realised; but after so many struggles and privations we can wait a little longer.

The military occupation by the United States is to a certain extent necessary to prepare and hurry the evacuation of the Spanish and to bring about harmony among the different factors in Cuban politics.

"During this military occupation the republican government will be organised. Its decisions will be finally accepted by all; order will reign everywhere.

"Those who speak now of annexation try to satisfy, above all, their spite propagating unfounded fears as to personal security and private property.

"The final success of our struggle has required necessary destruction of property which the enemy used to its advantage, but we have never attacked individuals.

"The struggle against Spain is now ended; we commence now a more delicate and difficult task—namely, to make our republican political system triumph and to reconstruct the country.

"It is not an easy labor and all men who love their country should contribute to it; for that reason I cannot retire now, notwithstanding my sixty-one years.

"Most of the officers and soldiers went into the field obeying my orders; I cannot abandon them until their future is assured. They have lost everything they had, they have a right to some compensation, and above all to their salaries; the new government must secure them. The disbandonment cannot be abandoned without bread or work to the mercy of their enemies. A solution could be found, perhaps, in the plan which the American government is said to have creating a new civil guard formed in the majority of Cuban soldiers. This organization would offer the advantage of not exposing the American troops to the deadly climate of the island and at the same time the United States would have peoples who know the country thoroughly. In the meanwhile and until the evacuation occurs, food must be provided for my soldiers.

"The evacuation should be as rapid as possible, and afterwards everything will be arranged for the American government will fulfill its moral pledges to us. Some people have tried to make us suspicious so as to bring about trouble, but before doubting of the good faith of the American people, we must wait for acts which shall give the lie to their solemn pledge."

GOVERNMENT OF CUBA.

General Wade will Probably Command the Troops There.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 6.—The government of Cuba has given the administration much concern and its form is not yet definitely determined upon. Since issuing the order designating the troops to go to Cuba, there has been considerable talk at the war department about the probable commander of troops in Cuba and the organization of a government, civil and military. The probabilities now are that Cuba will be designated as one department and placed under the command of one officer. The general impression seems to be that the officer will be Major Gengral Wade, now chairman of the Cuban military commission, whose duties as a member of this commission has fitted him for the office. The President and Secretary Alger have great confidence in General Wade and believe he combines the military and civil qualities necessary for the supreme command in Cuba when our occupation is complete.

There has been an intimation that General Brooke, who has been in command in Porto Rico might be selected for command in Cuba, but such is not the present intention. General Brooke, who ranks all the major generals in the volunteer service, commands only about six thousand troops in Porto, less than some brigadier generals who are in command of divisions and much less than several generals in command of corps. It is generally understood that General Brooke does not care to remain any longer in Porto Rico than the department actually thinks his services are required. There has been some suggestion that General Merritt might return and take command in Cuba, but the administration thinks the selection of General Wade would be better.

General Wade ranks all the volunteer major generals now in service and will rank General Lee in command of the Seventh corps, although the latter will be in actual command of the district of Havana.

It is possible that the department of Cuba will be divided into districts, some of greater and some of less importance. The principal districts would be Havana, Santiago and Cienfuegos. It is possible that each province will be designated as a district.

The command of the second corps is still unsettled. General Lawton was at one time selected for the place, but it was found that two officers at least, ranked him and this proved rather unsatisfactory.

An Insurgent Hold Up.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Nov. 6.—An insurgent captain and lieutenant have been arrested at Guantanamo for holding up a man on the street, and taking away his machete, which they fterwards sold for $2 50. They denied that they were under any obligation to pay for it, and claimed exemption from trial and imprisonment on the ground of their rank in the Cuban army.

WEATHER PREDDICTION

For Election Day—Will be Clear and Colder in this Region.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Nov. 6.—The following special forecast covering election day weather east of the Rocky Mountains, has been issued by the chief of the weather bureau:

Rain is indicated for the middle Atlantic and New England states and the upper Ohio valley and the eastern lake region. In the states of the middle and upper Mississippi and lower Ohio valleys and western lake region, rain Monday night in southern and rain or snow in northern parts of the districts named. Will be followed Tuesday by clearing, cold weather. Fair weather is indicated for Tuesday for all districts west of the Mississippi and in the southern states.

(Signed.) WILLIAM L. MOORE,
Chief of Weather Bureau.

Weather Forecast for To-day.

For West Virginia—Fair and warmer, western shifting to southerly winds.

For Western Pennsylvania and Ohio—Fair, slowly rising temperature; brisk westerly winds, becoming variable.

Local Temperature.

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

7 a. m.	61	3 p. m.	68
9 a. m.	65	7 p. m.	67
12 m.	71	Changeable.	

SUNDAY.

7 a. m.	45	3 p. m.	50
9 a. m.	48	7 p. m.	41
12 m.	55	Changeable.	