

WATCHING COLLIS P.

That Is Why Caminetti Remains at the Capital.

HUNTINGTON VERY SLY.

Bringing Influence to Bear to Secure His Land Patents.

SEVERAL ATTORNEYS ENGAGED.

But the Californians Are Guarding Against the Tactics of the Southern Pacific.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Collis P. Huntington had an interview with the Secretary of the Interior to-day regarding the interests of the Pacific railroads respecting the report that the Secretary intends to issue an order directing that no more patents for land issue to the Union and Central Pacific roads until there has been a settlement of the indebtedness of these companies.

Huntington represented to the Secretary that the lands had all been earned in time, and in many cases they had been transferred to persons who had occupied them for ten to twenty years. He also said that the companies were not seeking patents in instances where the roads had not disposed of the lands, as they became taxable as soon as patents issued. States and counties in which lands were situated were more interested in securing patents, as they became entitled to taxes as soon as the patents were passed. Further than this the companies desired to dispose of lands to secure money to meet payments now about due.

Huntington thought it would hinder the company from securing money on the lands if such an order had been issued, and he represented that nothing ought to be done by the Government to prevent the company from raising funds.

Huntington, however, did not consider this so much important as he did the question of settlement for the Pacific roads debt, and he believed the recommendations made by the Secretary of the Interior would have great weight in the next Congress. He insisted that before 1897 the Government must act or it would lose heavily.

Huntington expressed the hope that the reports of the Secretary and Commissioner of Railroads would elaborate on the subject of the indebtedness and devise a just and equitable plan of settlement.

Representative Caminetti delays his return to California in order that he may watch Huntington's work before the Land Department. Caminetti is strongly protesting against the further issuance of patents to the Southern Pacific, and Huntington is bringing all his influence to bear to have the patents rushed through. He has employed several attorneys.

Representative English will start for California to-morrow, via New Orleans.

SENATOR TELLER HOPEFUL.

He Believes the Bimetallic Standard Will Be Adopted.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Senator Teller of Colorado takes a hopeful view of the possible action of the proposed international monetary conference. He believes a bimetallic standard will be adopted. He bases his belief on the theory that Germany will fall into line with France, the United States and the other silver-using nations and force the result. Hitherto every step toward an international understanding has been blocked by the attitude of Germany. At all previous conferences the German delegates have insisted that their Government was satisfied with the present system and would not consider the probability of a change. Now, however, the Senator says, a change has come over the spirit of Germany, and he believes that she will be willing to take steps independently of Great Britain. Great Britain will never consent to bimetallic for herself, but she may consent to reopen the mints of India and possibly keep a part of the reserve in the Bank of England in silver. That would be a decided advance toward bimetallic.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN SHEPARD

WAS CHIEF OF THE REVENUE SERVICE OF THE TREASURY DEPARTMENT.

HIS FATAL ILLNESS DUE TO OVERWORK IN SECURING RELIEF FOR SUPERANNUATED OFFICERS.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—Captain I. G. Shepard, chief of the revenue service of the Treasury Department, died here to-day from pneumonia. Captain Shepard was stricken with a congestive chill while at work on the 5th inst., and has been confined to his bed ever since. His illness is attributed to his efforts to secure legislation for the benefit of the superannuated officers of the service. He leaves a widow and two children.

The captain was one of the oldest and most efficient officers in the revenue cut service. A native of Massachusetts, he was appointed a third lieutenant in 1865, was promoted to second lieutenant in 1869, first lieutenant in 1870 and a captain in 1878. In December, 1889, Secretary Windom detailed him as chief of the Revenue Marine Division, an office previously held by civilians only, and he served there continuously ever since.

Captain Shepard saw much hard active service and had an exceptionally fine record. Prior to his transfer to Washington he commanded the revenue cutter Bear and made several cruises in Bering Sea and Northern Alaskan waters to carry out the policy of the Government to prevent illicit sealing. He was very well known and highly esteemed.

SPAIN MAKING AMENDS.

Refunding to Americans Customs Illegally Collected in Cuba.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—United States Minister Taylor, at Madrid, is meeting with success in the prosecution of claims of American merchants against the Spanish Government for the refunding of illegal charges collected by the Cuban customs officials. A cablegram received at the State Department from him to-day announces that he had secured the allowance of claims in the cases of the steamship Joseph W. Hawthorne and the ships Carrie

and Grace Reynolds, Brooks & Co., the Comas Machine Company, the Cottolene cases and the Juragua Mining Company.

The latter case was a protest against taxation on the large American mining companies in Cuba that practically made exportation unprofitable.

Regulations Revoked. WASHINGTON, March 14.—Collectors of Customs have been advised that articles 442 to 475 of the customs regulations have been revoked in accordance with the joint resolution of the last Congress, relative to the transportation and exportation of goods without examination to the free zone in Mexico.

Sibley and Bimetallism. WASHINGTON, March 14.—Senator Stewart received the following dispatch from the Governor of Nevada: "Resolutions of the Legislature endorsing Sibley and bimetallic platform passed and approved this day."

Condition of the Treasury. WASHINGTON, March 14.—To-day's statement of the condition of the treasury shows: Available cash balance, \$182,460,206; gold reserve, \$90,205,308.

IS NOW GIVEN UP AS LOST.

NOTHING HEARD FROM THE MISSING SPANISH WARSHIP REINA REGENTE.

ONE RUMOR IS THAT THE VESSEL WAS FOUND BY AN ENGLISH CRAFT DISABLED.

TANGIERS, March 14.—A Moorish steamer has gone in search of the missing Spanish cruiser Reina Regente in the hope that she had taken refuge in some Moorish port having no telegraphic communication with this city. As time passes and no news is received a belief that the warship has foundered with all hands grows stronger.

MADRID, March 14.—The Government was questioned to-day in the Chamber of Deputies as to the information it had regarding the Reina Regente. In reply to the question, the Prime Minister said that telegrams announcing the wreck of vessels at various places along the coast had been received, and that though the Government had no positive news regarding the Reina Regente beyond the fact that she had sailed from Tangiers, he feared the vessel had been lost.

The belief is hourly growing stronger that the vessel will never again be heard from and has created a feeling of consternation throughout the country. In Cadiz and Cartagena, where most of the crew belonged, the excitement is intense.

Several British warships have left Gibraltar in search of the missing vessel. One report current here late to-night is that she was found by a British vessel in a disabled condition off the African coast.

A dispatch to the Standard from Madrid says that flags, a compass-box and other wreckage belonging to the Reina Regente have been washed ashore at Tarifa.

IMPORTS EXCEED EXPORTS.

INTERESTING STATISTICS RELATING TO THE SHIPMENT OF MERCHANDISE.

MUCH MORE SILVER, HOWEVER, GOES OUT OF THE COUNTRY THAN USUAL.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—The monthly report of the Bureau of Statistics issued to-day shows imports and exports of merchandise for the month of February and for the last eight months as follows: Exports during February, \$56,208,543; imports during the same period, \$58,326,352. Of the imports, merchandise to the amount of \$27,803,652 was free of duty. During February, 1894, the excess of exports over imports was \$11,812,190.

For the eight months ended February 28, 1895, the excess of exports over imports was \$91,967,932, as against \$218,061,832 during eight months ended February 28, 1894. The gold exports during February amount to \$1,666,194, and the importations to \$5,532,187. For the eight months the exports of gold amounted to \$58,394,767 and the imports to \$16,025,725.

The exports of silver during February amounted to \$3,071,336 and the imports to \$392,928. For the eight months the exports exceeded the imports by \$23,861,336.

The number of immigrants arriving in this country during February, 1895, was 9008, against 9602 during February, 1894. For the last eight months the total was 136,129, as against 199,129 during the same period last year.

FOUGHT HARD ALL DAY.

Fierce Battle Between Japanese and Chinese Forces.

YOKOHAMA, March 14.—The Eleventh Japanese Regiment met 1000 Chinese soldiers near Chin Lieng-Chen on the morning of March 11. The Chinese retreated.

Another body of the enemy attacked the Japanese in the rear. Stubborn fighting lasted all day. The Chinese maintained their ground and at sunset the Japanese retired to their quarters. The Chinese loss was 70 men.

PARIS, March 14.—A dispatch from Shanghai says it is reported that Li Hung Chang, the Chinese peace envoy, has been instructed to consent to the payment of an indemnity and the cession of the territory already occupied by the Japanese on the island of Formosa.

He is also instructed to consent to the surrender of the remainder of the vessels belonging to the Chinese southern squadron, which is now lying at Nanking.

FOR POISONING CHILDREN.

Preliminary Examination of Mrs. Caruthers and Jim Strange.

PARIS, Tex., March 14.—To-day the examining trial of Mrs. Caruthers and Jim Strange for poisoning her children on Friday last brought together a large crowd.

Mrs. Caruthers was taken to Roston, the scene of the murder, this morning, but there was so much excitement that Judge Monet postponed the hearing until Monday and transferred it to this city. Some letters found on Strange addressed to Mrs. N. A. Doty, under which name he addressed correspondence to Mrs. Caruthers, were opened by the court.

They contained nothing to implicate Strange, but showed infidelity. It is clear from their contents that he not only knew Mrs. Caruthers' affections, but that he evidently intended to poison her 14-year-old daughter, who was saved from death by the timely arrival of assistance.

THREE BIG AFFAIRS.

State Department Men Worried by Foreign Complications.

SERIOUS TROUBLE AHEAD.

Warfare May Be Brought About by Any Lawless Community.

LAWS SHOULD BE AMENDED.

Uncle Sam May Probably Be Protected at the Expense of States' Rights.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—The President's absence on a duck-shooting trip and Secretary Gresham's illness are causing the State Department officials much embarrassment, for they have at least three big foreign complications to handle. With two such incidents as those in New Orleans and Walsenburg, Colo., confronting them, such affairs as the Rock Springs massacre of Chinese and the killing of Italians in New Orleans in the background, department officials make no secret of their apprehension that the United States is destined to have serious difficulty in maintaining its treaty relations with foreign nations unless Congress comes to the rescue.

As it stands now, owing to the limitations placed upon the Federal power by the statute, the Government finds itself powerless to protect foreign citizens whom the United States is under solemn treaty obligation to protect. Under this peculiar condition the National Government can only look to the State to extend protection, and if this is denied or the measure of protection is inadequate it cannot interfere.

Meanwhile the State itself is wholly free from any responsibility to the foreign powers with which the United States has entered into treaty relations, and these powers are prohibited from remonstrating with the offending State government. They can look for redress only to the helpless National Government. So it is within the power of any erratic Governor or weak Mayor, or incompetent Chief of Police, in any city to force an issue that can be decided only by war, and the fate of the nation may depend on the conduct of such officials.

This matter was brought to the attention of Congress by President Harrison at the instance of the late Secretary Blaine after the adjustment of the trouble that threatened war with Italy as the result of the killing of Italians in New Orleans, but no action was taken to carry out the suggestion, probably owing to the fact that the necessary legislation might be regarded as an infringement upon the old States' rights theory.

It is very probable, however, that President Cleveland will feel obliged to again call attention to the subject at the meeting of the next Congress and point out how in the absence of such legislation he is obliged to appeal to Congress to pay out of money raised by the whole people large sums of money for indemnity for outrages committed by a disorderly element in small places. Just what shape the proposed legislation will take cannot now be defined, but the prevailing idea will be to make it the business of the United States courts in all parts of the country to protect foreigners in the United States; first, through court deputies, and if that is not sufficient, to protect them through the troops of the National Government, and to do this without delay in all cases. This would require an amendment of the posse comitatus law, passed with the express purpose to prevent the use of troops at elections, but proven to be of much wider scope than was intended, and would otherwise hurt the sensibilities of the strict constructionists of the States' rights theory, but as between this and the ever present danger of becoming involved in a foreign war without a reasonable or just cause, it is asserted that Congress will not hesitate to declare for the law.

HALE NOT INTOXICATED.

His Angry Denial of Young Mr. Gilroy's Charges.

HAVERTHILL, Mass., March 14.—Walter Scott Hale, who figured so prominently in the Parker House war of words yesterday, in which a challenge to fight a duel with pistols is said to have been given and accepted, is indignant over the statement made by Thomas Gilroy Jr., that he (Hale) was intoxicated.

"It is absolutely false that I was intoxicated," said Hale. "This can be vouched for by Sidney Young, who was with me. Gilroy threatens to bring up my record in court next month, but I will be ready for him. I know a thing or two about him, and he had better look out."

Sidney Young, who is a well-known business man, said: "The denial of the story by Gilroy is no good. Both parties were heated and the story of the whole affair given by Hale yesterday is substantially correct."

AN EMBREZZLING COLLECTOR.

Although His Wife Paid His Shortage He Was Arrested.

CONCORD, Mass., March 15.—Charles W. Sanford ex-collector of this place, was arrested for embezzlement. He was bound over in \$1000. Sanford disappeared some time ago and on investigation one of the principal books was missing and it was found he was a defaulter to the amount of \$15,000. Some time afterward Sanford was located in New York, from which place he sent the missing book. His wife, however, refunded the money and Sanford returned to his home.

EARNINGS OF THE ATCHISON.

Marked Improvement in the Receipts of the System.

CHICAGO, March 14.—The earnings of the Atchison system, all lines, for the first week of March were \$737,087, an increase of \$20,996 over the same week of last year. The earnings of the A. and P. were \$66,006, an increase of \$147. The earnings of the Colorado Midland were \$25,484, an increase of \$121. The earnings of the Atchison system proper, exclusive of lines reported in the foregoing, were \$531,425, an increase of \$21,719. All the foregoing are approximate gross earnings.

Four Counterfeiters Arrested.

KANSAS CITY, March 14.—Four members of the gang which has been flooding this vicinity with spurious coin and sending it throughout the country were arrested in a saloon here at 1:30 this morning with a lot of the stuff in their possession. The men are: John Noble, John

Wolf, Andrew Noland and John Lowe. Their capture is most important, breaking up, as it doubtless will, one of the most dangerous gangs in the country.

MARY LEASE WINS.

She May Retain Her Seat in the Board of Charities.

TOPEKA, Kan., March 14.—Mrs. Mary Lease, orator and politician, has won her latest fight. Recently George A. Clark was appointed by Governor Morrill to succeed her as a member of the State Board of Charities, and the appointment was confirmed by the Senate. When Clark attempted to take office a few days ago, Mrs. Lease refused to vacate, stating her term did not end until 1896, and she took steps to hold the office.

An examination of the records in the Governor's office to-day shows that in his message to the Senate Governor Lewelling nominated Mrs. Lease as the successor of Captain Rhoades. Thus her term will not expire until next year.

CAMPBELL DRINKS AMMONIA.

Ohio's Ex-Governor Suffers Severely by a Servant's Carelessness.

HAMILTON, Ohio, March 14.—Ex-Governor Campbell, after placing a glass of water to his lips at dinner last evening, rose staggering and foaming at the mouth, apparently speechless. He managed to say, "My throat is burning." Investigation showed that a servant had placed a bottle of ammonia in the ice-chest in such a way that when the lid closed the contents spilled into the drinking water. Physicians administered antidotes quickly, but Campbell is suffering severely.

BLOWN INTO FRAGMENTS.

Terrible Suicide of a Man Who Used a Dynamite Cartridge.

DENVER, March 14.—Since the suicide of Ling, the anarchist, in jail at Chicago, there has been no record of such a cold-blooded planned suicide as that of Aloise Feid, an Austrian, in this city to-day. Feid killed himself on Logan avenue, a fashionable thoroughfare, at midday, by exploding a dynamite cartridge, about an inch and a half in diameter and four inches long. The entire left side of the body was blown into fragments, pieces being scattered all about the neighborhood. The was a stranger here.

FOR A NEW NATIONAL PARTY.

THE PRELIMINARY MEETING WAS NOT VERY LARGELY ATTENDED.

ONE REVEREND GENTLEMAN CREATED A BREEZE BY ASSAILING SECRET SOCIETIES.

PITTSBURG, March 14.—Preliminary steps were taken to-day at Lafayette Hall for the formation of a new national party, whose main object will be to secure prohibition and the reform of politics. The conference was called by the National Reform Organization, delegates from all parts of the country being invited to be present. Only twenty-four persons assembled in the morning and the meeting soon adjourned until afternoon, when a better attendance was secured and the convention officers were elected.

Dr. S. D. Woods of Conneville, Pa., was elected president, with a long list of vice-presidents. The first business taken up was the selection of a name for the new party.

During the talk Rev. W. B. Stoddard of Washington, D. C., began to say ugly things about secret orders, the Masons in particular, which brought the chairman to his feet with the order for the reverend gentleman to take his seat.

Rev. Mr. Stoddard hesitated a moment, when a motion was ingeniously made by some one, who saw the danger of disruption, and the conference resumed regular business. Without reaching a conclusion as to name adjournment was taken until this evening.

At the night session no business was transacted, the selection of a name going over until to-morrow.

THEY MEAN BUSINESS.

Cuban Patriots Now Have a Provisional Government.

TAMPA, Fla., March 14.—An officer of the late revolutionary party arrived from Cuba to-night by the steamship Olivette. Through Colonel Tiradeto the Associated Press reporter was informed that a constitutional convention of Cuban patriots has been held in Los Negris and a provisional government formed.

General Maximus Gomez was appointed commander-in-chief of the insurgent army. Jose Marti is deputy envoy to obtain from foreign countries recognition of the insurgents as belligerents. As soon as practicable there will be held at Guaymas in Puerto Principe province an assembly to organize a provisional government, when a president and four secretaries, one for each of the states, according to the division in the former revolution by the Cuban Government, will be chosen.

The states are to be Orocento, or Eastern Camaguyagu, Los Villas and Occident, or Western Camaguyagu. They will also adopt a constitution and a chamber of deputies or congress, selected at the point that was chosen in the late rebellion.

At their recent organization a proclamation was issued and sent to the Spanish chief and soldiers saying that the movement was not made against them, but against the Government, and that the property of all private individuals would be respected. A declaration of independence was also issued.

In the recent battle the insurgents were led by Maceo. The regiment of Isabella Catalica, in charge of a colonel of the Spanish army, was cut in two and 500 Spaniards killed.

SAVANNAH, Ga., March 14.—Under instructions from the Costa Rican Government the British steamer Elliott, which cleared for a Costa Rican port, has been searched for arms and ammunition, being suspected of having been engaged by Cubans for that service, although cleared for Costa Rica.

The crew of the vessel, which has been lying in this port three months anchored, said the captain informs them that he cannot tell them yet where they are going. Large boxes weighing 1700 pounds each arrived from New York to-day and have been placed about thirty feet from where the steam yacht Pedro Pablo is lying.

Negroes handling them told the Associated Press correspondent they were to be put on the boat. Collector Beckwith will investigate. Senor Detinto, Spanish Consul, admits that this port is viewed with the most suspicion by Spanish authorities and that his instructions are to keep a rigid outlook here.

MADRID, March 14.—The Government has issued an order forbidding the delivery of private telegrams containing Cuban news of a character unfavorable to the Government. It has also ordered that no cipher messages be sent to Cuba.

MUST BE RESPECTED.

Firing on American Ships Is Rather Too Frequent.

SPAIN DULY CAUTIONED.

Precedents for Demanding Damages for the Alliance Affair.

JURISDICTION THE QUESTION.

Wild Rumors That Uncle Sam Has Already Declared War.

WASHINGTON, March 14.—The Department of State is moving with deliberation in making up its case against the Spanish Government based on the firing by a Spanish cruiser at the American steamship Alliance, holding that in matters of such moment it is absolutely essential that our Government should be in possession of the exact facts so as to avoid the humiliation of retraction through making a demand that could not be sustained by the evidence.

So far no reply has been received at the department in response to the request made upon Captain Crossman of the Alliance for further particulars of the incident. In the meantime the officials are industriously looking up precedents for their guidance and Mr. Uhl, who is still acting Secretary of State during the continued illness of Secretary Gresham, is in frequent consultation with his superior at his rooms in his hotel.

One of the precedents which has been unearthed and brought to the attention of the acting Secretary as having a direct bearing on the Alliance incident was found in the proceedings of the Alabama Claims Commission. In one of the decisions announced by Judge Fitch, the court held there was no authority for the stoppage or detention of a mail steamer which is pursuing her usual route, even if that route lay at places within the three-mile shore limit and so within the jurisdiction of the power seeking to stop the ship.

If this is held to be sound doctrine, then, of course, the Spanish Government will make reparations for the action of its cruiser, even should it appear that the Alliance was within three miles of Cape Maysi, as the Spanish Minister here believes.

On the other hand, if this decision is not in effect then what is known as the headland theory of jurisdiction will probably play an important part in the adjustment of the matter. According to the contention of Great Britain in the Fortuna Bay fisheries case, in which the United States has acquiesced, the line of marine jurisdiction is drawn three miles from a line running across from headland to headland in the case of a bay or depression in the general coast line. The Spanish authorities evidently take the position at this time, in the absence of exact advice, that the Alliance was within such a line, and so within their jurisdiction, although the ship may have been actually more than three miles from the nearest shore.

Probably based on the Alabama decision above referred to a rumor was in circulation to-day to the effect that the State Department has sent a sinister warning to the Spanish Government to the effect that a declaration of war would follow a repetition of the Alliance affair.

Acting Secretary Uhl this afternoon said that he had no further information to give to the press than he had already given out and, taking their cue from him, the other officials of the State Department declined to say anything about the matter. But from the fact that no intimation of any such precipitate action in the absence of a knowledge of the facts has been communicated to the Spanish Minister here, which would certainly be the case if the usual diplomatic amenities were observed, even if such a message had been sent to the Spanish Government directly through United States Minister Taylor at Madrid, the story failed to find much credence.

Senor Murga, the Spanish Minister, has not as yet received word from Cuba as to the gunboat which fired on the Alliance, nor does he know the name of the warship. The delay is due to the fact that the gunboat is cruising off the eastern coast of Cuba, 400 miles from Havana.

THIS FIRING MUST CEASE.

Uncle Sam Sends a Very Pointed Warning to Spain.

CHICAGO, March 14.—A special to the Journal from Washington says: This firing on American vessels bound to and from South Atlantic ports must cease. The Alliance incident must not be repeated. It matters not whether Captain Crossman was within or without a league's distance from the shore. He was in the regular route of vessels passing between the United States and southern ports. It is a recognized thoroughfare and must be respected by Spain as such as far as ships flying the stars and stripes are concerned.

The message embracing the sense of the above, by the direction of Secretary Gresham, was to-day cabled to Minister Taylor at Madrid.

NEW YORK, March 14.—A special dispatch from Colon to the World says: The Colombian line steamship Alliance, which was fired upon by a Spanish war vessel off the eastern coast of Cuba on March 8, took no war materials from here when she sailed on March 5. Her 1700 tons of general freight and 200 tons of bananas quite filled her. Cubans here say that the Alliance was fired upon because of the belief she was a filibuster. They say it is an old Spanish custom to fire upon any suspected vessel.

It is reported that two schooners flying the American flag and carrying arms are wandering between here and Yucatan. Cuban patriots here and in neighboring countries are anxious to return to Cuba.

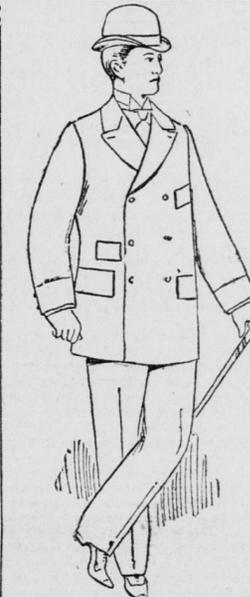
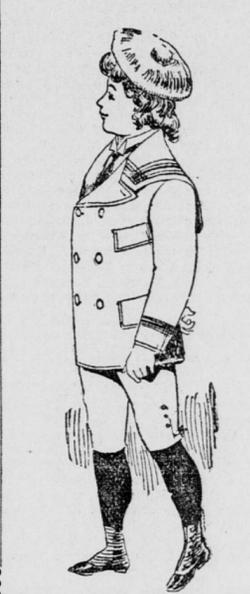
A special dispatch to the World from Havana, signed by the editor of La Lucha, says: No official report of the alleged firing upon a merchantman flying the American flag by a Spanish war vessel has been made here. It is thought that since the Cuban coast is being watched by Spanish naval vessels one of them fired upon a suspicious vessel which did not obey its signal to stop.

INFORMATION REQUESTED.

Captain Crossman's Letter From the State Department.

NEW YORK, March 14.—The following is the letter received by Captain Crossman from the State Department at Washington: To Captain James Crossman, Commander of the Alliance-Sin: I have received your letter of

THE AX DOES THE WORK!



Some Great Cutting To-day in Our JUVENILE DEPARTMENT!

Ladies! You must know by this time that when we begin cutting we never stop to consider values—the question is to sell, and to sell quickly. It means tiny prices for you, for most of our former prices are cut in two. Behold and wonder at the following: 500 pretty Reefer Suits, in blue, gray and tan, for those cute little tots from 3 to 8 years of age; and a like quantity of Reefer Suits in the Commodore style, for those a little older, 8 to 14 years—really good values at \$6. We've cut 'em down to

\$2.50.

350 Swell Scotch and Cheviot Suits, nobby colorings and jaunty trimmings, handsome effects in blues, tans, etc. Cut to

\$3.90.

For the Big Boys, Ages 13 to 19.

200 Double-Breasted Suits, in Blue Chevots, Meltons and Scotch Tweeds; good value at \$9. Cut to

\$5.00.

300 Swell Double-Breasted Suits for that handsome boy of yours, ages 13 to 19. Extraordinary value. Cut to

\$7.50.

These and More, Many More, Equally Great Values in All Departments.

RAPHAEL'S (INCORPORATED), 9, 11, 13 and 15 Kearny Street. The Bona-Fide Bargain Offerers.

March without date, but which reached the department to-day, March 14, which reports the circumstances under which the above-named steamer on her homeward voyage from Colon, Colombia, to New York, off the North Cuban coast, on the 8th inst., was fired upon by a Spanish gunboat.

The department desires to receive from you a statement of facts in the form of an affidavit, accompanied, if possible, by a sketch chart showing the course of the Alliance in passing Cape Maysi and the distance of the vessel from the nearest point of the island of Cuba. The affidavit should be explicit upon these two points. Awaiting such, I am, sir, your obedient servant, EDWARD F. UHL, Acting Secretary.

Later in the day a dispatch was received from Secretary Gresham asking Captain Crossman to send to the State Department exact data of the affair. The captain wired that the report would be sent at once.

Captain Crossman of the Alliance to-night mailed an affidavit to Secretary of State Gresham to Washington regarding the firing on the Alliance. He states in brief that his vessel at the time of the firing was four miles from the coast of Cuba. He said he had saluted the Spanish craft and proceeded on his way.

"About five minutes or possibly less," continued he, "after the salute I heard a gun fired and turned to see what it meant. Mr. Russell reported that the Spaniard had fired a blank cartridge. As it was on the high seas I did not intend to stop, so he could fire away, which he did—another blank shot about three or four minutes after the first and shortly afterward at intervals of a few minutes three more guns with solid shot were fired at us. All fell short, two off the port quarter and the last astern of the starboard quarter, striking the water about a quarter of a mile distant.

"The Spaniard, after firing the first gun, altered his course again. He was heading directly for us. We were gaining on him, and at 8:30 a. m. he was fully five miles astern and I saw that the gunboat was heading to the west, apparently giving up the chase.

"Then we were fully three miles ahead of the Spaniard. Signals were flying from her, but we were far off and too much in line to make them out. We were from nine to ten miles off the coast at the time the first gun was fired, and at no time were we within four miles of the shore. After that our course took us directly off the land."