

swallow up the convention that its identity and prominence would be practically destroyed.

Information was received this afternoon that the committee of New Yorkers who will visit Washington in its behalf will not reach here until a late hour to-morrow.

The Pittsburgh committee appears to be a little late reaching the field, but word was had to-night that two Pullman cars had been chartered by the delegates from that city, and that they would leave the Snoddy City to-night, arriving in Washington to-morrow morning.

The Ohio people are scrupulously refraining from participating in the struggle for choice of location, contenting themselves with booming the candidacy of Governor McKinley, and leaving the choice of place to the friends of the various cities. They express the hope, however, that the convention may go to some central city, and are inclined to believe that ultimately either Chicago or St. Louis will be selected.

SESSION OF CALIFORNIANS.

Every Honorable Means to Be Used to Secure the Convention.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.—The California convention boomers were in session until a late hour to-night at rooms in the Arlington Hotel. The following were present of the regular executive committee: General Chipman, General Friedrich, H. Z. Osborne and M. H. de Young, National Committeeman for California, and several other members of the executive committee; George A. Knight of San Francisco; Frank Rader, Mayor of Los Angeles; C. A. Hale of San Jose, Lippman Sachs of San Francisco, and Representatives Grove L. Johnson, Barham, Maguire, McLachlin, Hilborn and Bowers.

Osborne and Rader, who were the first of the California committee to arrive and who have been hard at work for a week, were called upon to report progress and to give their views of the situation. Osborne responded and stated that he and Rader had canvassed among committeemen and leading Senators and Representatives and believed that there was a good chance for San Francisco to win.

General Chipman and General Friedrich also addressed the meeting, stating their views of the situation, for the information of Mr. De Young and the other late arrivals.

After De Young and Hale and Sachs had the situation explained to them it was resolved that each man present should be given an assignment to interview some member of the National Committee. It was decided that the presentation of California's claims to the National Committee on Tuesday should be made by California's representative on the committee. On motion of Osborne, General Chipman and George A. Knight were selected to make the addresses in behalf of San Francisco. The National Committee list was checked off, and eighteen or nineteen votes were counted who would support San Francisco and several others were pronounced supporters. The committee decided to make no deals, but, as expressed by Osborne, to stand pat.

Colonel Isaac Trumbo, who arrived this morning, stated that he had seen the executive committee and had presented Salt Lake for the honor of entertaining the convention, but that his suggestion was not received with any degree of favor. The committeemen said that if the convention went to the far West they would rather go all the way to San Francisco. Colonel Trumbo thereupon said:

"Well, gentlemen, you can count us in for San Francisco, for her selection will be of mutual advantage to Utah and to California." Colonel Trumbo said that the committee appointed to come here in Utah's behalf would work energetically for San Francisco at Salt Lake supporters.

Colonel Trumbo was assigned to look after Mr. Youngblood, Alabama's committeeman, and he may yet be brought to San Francisco's support. Yesterday it was decided by leading supporters of Chicago, St. Louis and Pittsburg that San Francisco must not be allowed to carry off the prize, and the prospects of St. Louis were greatly strengthened by the arrival of twenty prominent Missourians, who announced that they had raised \$75,000 against Chicago's \$54,000. The St. Louis crowd proved to be great hustlers, and as Chicago is not well represented here St. Louis stock went up. The Missourians were not inclined to agree to the combination against San Francisco, especially when reminded that in 1888 the Californians virtually gave the Democratic Convention to St. Louis.

The California Union wired Governor Francis of Missouri to remind the St. Louis men of that fact. Francis was Missouri's committeeman at the time of that contest and he well remembered that California had come to the support of St. Louis. He telegraphed the St. Louis delegation here to support San Francisco if St. Louis could not win. Congressman Joy of Missouri, who spent considerable time in San Francisco with his brother during the past year, also opposed any combination against San Francisco and favored San Francisco in case St. Louis could not win. Ex-Congressman Frank, now Mayor of St. Louis, was also partial to San Francisco. In short St. Louis has concluded to do some flirting with San Francisco and endeavor to secure her support in order to "do up" her great rival, Chicago. On the other hand San Francisco is coquetting with St. Louis in the hope that if the city cannot win she will throw her strength to San Francisco.

A dinner was given by Stephen B. Elkins at his residence to-night at which were present General Clarkson, Senators Quay and Carter and Committeemen Hahn, Manley, Campbell, Kerens and Fessenden, Thomas C. Platt and Colonel Isaac Trumbo.

Those present denied that this dinner had any political significance. Senator Quay acknowledges privately that Pittsburg stands but little chance. He believes the convention lies between Chicago and St. Louis.

In a Position to Dictate. The New York Herald of December 1 announced that if San Francisco did not get the convention in 1896 it would be able to dictate where it would be held.

Declined to Fight Maher. NEW YORK, N. Y., Dec. 9.—A special to the Herald from Houston, Tex., says: Robert Fitzsimmons to-day declined to sign articles for a fight with Peter Maher for Dan Stuart's \$10,000 purse. He says his terms are a \$20,000 purse and a \$500 side bet.

Captain Bassett's Condition. WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.—The condition of Captain Bassett, the venerable druggie of the Senate, was unchanged to-day.

Some of the things at Crocker's are almost too pretty to use—the sort of presents people like. Writers' articles, bags, calendars.

227 Post street 215 Bush street

WORK FOR CONGRESS.

Filling of the Committee Vacancies First in Order.

CLAIM OF THE SEALERS.

Senator Morgan Will Score the British Ambassador for His Statement.

OPPOSE THE BIG AWARDS.

Cullom Will Make a Speech on His Resolution Relative to the Monroe Doctrine.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.—The second week in the Senate will be an undetermined quantity. Pending the filling of committee vacancies but little business can be transacted, and it is not expected that these vacancies will be supplied before the latter part of the week, if then. There is no calendar and no order of business has been agreed upon.

To-morrow, however, Morgan will call up his resolution referring that part of the President's message relating to the payment of the British Bering Sea claims to the Committee on Foreign Relations, with instructions to examine into the question of liability to Great Britain and report to the Senate by bill or otherwise. The speech which Morgan has carefully prepared to accompany his motion will consume the greater part of the afternoon.

It is said to be a severe arraignment of the administration and a caustic criticism on the "officious intermeddling," as he terms it, of the British Ambassador, who, in an official dispatch to the British Foreign Office, made public first in London and afterward in this country, controverted some of Morgan's statements on the floor of the Senate. Morgan originally strongly antagonized the proposition to pay great Britain the lump sum of \$425,000 for the alleged illegal seizure of Canadian sealers prior to the award of the Paris tribunal (of which he was a member) without an investigation, and as the President has again recommended such payment the Alabama Senator, it is understood, will present his reasons for opposing the payment of the British claim in detail and in his most vigorous style. His speech will probably create a considerable sensation.

On Tuesday Cullom will address the Senate on his resolution relative to the Monroe doctrine, and the Illinois Senator will take strong grounds for a pronounced American policy in our dealings with other nations.

To-morrow a special meeting of the Judiciary Committee will be held to consider nomination of Rufus W. Peckham, to be Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. As there appears to be no objection to this nomination it is believed his confirmation will speedily follow the favorable report it is expected the committee will make at the next executive session.

Senator Hill reached Washington last night and will be at the meeting of the Judiciary Committee, of which he is a member. It is asserted that the notable visit which Senator Hill in company with Secretary Lamont paid to the Attorney General "on legal business" a few weeks ago had reference to Judge Peckham's nomination.

No programme of business has been arranged for the House this week, nor any can be until Speaker Reed announces the committees, and thus provides the necessary machinery for the full operation of the body. Two diametrically opposite reports were in circulation yesterday regarding the Speaker's intentions. One was that the committees would be announced Monday or Tuesday; the other, that the list would not be made up until just before the adjournment for the holidays.

The best judgment seems to be that the Speaker will not be prepared to-morrow to name the committees, and that the House will adjourn, after a brief session, until Wednesday or Thursday, and thus permit members to attend the meeting of the National Republican Committee, called to select the place of holding the convention in 1896.

TRIED IN SHORT ORDER.

Rapid Conviction of the Slayer of Ida Gaskill at Omaha.

Made a Record for the Disposition of a Murder Case in the State of Nebraska.

OMAHA, NEBR., Dec. 8.—The jury in the case of George Morgan, accused of the murder of Ida Gaskill, a girl 11 years of age, November 3, went out last night and brought in a verdict to-day finding Morgan guilty and sentenced him to be hanged.

This is one of the most rapid murder trials in this State. Only five weeks ago to-day the body of the girl was found in a closet in an old, deserted building, with evidence that she had been criminally assaulted and murdered. Suspicion was directed to Morgan, who roomed in the same building as the girl and her mother. He was arrested after midnight and blood was found on his clothing and hands.

An attempt was made to lynch him the next night, but he was sent to the State Prison at Lincoln and thus saved. The trial lasted but a week and the evidence was strong, though wholly circumstantial. It gives almost unanimous satisfaction.

AWFUL DEEDS OF A MANIAC. Valentine Hibbs Shot Himself and Stabbed His Wife.

DEXTER, IOWA, Dec. 8.—The Valentine Hibbs home, four miles northeast of Dexter, was the scene to-day at 1 p. m. of one of the bloodiest tragedies ever enacted in Central Iowa.

Grant Hibbs, aged 32 years, fired one shot at his wife, then turned the 38-caliber revolver and shot himself twice through the head. Then he grabbed a knife and inflicted twelve dangerous wounds on his wife before falling from loss of blood. At 5 o'clock to-night Hibbs is slowly dying, his brains running out of both wounds.

The wife is in a precarious condition, but she will live. Hibbs was released from the Mount Pleasant Insane Asylum as cured five weeks ago, but his insanity returned suddenly in a violent form.

FOUGHT FIRE FOUR HOURS.

Chicago Ladies Made a Gallant Struggle to Save Property in the Wholesale District.

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 8.—Fire in the notion house of Wolf & Co. to-day caused a loss of between \$200,000 and \$300,000 on the stock and about \$80,000 on the building, which was owned by the Conrad Seipp estate. The stock and building were fully insured. The house of Wolf & Co. is at the corner of Market and Madison streets, in the heart of the wholesale district, and for four hours the firemen fought the fire to keep it from spreading. A. W. Hayward & Co., wholesale shoes, and the Steuben County Wine Company suffered slight losses from water. The fire started in the fourth floor of the building and was caused by the burning of an over-charged electric wire.

One fireman was badly injured and narrowly escaped death. John Dore of a hook and ladder company was in the building when a burning ceiling fell and, while he managed to extricate himself before being burned to death, he came out seriously injured and badly disfigured about the hands and face. He was removed to his home in an ambulance.

ESCAPED FROM FLAMES.

Several Men Had to Fight for Their Lives During a Chicago Fire.

A Watchman Overcome by the Smoke and With Others Was Rescued Just in Time.

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 8.—The four-story brick building at 178 and 180 Wabash avenue, occupied by piano, fur and shoe firms, with its contents was almost entirely gutted by fire at 11 o'clock to-night. The fire started in the boiler-room in the basement, and soon spread to every part of the building.

The first floor of No. 178 was occupied by Joseph Bohman, with violins and other musical instruments, and the remaining floors were used by Meyer & Weber, who are agents for the Stiefel make of pianos. On the first floor of No. 180 was D. Sauer, dealer in fine shoes, and C. Devere & Co., furriers, and C. Hanson Frost occupied the floors above.

Sleeping in the store of Joseph Bohman was a watchman who is now in the County Hospital in a very critical condition. He was overcome by smoke.

In 180 two men were sleeping on the top floor in the rooms of C. H. Frost, Mike Aschewer, one of the men, made his way to the second floor, but finding the flames had cut off escape by the steps he jumped from a second-story window into the alley, spraining his left leg, but sustaining no permanent injuries. Arthur W. Watson, the other man, was rescued by the firemen.

Nothing in the building escaped damage, and the loss will be over \$100,000, though no accurate estimate can be made at this time.

Meyer & Weber and Joseph Bohmann will be the greatest losers. Many of their goods were saved from the fire, but totally ruined by water. Sauer suffered more from water than from fire, and Devere & Co., who were being sold out by an assignee, lost many expensive furs.

GRANTING MANY PARDONS.

Governor Broken of Kentucky Grows Very Lenient.

FRANKFORT, KY., Dec. 9.—Like Luke P. Blackburn, Governor John Young Brown is exercising his pardoning powers before vacating the Governor's chair. It was said last night that before the inauguration of William O. Brady, Kentucky's Republican Governor, to-morrow, Governor Brown will pardon the famous Kentucky forgers, Hume Clay and Frank Seacore.

Clay forged his grandfather's name to negotiable paper amounting to about \$100,000 while Seacore transferred to himself property belonging to his father to the value of \$500,000. He cut the property up into town lots and manipulated mortgages, releases and deeds in such a manner as to put to blush the most artistic work of "Jim the Penman".

After trying to obtain his pardon in vain for several years, Clay's wife secured a divorce. Seacore's wife has proved faithful, although when his forgeries were discovered it was found that he was banking in the smiles of a young widow whom he had equipped in luxury. She is still pleading for his pardon, and his father has turned her out of her home.

DESTROYING A WHOLE TOWN.

Great Damage Done by a Fire in Connecticut.

RIDGEFIELD, CONN., Dec. 8.—A fire which broke out at 9:30 to-night threatens to destroy the entire center of the town. The fire originated in the big wooden block owned by G. S. Gage, located on Main street. Bedstead and bed were soon burned out and the Western Union telegraph office also ruined. By 11 o'clock the flames had consumed the Gage block, and fifteen minutes later the fire had attacked the town hall, on the opposite side of Bailey avenue. The Western Union telegraph office was destroyed. Then came the grocery store of Barthe & Valden and a few residences. These buildings were burned before 11 o'clock.

On Bailey avenue, to the west and rear of the Gage block, was a plumbing-shop and a row of wooden buildings recently built. These were all burned. On Bailey avenue is also located Scott's stable, a big building, and this was destroyed. On the south side of the town hall, on Main street, was the building occupied by the Ridgefield Press and a residence and two stores, one occupied by Mr. Gilbert and the other by Hibbard & Sherwood fish-dealers. In Gilbert's store the central station of the Southern New England Telephone Company was located.

THE ANDREWS FAILURE.

Plan to Sell a Quantity of Furniture in This City.

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 8.—At a meeting yesterday of the mercantile creditors of A. H. Andrews & Co. the furniture dealers who failed last week a plan was decided upon by which it is believed the assets of the company will be placed in the hands of the assignee. Weber & Co., a San Francisco firm, was negotiating with the Andrews Company before the failure for the purchase of \$30,000 worth of school furniture. The County Court and Sheriff will be asked to agree to the sale of this furniture, and the sale will result in a fund out of which the claim of the Globe National Bank of \$25,000 can be paid. This will release the assets from the control of the Sheriff and the assignee will be able to take full charge. This plan will be submitted to the court on Tuesday next.

IN WILLIAM'S DOMAIN.

The Emperor Recalled by the Dissensions in the Cabinet.

ABANDONED THE FETES.

Suddenly He Left the Hunting Party and Started Back to Berlin.

COALITION AGAINST KOELLER.

But the Minister of the Interior Is Firmly Upheld and Will Resume His Duties.

BERLIN, GERMANY, Dec. 8.—The Kaiser returned to Berlin last Wednesday and devoted a part of the day to interviews with the various Ministers. At noon he started for Hanover to participate in the annual grand hunt in the forests of Springe. The two days' shooting in these forests, as a rule, complete the hunting season. The imperial hunting party included eighteen guns, and the hunters were reckoning upon killing at least 350 wild pigs in the beech woods of Springe, besides enjoying a battle for red deer in the adjacent forests of Landendau. The programme included a banquet Thursday evening in the royal castle, which was to be followed by a gala performance in the theater.

On Friday there was to be a grand parade of the troops of the Hanover garrison and a dinner at the castle, enlivened with singing by the Hanoverian Choral Union, followed by a musicale by the officers of the corps, a quadrille, riding, etc. The Emperor had arranged for a short spell of relaxation from the cares of state, and all telegrams, dispatches and other papers were ordered sent to him only if they were urgently important, until the hunt should be over.

Suddenly on Friday he countermanded this order and Dr. von Lucanus, chief of the Emperor's private cabinet, was summoned to Hanover. The doctor arrived in due time and remained in conference with the Emperor from the time of his arrival until both made their appearance at the dinner in the evening. The Emperor seemed preoccupied. He talked very little and immediately after dinner he retired with Dr. von Lucanus for another conference. Nothing was known by the hunting party, of course, as to the reason for these conferences, but the guests surmised that the Ministerial crisis had become more acute. The expectations that surprises were awaiting the country became certainties on Saturday when it was made known that the Emperor had abandoned the hunt and started on his return to Berlin. It transpired later that before leaving Hanover the Emperor had conferences with Herr Heydebrand, provincial prefect of Breslau, Dr. von Püttkammer, formerly Minister of the Interior, and now prefect of Pommern, and Herr von Studt, prefect of Westphalia, who had been summoned to Hanover by Dr. von Lucanus by the order of the Emperor early Friday morning.

Although there is a coalition of Ministers against Herr von Koeller, Minister of the Interior, that gentleman appears to be firmly upheld. The Berlin Post, commenting on the situation, declares that the best informed circles expect that von Koeller's leave of absence will terminate very shortly, when he will resume his duties at the head of the Ministry of the Interior. A letter written by Professor Hans Delbrueck, editor of the Preussische Jahrbucher, whom von Koeller recently attempted to prosecute, has been published here. In this letter the writer says that while not seeking to commend von Koeller's methods of socialist repression he desires to correct the statements made in the press regarding to the Minister's behavior toward him, which, he says, was not chivalric.

Meanwhile, despite the Cabinet troubles arising from differences between Herr von Koeller and the other Ministers and the impending crisis at Constantinople, fashionable and official circles in Berlin are looking forward to a brilliant winter season. The ex-Emperor Frederick arrived in Berlin Saturday for a stay extending over the carnival festivities, and Princess von Hohenlohe and her daughters resumed their residence at the chancellery on Thursday. The presence of these personages in Berlin always implies the coming of numerous members of the Continental aristocracy for the season.

M. de Szogeny-March, the Austrian Minister, inaugurated a series of dinners on Thursday, at which United States Ambassador Rumson, Prince and Princess Anthon Radziwill, Count and Countess Potocni, Count von Lochenell, Dr. de Aranjó, the Brazilian Minister, and other distinguished persons were guests.

The inspection of the old Schloss in Ploen, preparatory to Crown Prince William and his brother, Prince Eitel Frederick, taking up their residence there while attending the gymnasium at Ploen, has revealed the necessity of thorough sanitation and renovation of the entire interior of the building, and an army of workmen are now employed on the premises. The work is being done under the supervision of Court Marshal von Lincker. The inhabitants of Ploen are having a rich harvest of applicants for lodging as the result of the expected presence of the young prince, hundreds of rich parents having decided to tempt their sons to the college there while the princes are also studying there.

Herr Heydebrand and von Studt and Dr. von Püttkammer are now in Berlin, and each of them seems to be a candidate for the office of Minister of the Interior.

Among the chorus of press declarations against President Cleveland's references to Germany in his recent threats to Congress, and threats of bringing into action Germany's power to make reprisals, the Vorwarts, the principal Socialist journal, is notably impartial, and its clear-sighted article stands almost alone in warning Germans that the industrial supremacy of the United States must be admitted. "It is based," the article says, "upon the inexhaustible natural wealth of the country and is enormously developed by enterprise and the technical skill and intelligence of workmen who are less oppressed than the workmen of impoverished Europe. The prosperity of America is growing yearly, and even its steel and iron products are now excelling those of European countries."

COLORADO'S MINING BOOM.

Predictions Made of Great Returns in the Cripple Creek Region.

Leaving Leadville Behind the Camp Will Soon Surpass South Africa.

DENVER, COLO., Dec. 8.—Ex-Governor James B. Grant, of the Omaha and Grant smelter, who returned from a trip through the Cripple Creek country yesterday, believes the future of that region will surpass even all anticipations of those who had great hopes for Leadville. He thinks Cripple Creek mines will produce more gold in the next twenty years than any camp ever known.

"When they have been mining seventeen years at Cripple Creek," said Grant, "it is safe to say the camp will have produced over \$500,000,000. The production from Leadville will also probably increase from now on, as the craze is widespread." Mr. Grant is of the opinion that the Cripple Creek mines will soon excel the South Africa region, both in mine value and actual tonnage, because the ore from the Kaffirs is low grade.

COLORADO SPRINGS, COLO., Dec. 8.—During the first week of December the sales of Cripple Creek mining stocks aggregated 11,829,457 shares. For the same time in November, but 600,000 shares were sold. The sales for the present month promise an enormous total, as the three mining exchanges will be re-enforced the coming week by a night exchange and an open board. The calls are now made twice daily, and at all hours the streets in front of the exchanges are almost impassable. Mining experts see no end to the present craze, based as it is upon Cripple Creek—thirty square miles of rich low-grade and frequent bonanza ores. During the week just closed twenty-four mining companies to operate at Cripple Creek were incorporated.

TRIAL OF DOSE OF MORPHINE.

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 8.—Mrs. Walter McMahon, wife of Walter McMahon, a special artist of San Francisco, took a dose of morphine to-night with suicidal intent. She is now in the County Hospital and is not expected to live.

President Cleveland to place less reliance upon the argument that America needs German wares.

The census of Germany, which was taken last Monday, was the most careful and thorough ever known. The questions asked involved every particular of employment, physical condition, nationality and religion and everything calculated to place the authorities in possession of all the facts of social and individual life. Many of the newspapers complain, however, that the system has become too inquisitorial. The sum of the results will not be known for some time, but the figures show the population of Berlin to be 1,674,112, which is an increase of only 6 per cent during the last five years as compared with an increase of 20 per cent in the previous five years. As the suburbs, where the population overflows, are not included in the city the return gives a false impression of the spread of the capital.

A meeting of the Brandenburg Rural Economic Council was held on Wednesday, at which the Emperor approved the proposal for the maintenance of the sugar premiums and also a limitation of the production. The Posen delegates, however, protested against the present form of the sugar bill. Baron von Hammerstein-Loxten, Prussian Minister of Agriculture, Domains and Forests, stated that the Government would enter into negotiations for the suppression of sugar premiums. If the Governments of Austria and France would agree to suppress them Germany would concur. The Freisinnige Zeitung expresses the opinion that only the United States and England would benefit by the operation of the sugar bill. The Tageblatt says that under a tariff war with America German sugar exporters would be severely punished. The Handels Zeitung expresses the hope that the new Minister of the Interior will cause a revision of the sugar bill and withdraw the cancellation of the licenses of American life insurance companies to do business in Germany.

Six German delegates, including Dr. Arendt, Baron von Mirbach and Herr von Kardorff, will attend the international bimetallic conference to be held in Berlin. The committee of the Berlin Bourse has been obliged to communicate with the committee of the Vienna Bourse in regard to the refusal of Austrian operators to pay the differences due from them to Berlin operators. Several firms in Vienna, who were pinched by Wednesday's settlement, paid up in Vienna, but dishonored their engagements in Berlin. The Vienna committee, aware of the grave results which would follow such a dishonest course, forced the delinquent operators to compromise on the basis of a reduction of 40 per cent of the amounts due. The credit of Vienna dealers has through this incident suffered very much in the estimation of German operators.

Frederic Kay, United States Consul-General here, has secured twelve charter members of the fencing club which is forming in Berlin, including Professor Miller, J. B. Jackson, secretary of the American embassy, and Lieutenant Vreiland, the American naval attaché, Secretary Squires, United States Vice-Consul Zimmerman and Lord Greenville.

Herr Dove, the tailor who invented the bullet-proof coat, is lying at Wiesbaden. He has been married to his companion on the recent tours, Miss Drane, the champion rifle shot.

The Vorwarts, commenting on the Post's references to Herr von Koeller, says: "We can only hope that von Koeller will remain in the Ministry of the Interior, and would still more rejoice if he should become Chancellor and Prussian Premier with an entire Ministry of the same mind."

The gales which have prevailed throughout Germany, with their resultant disasters, still continue. At Bremen, Hamburg and Kiel there have been numerous shipping casualties, steamboat traffic has ceased, and inland traffic is greatly impeded. The rivers Fulda, Saale, Jagst, Kocher and Kinzig have overflowed their banks and inundated great tracts of land. The loss of life and property has been heavy, but details are difficult to obtain as yet. At Oldenburg, a workshop was blown down yesterday while twenty-five men were at work within. Three were killed and seven were seriously injured. The Hankhausen Inn at Oldenburg was struck by lightning and set on fire and destroyed and three persons were burned to death.

The Baltic-North Sea Canal at Rendsburg, Holstein, have burst, and other damage to the canal is reported. The Copenhagen mail has been stopped, vessels not daring to venture out, and an immense loss of property in Jutland is reported.

CHURCHILL AND BARNES DECORATED BY THE SPANISH.

MADRID, SPAIN, Dec. 8.—A dispatch to the Imperial from Havana says that the military decoration of the Red Cross has been accorded to Lieutenants Churchill and Barnes of the British army for the gallantry displayed by them during the recent engagement between the Government forces and the rebels commanded by Gomez and Maceo. Lieutenant Churchill is a son of the late Lord Randolph Churchill. Both he and Lieutenant Barnes were with the Spanish forces under General Suarez Valdez in the battle on December 2 at La Reforma, and were complimented in the official reports.

GIVEN THE RED CROSS.

Churchill and Barnes Decorated by the Spanish.

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CONFISCATION OF AN ESTATE.

Minister Baker Was Not Negligent in Protesting Against Nicaragua's Act.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 8.—The alleged confiscation of the estate of Joseph Hissmaier by the Nicaraguan Government because his American citizenship was not proved and no heirs appeared, and about which some friends in this country appear to be indignant against Mr. Baker, the United States Minister to Nicaragua, attributing to him the loss of Hissmaier's property, has been made a matter of inquiry at the State Department. The document on file there does not indicate any lack of diligence on Mr. Baker's part, and it is stated that it was only yesterday that he discovered that Hissmaier was an American citizen.

Hissmaier was murdered, and about six months ago his alleged murderer was lynched by persons said to have been Americans. At any rate, some Americans were arrested as parties to the lynching, but were dealt with leniently by the Nicaraguan Government. The statement that Mr. Baker appointed a curator of Hissmaier's estate on the assumption that the deceased was an American is true, but it is said at the department that proof of Hissmaier's naturalization could not be produced within the time provided by law and the estate was accordingly confiscated.

This case, it is understood, has been reopened on representations made by relatives of Hissmaier in Chicago.

FOUNDED BY HARVEY.

Incorporation of a National Secret Political Order.

CHICAGO, ILL., Dec. 8.—A morning paper says a National secret political order founded by William H. Harvey, the author of "Coin's Financial School," will file articles of incorporation with the Secretary of State at Springfield within the next few days. It is to be known as the "Patriots of America," and its sole object is the restoration of the bimetallic standard. Charters, it is said, have been made out and will be sent immediately to at least 1000 lodges in various parts of the United States.

The immediate purpose of the order, as voiced by its founder, is to take such steps as will compel recognition of the claims of the Democrats or Republican parties, or both, when they assemble in National convention next summer.

Since September a persistent and thorough canvass of every county in the United States has been in progress and thousands

ALL OFFERS IN VAIN.

Campos Finds It Wholly Impossible to Bribe Leaders.

CUBANS ARE PATRIOTIC.

Generals Maceo and Gomez Much Prefer Liberty to the Gold of the Enemy.

SUGAR PLANTATIONS RUINED.

A Source of Revenue to the Spaniards Cut Off, and This Will Shorten the War.

BOSTON, MASS., Dec. 8.—A dispatch to a morning paper from Havana brings some very interesting intelligence regarding the war in Cuba.

The dispatch states that the Spanish inhabitants and natives are each day growing more demonstrative, owing to the strictness with which the military regulations are being kept up. The one object of attack is General Campos, and what friends he had in the Colonial Government are fast falling away from his standard and are condemning his policy in granting leniency to the insurgents.

Even the captain-general himself, it is claimed, has been made aware of the fallacy of his reasoning that more success could be gained by pursuing a lenient policy than a severe one. He has discovered that this time those in the field are fighting for nothing short of liberty, and that bribes or other methods of intimidation or cajolery are not sufficient to make traitors to the patriotic cause. It is known for a fact that since the opening of the war General Gomez, General Maceo and other insurgent leaders have been offered great inducements, but in every case they have shown the whole affair in its true light.

The sugar-planters of the island are at last finding out that it will be practically impossible for them to continue the industry until more definite settlements are arrived at. The sugar plantations have so often been the scene of constant changing of hands that work is absolutely suspended.

This in itself is a factor that promises an early termination of the struggle, notwithstanding the reports to the contrary. The income from the plantations is over \$60,000,000 a year, and it was on this fact that the Spanish home Government had rested such weight as a certain source for money to carry on the war when the royal coffers were empty, but by the loss of this revenue there can be only one result, and that is that Spain, already bankrupt by a war which has caused her untold loss, will surely be obliged to give up the struggle for lack of money.

Another dispatch from Santiago de Cuba states that word was received in that city on the 29th of November that the combined insurgent army was rapidly pushing the regulars back toward Havana, and although no large battle had been fought the patriots had been successful in a number of sanguinary skirmishes.

NEW TO-DAY.

Free lessons to young men on "how to dress." We're competent teachers, having made boys' clothes a special study.

Inform yourself not only on the question of style, fit and durability—but how to obtain these and have pocket money left.

Nobby, "sleek" fitting suits, \$10 to \$20, for which a tailor's prices would be \$15 to \$30. Necessary alterations free.

Roos Bros 27-29