ARE AUTUMN BRIDES.

MR. ADOLPHUS BLAIR, JR., AND MISS VIRGIE DREWRY MARRIED.

THE PRAGG-ROSENBAUM WEDDING.

Ceremony Followed by a Dinner at the Jefferson—Mr. Solari Leads Miss O'Dwyer to the Altar—Other Nuptials

Fashionable Richmond was in a flutter last night over the brilliant marriage of two of society's favorites, and Grace Episcopal church was a scene of enchantment when Mr. Adolphus Blair, Jr., led Miss Virginia Drewry to the altar. The spacious aisles and chancel of the church were covered with white crash, and the altar was lighted with waxen candles in silver candlebra. The decorations were all in white and green, masses of palms and ferns, and white chysanthemums. At the foot of the chancel were beautiful gates of smilax.

The groom with his best man, Mr. H. Lee Bragg, entered from the vestry-room as the bridal party approached the altar. The wedding gates were opened by little Misses Mary Drewry and Sophie White, who were dressed in silver gauze, while the strains of Mendelssohn's wedding march were issuing from the big pipe organ.

The ushers were Messrs. Julien Binford, Lewis Brander, W. S. P. Mayo, and George Reid. After them came the bridesmaids—Misses Lillian Black, of Nashville, Tenn.; Mamie Russell, of Winchester; Kizzie Drewry, of Martinsville; Nannie Stegar, Annie Henry, of Norfolk; Marianne Meade, Mary McCaw, and Miland Bagby, of Richmond. These pretty young ladies were attired in green taffeta and white mousseline de sole, with white satin spangled girdles. They carried bouquets of maidenhair fern.

Those who acted as groomsmen were Messrs. Robert Croxton, A. H. Drewry, Jr., of Richmond; William P. Drewry, of New York; T. Gordon Janny, of Baltimore; Powell Spindle, of Washington; Frank Blankenship, Ivey Arrington, and H. Clay Drewry, Jr., of Richmond.

Miss Anne Drewry, a lovely girl, not yet a debutante, who is a sister of the bride, was maid of honor. She wore pink taffeta and white mousseline de soie, and carried a bouquet of pink chrysanthemums and maidenhair ferns.

The bride looked superb and regal as she entered the church, leaning upon the arm of her father, Major Clay Drewry. She was gowned in glistening white satin, trimmed with magnificent Duchesse lace. Her veil was fastened in her hair with a diamond ornament. She carried a copy of the marriage vows, in white and silver, in her hand.

The ceremony was most impressively performed by Rev. Landon R. Mason, rector of Grace church, assisted by Rev. Dr. Hartley Carmichael, rector of St. Paul's church. During the ceremony soft strains of music from Lohengrin were rendered upon the violin and organ by Messrs. John H. Reinhardt and Philip S. Powers, respectively.

THE RECEPTION.

Immediately after the wedding Mr. and Mrs. Blair held a reception at the home of the bride, on east Franklin street. Those in attendance were only the members of the bridal party and intimate friends and relatives of the contracting parties. The spacious parlors were adorned with Mme. Testout roses and pink chrysanthemums. The mantels were banked with smilax and roses and masses of ferns were disposed about the rooms. The room in which the marriage vows were signed and the witnesses registered was all in green and white. The dining-room, in which the sumptuous supper was served, was adorned with American Beauty roses.

Mrs. Drewry, the mother of the bride, who presided gracefully at the house, was attired in black brocade, point lace, and diamonds.

Among the guests present were: Mrs. R. Carter Scott, in yellow satin; Mrs. Beirne Blair, in white satin; Mrs. John Blair, in black mousseline de soie; Mrs. Richard Wilson, in white brocade; Mrs. Mark Hankins, in black silk, point lace, and diamonds; Miss Mary Hankins, in yellow silk and pearls; Mrs. A. H. Drewry, of Westover; Mrs. Adolphus Blair, Sr., and others.

Mr. and Mrs. Blair left on the 12:30 o'clock train for a northern tour.

The bride is one of Richmond's most charming young society women. She is talented and pretty, and counts her friends and admirers by the hundreds. Mr. Blair has, for several seasons, been a recognized society leader in Virginia, besides a worthy young business-man. He is a son of the late Adolphus Blair, and is a member of the wholesale grocery firm of A. Blair & Son. Their presents were numerous and elegant.

The Rosenbaum-Pragg Wedding.

Fashion and beauty were the characteristic features of the wedding which took place at the Beth-Ababa Synagogue last night. Richmond has not witnessed a more brilliant event in many years. The handsomely decorated edifice presented a magnificent spectacle, when Miss Adele Rosenbaum, of this city, became the bride of Mr. Metz Pragg, one of Baltimore's wealthiest and most prominent business-men, a member of the firm of Pragg Brothers, wholesale grocers.

The synagogue was packed to its utmost capacity. The affair was decidedly recherche, every one being in evening dress, and the decorations were magnificent, consisting of huge banks of ferns and chrysanthemums, most artistically arranged by Harvey, and reflecting with the softest and loveliest effect the lights from the vari-shaded lamps.

ATTENDANTS AND DRESSES.

The wedding scene was one of striking beauty. Six bridesmaids, clad in gowns of point d'esprit over white taffeta, and carrying bouquets of white chrysanthemums, preceded the bride, who approached the altar after her maid of honor, her sister, Miss Irma Rosenbaum. The maid of honor was attired in a very becoming gown of point d'esprit, over taffeta. The bride, a very handsome and accomplished young woman, who has a vast number of friends and acquaintances here and elsewhere, and is exceedingly popular wherever she is known, was apparelled in an exquisite creation of white Duchesse satin and real lace. Her veil was of a soft and lovely texture, and was caught in her dark-brown tresses with a diamond cluster, the gift of the groom.

THE ATTENDANTS.

The groomsmen were: Mr. Harry Pragg, of Baltimore, brother of the groom; Lieutenant Fred. Housman, of New York; Mr. M. Fishman, of Washington; Mr. L. Tobriner, of Washington, Messrs. M. Sonnehill, J. Hermann, and R. Ring, of Baltimore.

The bridesmaids were: Misses Kate Goodman, Cecile Guggenhimer, of Lynchburg; Hortense Guggenhimer, of Baltimore; Corrinne Rosenbaum, of Richmond, sister of the bride; Jean Myers, of Richmond, and Grace Kull, of Petersburg. Mr. Henry Hutzler, of this city, acted as master of ceremonies, and the marriage-service was conducted by Rev. Dr. Edward N. Calisch, rabbi of Beth-Ababa Synagogue.

DINNER AT THE JEFFERSON.

Immediately after the ceremony the bridal party took carriages for the Jefferson, where a magnificent wedding-feast was served, and where Mr. and Mrs. Pragg received the congratulations of their friends.

Among those in attendance upon the wedding were Mr. and Mrs. Max Guggenhimer, Miss Cecile Guggenhimer, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Guggenhimer, Mr. L. Ring, of Baltimore; Mrs. George Davis (a sister of the groom), of Petersburg; Mrs. Kull, of Petersburg; Mrs. J. Binswanger, of Baltimore; Mr. and Mrs. Lippman, of Savannah; Miss Rosenbaum, of Savannah, and others from a distance.

Mr. Solari Weds Miss O'Dwyer.

Quite a pretty marriage took place at St. Patrick's church at 7 o'clock yesterday morning. The bride was Miss Maggie T. O'Dwyer, and the groom Mr. Joseph Solari. Rev. Father Donahue very impressively performed the ceremony.

After receiving congratulations from a multitude of friends, the bridal party entered carriages, which were in waiting, and were driven to the Chesapeake and Ohio depot, where the happy couple took the train for an extended trip North.

The attendants were: Messrs. D. O'Dwyer, brother of the bride (best man); William Collins; Hugh Bailey, of New Brunswick, N. J.; Frank Campidonies, John T. Roach, and Frank Solari.

The bride is the popular and accomplished daughter of Mrs. Julia O'Dwyer and the late Cornelius O'Dwyer, and is one of Fulton's most popular young ladies. The groom is a valued employee of A. Hoen & Co., lithographers, and is as enterprising as he is popular.

On their return they will make their home at the residence of the bride's sister, Mrs. James E. Grady, 405 Denny street, Fulton.

The bride received many handsome and costly presents, among them a beautiful diamond pin, the gift of the groom's sister. She was attired in a becoming travelling suit of cadet blue, with gloves and hat to match, and entered the edifice leaning on the arm of her brother.

Those who came from a distance to attend the wedding: were: Miss Mamie Bailey and Mr. Hugh Bailey, both of New Brunswick, N. J.; and Mr. John F. Lawler, City Sergeant of Norfolk.

Before taking their departure the party were served with a wedding breakfast.

Other Weddings.

Miss Fanny Bragg and Mr. H. C. Marchant, president of the Charlottesville Woollen-Mills Company, were married yesterday afternoon at the residence of Mrs. M. L. Allen, the bride's sister, at No. 1103 east Clay street, the ceremony being performed by Rev. H. B. Lee, rector of Christ church, Charlottesville. Mr. and Mrs. Marchant left for an extended trip North, and will be at their home, in Charlottesville, after November 25th. The bride is a talented young lady, from Lunenburg county.

Mr. Henry Tolker and Miss Kate Traser, both of this city, were united in marriage at a nuptial mass at St. Mary's Catholic church at 6 o'clock yesterday morning. Messrs. A. Tolker, Joseph Wittkamp, L. B. Hatke, and Joseph Traser acted as ushers.

Mr. Samuel F. Smith and Miss Linda E. Toney were married at 9 o'clock last night at the residence of the bride's uncle, Mr. W. L. Smith, Fifth and Leigh streets. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Dr. Nelson, in the presence of a few friends and relatives.

JEAN DE RESKE AND NORDICA.

The Tenor Denies That He Tried to Deprive Her of Her Roles.

(New York Times.)

Mme. Nordica left New York Monday evening for an extended concert tour through the Southern States and some of the principal cities of the West.

It has been understood for some time that Mme. Nordica was not to appear with the Metropolitan Opera Company this season. Many reasons have been advanced for her refusing to sign a contract, and her statement before she left that it was not a matter of salary, but, rather, of roles, surprised few members of the company more than Jean de Reszke. The prima donna's statement that M. de Reszke had secured for Mme. Melba the role of Brunhilde in "Siegfried" brought out the following statement from him last night:

"It is absolutely untrue that I secured or used influence in securing any role for Mme Melba. I have never recommended any member of the company to the management of the Metropolitan Opera Company. The story has evidently grown out of the fact that last season in Chicago Mme. Melba wrote to me, complimenting me upon my success in 'Tristan and Isolde.' I replied to Mme. Melba, thanking her, and incidentally advising her to study Wagnerian roles. I never told her alone to study German, so she could master the part thoroughly. I advised other members of the company to do the same. As to recommending any one for a role in 'Siegfried,' I deny it, absolutely. Mme. Nordica and I have always been friends. She accuses me wrongly. I never said more to Mme. Melba than I would to her or any one else."

SOUTH DAKOTA ELECTION.

Looks Like Bryan Victory by 25 or 30 Votes.

PIERRE, S. D., November 11.—The returns from Gregory came in this afternoon. This county had been counted on to give Bryan 100 majority. It gave him only 4. It still looks as if the Bryan electors would carry the State by 25 or 30 votes. Lee (Populist) seems to be elected Governor, while the remainder of the Republican State ticket seems to have pulled through. The Legislature has a Populist majority of 30. Senator Kyle has a decided lead, and will probably succeed himself.

Russia, France, and Germany.

LONDON, November 11.—The Daily News to-morrow will publish a dispatch from its Berlin correspondent, saying that the German newspapers reproduce, evidently with the greatest degree of satisfaction, a significant article which has appeared in the Viendomosti, of St. Petersburg, urging France to forget and forgive the acquirement of Alsace-Lorraine by Germany, and to become reconciled with that country. The article contends that the peace of Europe is only endangered by the indulgence of France in thoughts of revenge, and urges the French people to recommend that other nations, especially Russia, Austria, and Germany, have had to swallow various reverses. In conclusion, the Viendomosti recalls the proofs repeatedly given by the Kaiser of his readiness to approach France, and intimates that Russia would willingly act as a mediator between the two nations should her services in such capacity be desired.

The Knights of Labor.

ROCHESTER, N. Y., November 11.—This morning's session of the General Assembly of the Knights of Labor opened at 10 o'clock. The assembly will last at least a week longer. Officers will be elected later in the week, and Mr. Sovereign will undoubtedly be re-elected. Upon taking the chair this morning, General Master-Workman Sovereign delivered his annual address.

Gold Reserve, $122,626,482.

WASHINGTON, November 11.—The Treasury gold reserve, at the close of business to-day, had increased to $122,626,482. The net gain at New York for the day was $575,000. The withdrawals at New York were $7,100.

Indemnity for Jameson Raid.

PRETORIA, November 11.—The Transvaal Government has decided to claim £1,000,000 sterling indemnity from the British South Africa Company to cover the damage sustained by the Jameson raid.

Mills to Double Time.

LANCASTER, PA., November 11.—The Farnum Cotton-Mills, of this city, employing 1,500 hands, which have been running on half time since May last, has posted a notice that hereafter they will run on full time.

Althea Complexion Cream is the best lotion on the market for chapped skin. Ask your dealer for it.

THE WATSON LETTER

AT LAST IT IS ALLOWED TO SEE THE LIGHT OF DAY.

WHY IT WAS SUPPRESSED.

This Is Made Evident by a Perusal of Its Contents—Bitterness Against Democrats and the Engineers of Fusion.

ATLANTA, GA., November 11.—Thomas E. Watson's letter accepting the vice-presidential nomination of the Populist party has at last been given to the public. It was written on October 14th last to Senator Marion Butler, chairman of the Notification Committee and manager of the Populist campaign. It was suppressed by Senator Butler during the campaign, for reasons that are obvious from a perusal of its contents. The document would make seven columns in a newspaper. Mr. Watson will publish his letter in full in his official organ, The People's Party Paper, which comes out to-morrow. Below are some extracts:

"Hon. Marion Butler, Chairman ex-Officio of the Notification Committee:

"Dear Sir.—Your letter giving me formal notice of my nomination by the People's party for the office of Vice-President has been received.

"It is solely because of my promise to do so that I accept the nomination. The unusual conditions confronting us must be my excuse for submitting to the public a fair statement of the facts touching this remarkable campaign, in order that all all unprejudiced minds may reach just conclusions.

"As the time for beginning the presidential campaign of 1896 approached, the Democratic party found itself in a dying condition, and it resorted to a desperate remedy to save itself from dissolution. It public renounced the Republican policies which it had already enacted into law, and professed the Populist creed, which it had bitterly assailed. Having closed the doors of the mints to silver, having sustained Mr. Cleveland in his refusal to allow the seigniorage to be coined, having condoned his issue of bonds in violation of law, having acquiesced in his contraction policy of destroying the greenbacks; having helped to feed the trusts by the passage of the Wilson-Gorman-Jones tariff bill, the Democratic party, realizing that it had lost the respect, the confidence, and the patience of the people, determined to anticipate the triumph of Populism by a public confession of political guilt, an earnest assertion of change of heart, and a devout acceptance of Populist principles, and a modest demand that the People's party should vacate its quarters and surrender its political possessions.

"A very staggering piece of political impudence was this. It was not a minority of the Democratic party which murdered silver in 1893. It was majority that did it—a majority—a majority in the House, a majority in the Senate. And the men who committed the deed cannot now promise more solemnly to undo their work than they promised in 1892 to do it.

CHAMPION OF THE PEOPLE.

"During the dreary years of 1892-'93-'94, and '95, when Republicans and Democrats alike were falling over each other in the effort to be first at Wall street's feet, and lowest in the dust of political self-abasement to the trusts, the national banks, the railroads, the bondholders, and the gold speculators, the People's party was the one champion of the people. It stood fearlessly against the hungry hordes of class legislation. It proclaimed constantly its undying antagonism to Wall street and its policies. It held aloft the sacred banner of a people's rights, and called for patriots to rise and defend the republic. Since the bugle-note of Rhoderick woke the Highlands, and the fiery cross sped from mountain to glen, and from glen to hamlet, there has been no such spontaneous outburst of popular enthusiasm as marked the growth of the People's party. One creed, one purpose, one hope, one inspiration moved us all, and had we nominated a straight Populist ticket at St. Louis, one man from the West and one from the South, we would have swept this land from sea to sea.

"At Chicago, the Democratic managers, having adopted the leading Populist principles, nominated for the first place on the ticket a candidate who endorsed those principles."

Mr. Watson recites the fight in the Populist convention at St. Louis between the Bryan Populists and the "middle-of-the-road" men. "I was asked to allow the use of my name to harmonize all the differences which existed in the convention, and consented upon that express condition.

"There was no doubt that among the voters of the Democratic party, South and West, there was an earnest desire that the Populists should be met half way. The people wished for union among the advocates of silver, and they felt that union could not be accomplished by demanding an abject surrender at the hands of the Populists.

FUSION.

"The leaders of the Democratic party, however, having secured Populist endorsement of Mr. Bryan by direct vote in the convention, determined to secure it for Mr. Sewall also, and for this purpose they have resorted to the policy of fusion.

"Instead of meeting the Populists half way, the Democratic managers have demanded that we furnish all the patriotism which the occasion requires, and they not only refuse to make any concessions at all, but they treat with public insult the party whose votes are necessary to Democratic success.

"By listening to the overtures of the Democratic managers, our party has been torn into factions, our leaders deceived and ensnared, and the cause we represent permanently endangered, if not lost. The labor of many years is swept away, and the hopes of thousands of good people are gone with it.

"The Democratic managers, however, not only claim the Populist vote for Mr. Bryan, who is our nominee, but they claim it also for Mr. Sewall, who is not our nominee, and who was overwhelmingly rejected when offered to the St. Louis convention.

"We are now told that we must not say anything against Mr. Sewall. We must not explain to the people wherein he is an objectionable candidate; and we must not mention the fact that he is a national banker, a bondholder, a railroad magnate, a corporation millionaire, an enemy to organized labor, a beneficiary of trusts, a seeker after subsidies for the merchant marine, and a protectionist of the McKinley variety.

"These things must be kept from the people, I am told. Why so? Have not the voters a right to know for whom they are voting?

"Both Kansas and Colorado are Populist States, and yet the Populist nominees are not to receive a single electoral vote in either State. The Democratic ticket, Bryan and Sewall, will receive them all. In Kansas, the people have been soothed by the assurance that the Sewall electors would vote for Watson, provided Watson got more votes elsewhere than Sewall got.

"Thus, the Populists in Kansas and Colorado have been disfranchised. Worse than that—they have been delivered to a fusion, where none of their votes count for the Populist ticket. They must vote for Sewall, and thus violate their principles.

"In North Carolina, where fusion had been arranged with the Republicans on the State and county ticket, and with Democrats on the national ticket, Mr. Sewall gets a majority of the electors.

"North Carolina is supposed to be a Populist State. Upon that idea, she was allowed 95 votes in our national convention. The fact that in North Carolina we have not conceded a majority of the electors to Mr. Sewall, would indicate that our vote in North Carolina has undergone a disastrous shrinkage since our national convention adjourned, or that the national ticket has been used for mercantile purposes.

"Senator, a reform party has no right to exist if it has no valid complaint to make. Populists cannot denounce the sins of the two old parties, and yet go into political copartnership with them. The moment we make treaty, the war must cease. And when we cease our war upon the two old parties, we have no longer any excuse for living. Whenever right compromises with wrong, it is the right which suffers.

WATSON'S OWN NOMINATION.

"The Democratic managers seem to resent, as a strange piece of impertinence, the fact that the Populists dared to nominate a ticket differing at the rear end from theirs. Coming to them with two millions they were begging for, and piteously needing, I can say, with a perfect assurance of telling the unqualified truth, that my arrival on the field of battle has not been welcomed as heartily as Blucher was received by Wellington at Waterloo. They want my re-enforcements, but they do not want me to lead them. They need Blucher's troops, but they draw the line at Blucher. That is hardly fair either to Blucher or his troops, nor is it the best way to defeat Napoleon.

"For this attitude upon the part of the Democratic managers I believe that you, Senator, are largely responsible. You made no effort to have me recognized. You publicly stated that I would not be notified of my nomination. You went into the fusion policy, over my written protest, with all the zeal of a man who wanted to elect the Democratic ticket.

"In this I think you were wrong. As chairman of the Populist Committee, the party certainly expected you to do all you could to elect the Populist ticket. Had you demanded Mr. Sewall's withdrawal from the ticket he would have been withdrawn. I have a letter of yours, in which you state that the Democratic Committee expected you to make the demand, but that you did not make it.

"From the perversity of temper with which the Democratic managers have refused to do the right thing by the Populists, it would seem that they prefer McKinleyism to anything which might seem to be partly a Populist triumph. Their subtle purpose is to couple Bryan's election with the complete destruction of the People's party. They mean to elect both Bryan and Sewall—both or neither. They cannot endure the thought that the victory shall be shared by Populism. They are willing to use the Populist nominee as a lever to move Populist votes—but not as an ally who has any rights they are bound to respect.

"The St. Louis compromise ticket should have been insisted upon for two reasons: First, because Mr. Bryan cannot be otherwise elected; second, because the triumph of silver cannot be otherwise assured.

POPULIST PLATFORM.

"It is hardly necessary for me to say that I heartily endorse the platform upon which I was nominated. In speech, in editorial, in pamphlets, I have discussed for several years every issue Populism raises, and my position upon them all is so well known that I need go into no discussion of Populist principles here.

"The position taken in this letter will be bitterly assailed. Would that the pathway of duty were always carpeted with flowers. It rarely is. By making myself and the great party I represent a mere foot-mat for Democratic politicians to wipe their feet upon, I could win much applause from that quarter. But, if I were now lacking in the loyalty which was expected of me when chosen, I would grieve the men who have honored me, trusted me, defended me, and loved me.

"In this reform movement, to which I have devoted eight of the best years of my life, I have lost much—but my own self-respect has not been lost, nor the respect of those principles I represented, and whose battle I have fought.

"I did not seek this nomination, nor desire it. Had I asked the presidential nomination of the People's party, and gone to St. Louis to claim it, no power of the Democratic emissaries could have kept it from me.

"It was out of a heartfelt desire to help unite all the reform forces, and at the same time to save my party and its principles from utter wreck, that I agreed to accept second place on the compromise ticket. I stood ready to join hands with Mr. Bryan, and to aid him in harmonizing Populists and silver Democrats, and in uniting South and West, to the end that we might achieve a victory against McKinley and McKinleyism. Fusion with Bryan meant no sacrifice of principle; fusion with Sewall does.

"No one regrets more profoundly than I do that the Democratic managers have so shaped the campaign that the South had again been told that she must grovel in the dust and let an Eastern plutocrat put his foot upon her neck. Nor does any one regret more than I do that the Democratic managers, in shaping their fusion deals, have considered those Populists only who were getting loaves and fishes.

"They have lost sight of the great army of the privates whose honest hearts and sincere souls form the strength of the reinforcement Mr. Bryan needs. These Populists of the rank and file have the spirit of crusaders, and they would die for a principle more quickly than they would sell it. These men will not vote for Sewall nor for Sewall electors. If Senators Jones and Gorman really wish to defeat McKinley, let them lose no time in realizing this truth.

"Yours, etc., THOMAS E. WATSON."

Thompson, Ga., October 14, 1896.

Telegraphic Briefs.

Lewes, Del.—The battleship Iowa left her anchorage and passed out of the Capes at 9:40 A. M., on her builders' trial-trip.

Washington.—Ensign H. H. Caldwell has been appointed pay-clerk for the settlement of accounts at the Norfolk navy-yard.

Madrid.—The war-office is preparing to send 20,000 more troops to Cuba. The steamer Cadiz sailed with a cargo of munitions of war.

Menosha, Wis.—The St. Paul Paper Company made assignment for the benefit of creditors. The assets are $100,000, and the liabilities half that amount.

Constantinople.—It has been announced officially that the authorites of the various Turkish provinces have been instructed by the government to put into execution the reforms agreed upon in 1895.

Madrid.—Prime-Minister Canovas de Castillo denies emphatically that the Spanish Government has announced that it will suppress the revolution in the island of Cuba within a specified time.

Louisville, Ky.—Milton H. Smith, president of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company, says that his company has not bought the South Carolina and Georgia railroad; that the matter was considered four years ago and dropped.

Jacksonville, Fla.—The quarantine restrictions of the State of Florida, as operated during the summer months, cease for the present year on November 15th. Texas removed these safeguards October 20th, and Alabama abrogated quarantine November 1st.

Warsaw, Poland.—At Sokolka, in the government of Grodno, the St. Petersburg and Warsaw express, while running at a high-rate of speed, came into collision with a freight train, completely wrecking the engine and the entire number of cars comprising the express, and killing six persons and injuring thirteen others, some of whom will die.

Worcester, Mass.—The three men who were so terribly burned in the explosion of the water-gas retort at the straw factory of William Knowlton & Son at West Upton, Tuesday afternoon, are all dead. Thomas Williamson passed away at 10:30 o'clock Tuesday evening, Fred. G. Bulmahan at midnight, and John Williamson early Wednesday morning.

Old papers for sale at 25c. a hundred at Dispatch office.

VENEZUELA TREATY.

KING OSCAR, OF SWEDEN, TO BE FINAL ARBITRATOR.

VIEWS AS TO ENGLAND'S POSITION.

Commissioner Coudert Says He Expected a British Back-Down All the Time—London Press Comment. The Monroe Doctrine.

WASHINGTON, November 11.—The information that King Oscar II., of Sweden and Norway, has been agreed on as the fifth and final arbitrator in the Venezuelan controversy, and that the other four arbitrators will be named by the judicial authorities of the two countries, two by the Lord Chief Justice of England and two by the Chief Justice of the United States, came from authoritative sources and will be fully verified by official announcement at an early day. Those who are best acquainted with the facts read with satisfaction the published report concerning the arbitration, and stated that it covered all essential particulars and was correct. It is stated further, however, that King Oscar II. was selected as the fifth or final arbitrator with the understanding that if his royal functions are such as to make it impracticable for him to sit with the arbitrators he will designate some high functionary, probably his Chief Justice, to participate in the formal meetings. Notwithstanding this possible arrangement the two governments will regard the King alone as the final arbitrator.

The personnel of the remainder of the commission has not yet been determined. The Solicitor-General of England and Mr. Justice Brewer are mentioned as probable members. The personnel will be a matter of subsequent adjustment, as the names do not appear in the draft of the treaty.

As already stated, the final agreement on all details of the treaty was reached by Secretary Olney and Sir Julian Pauncefote Monday evening, and that fact made known to Lord Salisbury. His speech at Guildhall was taken as an evidence that he shared the feeling of satisfaction here over the close of the long-pending controversy. At the same time, out of abundance of caution, the signature will not be placed on the draft until cable instructions are received from London. These are momentarily expected, and on their receipt the formal execution of the instrument will be consummated. It is regarded as a formality, however, as full agreement has been reached on all essential points, even to the matter of wording—viz., fifty years' occupancy as a test of title, limitation of the subject to the Venezuelan boundary, a court of five commissioners, composed of King Oscar or his nominal representative and two judicial officers from each country. The choice of arbitrators from the judicial branch of the United States and Great Britain evidences a desire to wholly separate the question from possible partisan and political influence, and leave it to the calm deliberation of eminent jurists.

BRITISH COMMENT.

LONDON, November 11.—The Globe, commenting upon the Venezuelan arbitration treaty, says it welcomes the agreement, because it releases the United States from a false and dangerous position. If the commission had reported adversely to Great Britain, the paper adds, President Cleveland would have been forced to attempt to coerce Great Britain or eat humble pie, with the result that if the Washington Government had seen fit to enter the unequal contest with England, the development of the United States would have been retarded for half a century.

The Globe also says: "It must be clearly understood that the constitution of the new arbitration tribunal is not to establish a precedent for arranging all further disputes between the United States and the United Kingdom in North and South America; nor are we ready to recognize Monroeism as international law."

The St. James Gazette asks whether the agreement will not throw into arbitration all of the region between the Schomburgk line and the settled territory of Guiana, which England has declared would never be submitted to arbitration, which course the United States have declared England would be forced to take.

"If it does," says the Gazette, "the American claim that the agreement is a square backdown on the part of Great Britain will be difficult to disprove."

COUDERT'S VIEWS.

NEW YORK, November 11.—The Evening Journal prints the following: Commissioner Frederick Coudert, who arrived in the city to-day, when questioned regarding the attitude of the commission in regard to the settlement of the Venezuelan dispute, said:

"I have just returned from Washington, where the Venezuelan Boundary Commission has been in session for the past two days. All of the members of the commission were much pleased at the possibility of a speedy settlement of the Venezuelan question. Lord Salisbury's announcement, while it comes in the nature of a pleasant surprise, is, nevertheless an acknowledgment that England has gracefully yielded to the demands of our government, and will become a party to an arbitration treaty that will no doubt be acceptable to both governments. I have never had any doubt that England would accede to our terms, but I did not think that the difficulty would be settled as soon as this.

"Lord Salisbury has done the very best possible thing, under the circumstances, and I think that in two weeks' time Sir Pauncefote and Secretary-of-State Olney will sign the protocol of the proposed treaty, which will settle the dispute, and also adjust the boundary line between Venezuela and British Guiana. The commissioners have decided to withhold their report for the present until the treaty of arbitration goes into effect. We may, perhaps, never make a report, except to the President, in order to show exactly what we have done.

WORK NOT IN VAIN.

"It does not matter how this thing is settled. I feel that the work of the commission has not been in vain, as we have gathered together a lot of useful information that will be valuable in years to come.

"The suggestion of a permanent court to try all disputed questions of international boundary is, I think, a good one, but I do not know that such a scheme is to be incorporated in the proposed treaty."

Regarding the clause in the treaty that provides that in the "settled districts" a term of fifty years of undisturbed residence shall be regarded as giving the right to possession, Mr. Coudert said: "This, I think, is no more than right. It is nothing more than another illustration of the law of vested rights. Of course, if the Venezuelans sit idly by and see the English make improvements and cultivate the land for such a length of time, then certainly they ought not to expect to reap the reward of another's work.

"I might say, in conclusion, that Great Britain has seen her mistake in taking the untenable attitude that she did against the Monroe doctrine, and her consent to submit to arbitration is practically an admission of the justice of Venezuela's claims."

VENEZUELA'S REPRESENTATION.

LONDON, November 11.—The officials of the Foreign Office take exception to the statements which have been made that Venezuela will not be represented directly in the arbitration tribunal. The Foreign Office authorities suggest that there is still doubt whether Venezuela will have her own member of the tribunal. At any rate, Great Britain regards the United States' representatives as acting for Venezuela.

UNCLE SAM'S ATTITUDE.

WASHINGTON, November 11.—Considerable surprise is manifested in diplomatic and official circles that the United States, and not Venezuela, is the party of the first part to the arbitration arrangement with Great Britain. It had been supposed that the sole function of this country was that of mediator. The attitude in which the United States is now placed, it is claimed, partakes largely of the position of protector of the weaker sister republics of the continent. This, in the opinion of diplomats, imposes grave responsibility on this country.

With regard to the arbitration anticipated, some time must elapse before its consummation, or in any event before its decision. It is thought Justice Brewer, president of the Venezuelan Commission, will be one of the American members of the tribunal, and that one of his colleagues in that body will be associated with him—either Justice Alvey, President Gilman, Dr. White, or Mr. Coudert.

Hardships of Camp-Life in the Soudan.

(Correspondence London Standard.)

Here in the Soudan we expected an odd shower of rain, and the regular three days of south wind at intervals, but the last fortnight has been full of surprises, and we retire to our ankaribs at night quite prepared for all emergencies. One day will be taken up by a succession of furious blinding dust-storms, and the next with driving showers of rain which effectually soak everything not under waterproof shelter in less than ten minutes. About three o'clock the storm begins to blow, and the first barricades have to be erected of boxes, tent-flaps, et hoc genus omne, and ropes, and poles tightened and propped up. And after dinner, if the sky is cloudy the same "storm fatigue" has to be performed, while the south wind has blown with unabated vigor from dusk to dawn again, not for the regulation three days, but for already almost a fortnight. The result is that weather has become more than a topic of conversation—it is a serious factor in our lives. After one of the heavy rains, the straw-roofed and walled tukuls are absolutely untenable. The quickly following heat of the sun brings out an intolerably rank and fetid steam, and the army orders are that nobdy shall sleep inside the huts till they are dry. But the smell is not the only inconvenience, for every sort of reptile and vermin instantly swarms under shelter, conspicuous being the scorpions and tarantulas. After the first heavy rain we killed three scorpions and four tarantulas in our tukul in less than ten minutes, and next morning, although my ankarib stands on two legs two feet high, there was a scorpion under my pillow when I woke.

Another great annoyance caused by the rain is the damage done to all stores, such as grain, barley, bran, durrha, onions, etc. Not being prepared for rain, these articles are always left lying exposed in their sacks, and when once wetted they ferment in an incredibly short space of time. Altogether, the rain, which is usually looked upon as a signal favor from Allah, has been more of a plague than otherwise, and the whole camp is praying again for a dry, north wind. News reached here soon after the earliest storms that the Muradh wells contained water enough for 15,000 men, and were running over, and that every well and pool between Assuan and Abu Hamed was filled. It almost made one wish to be an Emir, so glorious an opportunity was it for a Dervish dash. Four thousand horse or camel men could, in less than a week have raided Assuan or any place between it and Halfa, and returned triumphantly without any possibility of being prevented or intercepted. By the time these lines reach Egypt on their way back from England the moment will have passed and the opportunity been lost, otherwise it would scarcely be judicious to point out the danger to which the great rainfall has exposed the tail-end of the expedition, the railway, and the frontier towns.

It is probably the severe blow dealt at Ferket, and the ignorance of the Khalifa concerning our strength and the disposition of our forces which alone prevent a raid so simple that there is not a man in camp to whom it has not suggested and commended itself. The only opposing force would be the brave Sheikh Abdul Azim, with a hundred of two of his Bishareen and Ababdehs and the infantry companies who hold Muradh wells. These would be quite powerless against even 1,000 Dervishes, except, possibly, to hold the fort of Muradh, and if it moved with the usual Dervish celerity, a raiding band could do pretty well what it pleased with Korosko and Assuan, and return unpunished. At least, this is what we say as we sit 'round our candlesticks and watch the horrible, flabby-winged flies dashing themselves to death in thousands right up here in the desert, where they were never seen before. Down by the river bank they darkened every light, and lay positively half an inch thick on tables and plates; but until the rain, we were free of them in our desert camp. Now, however, they have appeared as if by magic, whether having feebly fluttered from below or bred in the temporary mud of the gullies it would be hard to tell.

A Singing Mouse.

(St. James's Gazette.)

A good deal of scepticism prevails among the ignorant as to the fact of there being singing mice; but having kept such a songster for four years, I am in a position to speak with authority. She was caught in a coal mine, was brought up in a "tommy bag" to the surface, and handed over to me. Thus commenced an acquaintance which soon ripened into intimacy, and which was only terminated by her death. There was no doubt about her song; a pretty, bird-like warble, rising and falling alternately, and of sufficient power to carry from the top to the bottom of the house when all was quiet. In appearance, she was just an ordinary house-mouse, with the usual well-groomed coat, the usual cascade of whiskers, the usual beady black eyes, and an elegant tapering tail, like the rest of her tribe. It was her song alone which singled her out from the dumb millions of her fellows, and this song she poured out almost without intermission during her waking hours. The speculations of the learned have been exercised over this matter, and some have thought that bronchitis, by narrowing the air passages, produces a noisy wheezing, which enthusiastic admirers have dignified as a song. Others, with greater probability, have suggested that every mouse is a singing mouse, but that on account of the dulness of our ears, we only hear the bass-voiced vocalists, while the shriller melodies of the great majority are unnoticed. Every one knows that the squeak of a bat is not heard by every one, and that one party in a conversation on a country walk may be almost deafened by a chorus of bats, while the other may hear nothing of the noise. Certain it is that dissection reveals nothing abnormal in the vocal apparatus of the singing mouse, and doubtless a very slight difference in the quality of the vocal cords would result in a mouse with a voice, sufficiently bass, to bring the sound within the compass of our hearing powers.

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MARRIAGES.

MARCHANT—BRAGG.—Married, on November 11, 1896, at the residence of her sister, Mrs. M. L. Allen, 1103 east Clay street, in this city, FANNY BRAGG to HENRY CLAY MARCHANT.

Petersburg papers please copy.

DEATHS.

GILL.—Died, at the residence of his mother, No. 724 Twenty-fifth street, Wednesday, November 11th, at 5 A. M., WARREN EDWARD GILL, only son of Mrs. Mary E. and the late Warren J. Gill, in the 23d year of his age, after a long and painful illness, which he bore with Christian fortitude.

Heaven now contains our treasure,
Earth the lonely casket keeps;
And the sunbeams love to linger,
Where our darling sleeps.

Funeral from Leigh-Street Baptist church THURSDAY, November 12th, at 3:30 o'clock. Friends and acquaintances respectfully invited to attend.

Newport News, Hampton, and Baltimore papers please copy.

M'MAHON.—Died, November 11th, at 11:20 o'clock P. M., at her residence, No. 402 Louisiana street, Mrs. MARY M'MAHON, widow of Patrick McMahon. The deceased was 50 years of age.

Funeral notice hereafter.

VAUGHAN.—Died, at her father's residence, No. 214 south Laurel street, November 11th, at 4 o'cl