committees in both the House and Senate that have jurisdiction of the Nicaragua canal matter are understood to be predisposed against it. By a curious coincidence it happens that the chairman of the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee, which has charge of the matter in the House, is the second member of the Pacific Railroads Committee and a strong advocate of the funding bill; while the chairman of the Committee on Commerce in the Senate, Mr. Frye, is a member of the Committee on Pacific Railroads in that body and is one of the men relied on by Huntington to make the fight for the funding bill.

"It is a striking circumstance that the funding bill supporters in both houses are thus related to other important matters of legislation in which the Southern Pacific combination is interested. Of course, an adverse report of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce in the House or of the Committee on Commerce in the Senate in the Nicaragua Canal proposition would be practically conclusive. It would be impossible to overcome such a report. The same is true of a report from the Committee on Rivers and Harbors of the House or of the Committee on Commerce of the Senate against an application for improvement of any harbor or waterway."

Maguire's observations coincide with those of others here who have been watching the maneuvers of Huntington and his lobbyists. THE CALL correspondent, during the last Congress, secured a copy of a telegram which Huntington sent to Frye, opposing an appropriation for a deep harbor at San Pedro and favoring Santa Monica, where the Southern Pacific has built wharves.

Senator Jones of Nevada, who, as is well known in California, has large landed interests at Santa Monica, was in communication with Huntington. Frye and Jones were both members of the Commerce Committee, which has such projects to report upon, and both Jones and Frye were active on the floor of the Senate, pulling wires for Santa Monica. Jones proposed a resolution to send the Committee on Commerce on a junket to the Pacific Coast, and proposed to entertain them at his Santa Monica ranch. The resolution passed, but several members of the committee refused to go, evidently fearing that a scandal might be attached to their trip.

Huntington is again working to secure an appropriation for Santa Monica. His agent here, John Boyd, has filed with the Commerce Committee a report of Southern Pacific Engineer Hood in which he endeavors to show that Santa Monica is much better adapted for a deep harbor than San Pedro. This is an attempt to counteract the effect of reports made by two different boards of United States engineers in favor of San Pedro as against Santa Monica.

THE CALL correspondent has entrusted to Maguire evidence tending to show that Huntington, through his agents here, has brought questionable influence to bear upon land officials of the Government to expedite railroad patents. His agents here have used money to influence subordinates employed in land offices. One of the parties, who was not paid what he was promised, is willing to offer testimony when the time comes, which will place Mr. Huntington's men in very bad light.

A resolution will probably be introduced in Congress calling for an investigation and directing the Attorney-General to bring a suit to set aside patents secured by such means. THE CALL correspondent has in his possession documents in writing showing that a Land Department clerk made a proposition to the railroad that he would resign his Government position and accept money from the railroad to make corrections in land selections, which had not been specified, tract for tract, according to departmental regulations. This Government clerk did the work and secured the assistance of another clerk in the Land Office by paying him money. They also paid money to the son of Commissioner Stone, the former Commissioner of the Land Office, hoping thereby to secure the aid of Commissioner Stone himself.

ADMIRAL BUNCE'S SQUADRON.

Much Speculation Concerning Its Future Movements.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 3.—The detention of Admiral Bunce's squadron at Hampton Roads for the last two weeks, although it was ready to commence its cruise promptly on December 21, according to the programme laid down by Secretary Herbert, was at first generally supposed to be due to a reluctance on the part of the administration to permit even the implied menace of its presence in the West Indies during the excitement following the President's Venezuelan message to Congress of December 16. The explanation was plausible enough to satisfy every one for several days. Now even the commanding officers of the ships forming the fleet are beginning to be mystified by the prolonged delay.

Such absence of information about a squadron's movements is said to be unprecedented in times of peace, and especially when its daily itinerary for the ensuing five months had been published and as the wives and other relatives of many of the officers had made engagements to meet the vessels at several ports where they would rendezvous for several days' stay. There is considerable concern lest the meetings will be rendered altogether impossible.

Driven to speculation all sorts of rumors are in circulation about the ships according to letters received here, and the latest of these, which is not wholly without believers even in the Navy Department, proceeds on the assumption that Admiral Bunce has sealed orders which may at any moment send him with his entire fleet to the Bosphorus.

Even the more conservative officers are disposed to attach some credence to the idea, modifying it, however, to the opinion that Gibraltar or the Azores may be the first stopping place of the squadron after leaving the Chesapeake, instead of St. Thomas, West Indies. There are a number of significant facts which, grouped together, seem to give probability to the rumor.

Admiral Selfridge and Minister Terrell have been sending a good many cablegrams to Washington in the last three weeks and the State and Navy departments have spared no expense in cable bills since early in December.

On December 21 it was announced that a dispatch of general instructions had been sent to Admiral Selfridge to furnish all protection and comfort to such missionaries as might apply, and almost simultaneously came the press dispatch from Turkey that Admiral Selfridge had cabled the Navy Department that he was unable to carry out his instructions, whatever they were, because of insufficient force. The following day Admiral Bunce came to Washington and had a long interview with Secretary Herbert, after which the Secretary said that the time of the fleet's departure was indefinite. Some of Admiral Bunce's subordinates now think that Secretary Herbert gave the admiral sealed instructions at the last interview, which were only to be opened at sea under agreed conditions. These conditions, if this be so, would, of course, depend upon further advices from Minister Terrell.

STATEHOOD FOR UTAH

Admitted Into the Union by Proclamation of the President.

SIGNED WITH STUB PEN.

All the Preliminary Proceedings Found to Have Been Legally Taken.

NEW STAR ADDED TO THE FLAG.

A General Holiday Granted and Officers Will Be Inaugurated at Once.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 4.—Utah was admitted to the sisterhood of States at 10:30 o'clock this morning, when President Cleveland signed a proclamation to that effect. There was no ceremony about the matter.

Mr. Cleveland and Private Secretary Thurber were alone in the President's office at the time and the signing was done with a steel stub pen affixed to a wooden penholder. The pen and penholder were presented to Governor West of Utah, who came to the White House about the time the proclamation was signed.

The proclamation is couched in the usual formal language of such documents, and divested of its verbiage, merely certifies to the legality of the constitutional convention and its acts under authority of the act of Congress of July 16, 1894, and declares that the terms and conditions prescribed by Congress having been complied with, the creation of the State and its admission into the Union on an equal footing with the original States is now accomplished.

HEBER M. WELLS, GOVERNOR-ELECT OF UTAH.
[*Reproduced from a photograph.*]

ENTHUSIASM IN UTAH.

The Good News Causes Much General Rejoicing.

SALT LAKE, UTAH, Jan. 4.—The news received this morning that President Cleveland had signed the State proclamation for Utah was the occasion of great demonstrations of joy. Public buildings and places of business are decorated and flags and bunting float in the breeze everywhere. Governor West was the recipient of numerous congratulatory telegrams from every quarter of the Nation.

The day was observed as a partial holiday, and the people smiled and congratulated each other as happy as children with a new toy. Cannons were fired, bells rung and whistles blown for hours, and similar demonstrations were made in every town and village in the State.

On Monday the new State officers will be inaugurated, and the Governor has proclaimed a general holiday. There will be military displays, children's parade, patriotic orations, an inaugural address by the Governor and other exercises, closing with a grand ball and fireworks in the evening.

The State Legislature is called to meet in special session and will convene at 2 P. M. on Monday.

The Senatorial fight is growing warmer daily. Arthur Brown's prospects are improving, and C. S. Varian's stock has also advanced the past few days. A new candidate, and one who will be quite a factor, is Philo Farnsworth. Ex-Congressman Frank Cannon is generally considered out of the race, it being conceded that he will give place to his father, George Q. Cannon, who, without doubt, wants the office, and anything that George Q. Cannon wants in Utah he generally gets. The other strongest man in the race is Colonel Isaac Trumbo, who, in addition to a good share of the Gentile support, has, it is understood, the support of the leading Mormon Church officials, including that of George Q. Cannon, who thinks Trumbo would be a fitting colleague for himself in the Senate.

REPUBLICANS WILL CONTROL.

The People of Utah Are Believers in Protection.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 4.—The new Congressman from Utah, Clarence E. Allen, who arrived in town a day or two ago, said to-day:

"Utah's representation in the United States Senate will be evenly divided between gentiles and Mormons. One Senator will be given to each faction, both of which have been struggling to control the politics of Salt Lake region.

"The new State will be Republican for many years to come because the people believe in protection. They are especially favorable to duties on lead and wool, the principal industries of the section.

"Statehood is universally hailed as a boon because the people look forward to a rapid growth of the State, which has been retarded by the Territorial environments."

PROJECTILES FOR WARSHIPS.

The Contract Made With Two Pennsylvania Firms.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 4.—The contract for furnishing projectiles for the new warships mentioned in dispatches recently as about to be arranged with the Sterling Company of McKeesport, Pa., and the Carpenter Projectile Company, another Pennsylvania firm, was finally concluded. The amount allotted for the purchase is equally divided between the two concerns. The contracts call for 13-inch and 8-inch armor-piercing shells for the battle-ships Kearsarge and Kentucky, 8-inch shells for the armored cruiser Brooklyn and 12-inch shells for the coast-defense vessel Puritan.

The Battle-Ship Texas.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 4.—The battle-ship Texas has arrived at Norfolk, where she will be examined by a board of survey to ascertain her condition and report on the extent and cost of the necessary repairs to put her in good condition for service. The Texas will then be placed out of commission, her officers and crew assigned to other vessels and the repairs begun.

Assistant Superintendent.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 4.—Postmaster-General Wilson to-day appointed L. T. Myers of Richmond, Va., Assistant General Superintendent of the Railway Mail Service. This office has been vacant for over a year and a half.

Reduced Appropriations.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 4.—The sub-committee of the House Appropriation Committee having in charge the preparation of the pension appropriation bill has finished its labors on the measure and will lay the bill before the full committee on Wednesday next. The committee reduced the appropriation for the next fiscal year $2,000,000 below the Commissioner's estimate, which is $140,000,000.

PERISHED IN THE SMOKE.

Two Persons Met Death and Four Were Injured During a Fire.

Miraculous Escape of Twenty Men and Six Children From the Flames.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., Jan. 4.—A fire which swept through a combined store, hall and tenement four-story brick structure at the corner of Third and Gaskill streets this afternoon resulted in the death of two men and the serious injury of four others, all Polish Jews. The escape of at least twenty men and six children, all of whom were penned in by the flames, was little short of miraculous. The money loss is about $5000.

The dead: Harris Levi, aged 45 years, suffocated; Marks Feinberg, aged 30 years, spine fractured and internally injured, died at the hospital.

The injured are: Jacob Venisky, aged 22 years; Lewis Veirkman, aged 38 years; David Kolinsky, aged 38; Bernard Balbinsky, aged 23.

The fire is supposed to have been started by a lighted match being thrown carelessly into the cellar by an unknown person and which landed among some oil barrels. In an instant the cellar was a mass of flames and the fire quickly spread.

A score of tailors had been holding a meeting on the third floor, and when the building became enveloped in flames the men made a wild rush to escape by the stairway. The smoke forced them back and then they ran to the windows. One of the number jumped from a window and crashed through a canvas awning. He landed on the sidewalk but little hurt. This actuated a dozen others to jump, the awning also breaking their fall.

By this time the awning was torn so badly that it offered but little resistance to the jumpers, and when Jacob Venisky plunged downward, head first, he went through the canvass and struck on the sidewalk with terrific force. Levi remained in the center window screaming for help and apparently afraid to jump. Suddenly he fell back into the building and was suffocated. Feinberg went to a rear room and hung from a window-sill, begging the crowd to save him. The crowd tried to build a pyramid of barrels, but the heat caused the man to release his hold and he fell, striking the back of his neck on a barrel. The force of the fall wedged his body in a barrel, and he was breathing his last when released.

Jennie Sellers, aged 16 years, saved the life of herself and her five brothers and sisters by going to the roof and dropping them to the roofs of adjoining buildings, the children finally reaching the ground.

Eugene Field's Estate.

CHICAGO, ILL., Jan. 4.—The estate of the late Eugene Field was brought into the Probate Court to-day on a petition of the widow for letters of administration. The estate is valued at $25,000, all in personal property. Besides this there is the poet's home, valued at from $10,000 to $20,000, which he had conveyed to his wife some time before his death.

Corset-Makers Assign.

NEW YORK, N. Y., Jan. 4.—H. & S. Strauss, manufacturers of corsets, assigned to-day. Liabilities $200,000, and nominal assets $250,000.

ENRAGED AT WILLIAM

Englishmen Aroused Over the Defeat in the Transvaal.

THE EMPEROR INSOLENT.

That Is How the Congratulation to Krueger Is Regarded in Great Britain.

OTHER DISPUTES CAST ASIDE.

Now There Are Converts to the Plan of Arbitrating the Venezuelan Controversy.

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LONDON, ENG., Jan. 4.—Since England breathlessly followed the bloody progress of the British relief expedition up the Nile toward Khartoum, eleven years ago, I have witnessed no such universal popular excitement as has reigned in London in these opening days of the new year. No matter how deeply opinions may differ on the rights and wrongs of the Transvaal business, there is no doubt that everybody high and low is profoundly stirred up about it. It would be an easy enough matter to satirize the English attitude toward this extraordinary and probably momentous catastrophe and to give an air of epigram to numerous commonplaces about English greed, perfidy and the rest in which the whole Continental press is reveling delightedly. But that would be to beg entirely the true character of the episode. What is really to be seen in it is a strange survival of the original processes by which the British empire was created, suddenly revealed and expounded to people five generations removed from the knowledge of them by the magical operation of modern electrical science. If England 140 years ago could have followed Lord Clive with a telegraph wire British India would have never existed.

Englishmen now, while they curse the inexplicable block in the communications which kept them for forty-eight hours without news from Johannesburg, dimly understand that they are witnessing something to which they are ancestrally related, but which they thought had been dead and buried for a century or so. Their judgment commands that they should disapprove it sternly, but all the inherited impulses of their blood impel them to cheer and wave their hats. It is a genuine conflict between their respectable modern civilization and the old Berserker island instincts in their veins. If they were left alone there would be no doubt as to the result of the struggle. The nineteenth century would win, and in their calmer mood they would see to it, as in 1880, that the Boers had scrupulous justice dealt to them.

But unhappily the German Emperor, who is too much of an Englishman to mind his own business and too much of a Prussian to understand what tact means, leaps into the middle of this perplexing situation with drawn sword and infuriates everybody.

Yesterday seven-eighths of thinking England were against Cecil Rhodes and his South African dummy company, and were glad to hear that Dr. Jameson and his filibusters had been soundly whipped by the Boers, but last evening when the terms of the German Emperor's insolent dispatch reached London this mood began to change as the newspapers could spread the news. To-day, while nobody has altered his mind specifically about Dr. Jameson's part of the affair, nobody speaks or thinks of Germany's interference without an angry glisten in the eye. Every aspect of this imperial message, upon examination, reveals a fresh ground for wrath.

If it were intended to enrage England on as many sides as possible, it is a triumph of ingenuity. Its rejoicing that English blood has been spilled, its reference to friendly powers which would have intervened if President Kruger had asked them, its calm denial of England's suzerain treaty rights, the fact that it was sent after an imperial council at the Foreign Office, in which naval members ostentatiously predominated — all these give to it the character of a deliberate, intentional affront. No living Englishman remembers any such other premeditated slap in the face. What counsels second thought may bring it is impossible to say, but England to-night wants to fight Germany more passionately than she has desired anything else since the time of the Georges.

To this violent climax has come then all the last years of anxious and gingerly intriguing for alliances in the troubled Continental diplomacy. A year ago the Prince of Wales thought that he had fastened such hooks into his nephew, the young and timid Czar, that nothing could shake England's grip. He came back from St. Petersburg elated by this belief and took no pains to dissemble the presence in his elation of the thought that he had outwitted that other nephew of his in Berlin, that insufferable nephew who read him lectures on how princes should behave, but he smiled too soon. Germany on the instant made overtures to France and proposed a partnership with Russia as a third in Chinese waters, which should shut England out. Then she egged Russia and France on to make Lord Rosebery's Armenian intervention an empty sham. Then when Lord Salisbury came into power and finding these two powers hostile worked to get the triple alliance also identified with intervention, Germany took him at his word, came into the European concert and made it immediately an anti-English concert. To-day the organization of Europe against England is practically complete.

Even Italy, despite all its natural leanings, has been forced into the significant step of intrusting the protection of the Italians in the Transvaal to the German Consul. These foreign considerations, however, though recognized as weighty, are subordinated in the public mind to wonder at what the next step will be in the battle royal between Joseph Chamberlain and Cecil Rhodes.

As I pointed out at the time, Chamberlain took the Colonial Office largely with the view of trying a fall with this powerful person, and in the first round of the wrestle he has scored an extraordinary victory, but it is a sort of triumph which seems more embarrassing than a flat defeat.

President Krueger's part in the business has been one of uncanny cunning. Ever since November the gathering of the British South Africa Company's forces on the frontier for a raid on the Transvaal has been perfectly known at Pretoria, and Krueger has helped it on by circulating reports that General Joubert was in Natal on a holiday and that there was not a single Boer under arms anywhere on the Veldt.

This false news impelled the Johannesburg crowd to give Jameson the signal for a forward rush. They promised to have the Boers subjugated and the town in his hands by the time he arrived. Then mysteriously 2000 Boers rose up in Jameson's path while a similar force appeared to terrorize the cowardly Johannesburg mob, with the results that Jameson, Willoughby, White and all the officials of her Majesty are in a Boer prison, and the flower of the Rhodes mounted police is dead or in chains. There is loud talk here of the necessity of proving that Rhodes knew what was going on. It may occur later to somebody to inquire whether Chamberlain also had not some premonition that when Jameson made his break the Boers would be there to meet it.

No one will be surprised to learn that this flood of fiery excitement has clean swept the Venezuelan affair out of public consciousness. Just as Washington roughly pushed Constantinople aside as the center of British interest, so it is in turn wholly obscured by Pretoria.

I do not know that this is wholly a misfortune, because the sort of information that Englishmen have been getting from America did not serve as a basis for any specially luminous meditation. But it is at least to be regretted that national preoccupation in Transvaal matters prevents Henry Norman's admirable dispatches from getting the attention that they deserve. His complete, carefully fortified exposition of the strictly abstract character of the Schomburg line has been received here quite as a revelation. But far more important, I conceive to be, is his success in convincing some section of the English public that the American people as a whole feel deeply on this whole subject and stand firm in support of the principle involved.

As I said a week ago, the most aggravating, mischievous feature of the entire business has been the practical unanimity with which the dispatches from New York sneered at our President, extolled the timidity of Wall street as an expression of the best elements of our civilization and reiterated tirelessly the suggestion that the whole agitation was deliberately started by knavish politicians and kept alive only by the ignorant jingo rabble.

Norman's dispatches come like a burst of sunshine throughout a fog to dispel this dangerous, almost criminal delusion. The effect would, as I have said, have been vastly greater if everybody were not thinking of something; but even as it is, you find the Times to-day for the first time cautiously admitting that a reopening of the case, and an arbitration on some such new basis as that proposed by Carl Schurz are not wholly impossible. This marks a notable change in what may be called England's official attitude.

Mention ought to be made too of a remarkably wise and intelligent letter in the Times from Amyas Northcott of Chicago, a young man who is evidently not a seventh son for nothing. It is by far the most sensible message that any Englishman among us has yet delivered to his countrymen at home, and I should think that it also had its effect on the Times. At all events English public opinion has been fairly started on a new and helpful task. And there are enough reasons for believing that official action will be found following along after it.

The chances that this American complication and others in various parts of the world will give rise to interesting party debates and divisions when Parliament meets next month have been somewhat jeopardized by Lord Rosebery's surprisingly insincere attacks on Lord Salisbury's conduct of the Armenian business. His own party papers condemn them, and to the general public they seem quite outside the limits of recognized political controversy. This is a pity, because Salisbury and Chamberlain, by calling no Cabinet council since November, have undoubtedly invited criticism as taking too much on themselves through a period of such difficulty and menace. Very likely this criticism will find sober, weighty spokesmen in the House of Commons, but Lord Rosebery's spiteful ineptitude has already discounted its force with the community at large.

In the crush and friction of larger events little attention has been given to the fact that Hungary is celebrating this year the thousandth anniversary of the Magyar conquest and settlement of Pannonia.

The Hungarians themselves began the festival Wednesday and are to keep it up all the year, but the outside world's interest is claimed for the great exhibition to be opened shortly at Budapest, which will be unique in kind and more like a national monument than a commercial show. It would be impossible to exaggerate the earnestness with which the whole Magyar race have thrown themselves into making of this exhibition a thing never to be forgotten, and literally scores of thousand of adult Hungarians are working this winter to learn foreign languages, particularly English, in order to be able to welcome and entertain the huge concourse of visitors that they fondly expect. Their concentration on this one idea is curiously shown by the Budapest press, which usually makes a specialty of discussing foreign politics with utmost freedom and vigor, but now for months has been as dumb as an oyster as if in dread to contribute a single hasty word toward any misunderstanding which might make mid-Europe available for tourist traffic next summer.

With New Year's day the law went into effect here, giving to magistrates summary jurisdiction to grant separation orders to married women who have fled from the home of a brutal husband, with the result that an inundation of complaining wives has quite swamped other business in the Police courts for the last two days. The magistrates are already dismayed at the task of winnowing wheat from chaff in this swarm of appeals, and are crying out against the imperfections in the law, which really serves few of the purposes that it aimed to do. The drunkenness of wives among the London poor is even a greater evil, so far as home is concerned, than the violence of husbands, but this is left untouched, and it is evident that the whole subject will have to be dealt with in a new law.

In the Royal Academy winter exhibition of the old masters, which were on private view to-day, much comment is aroused by the fact that an exceptional place of honor has been given to a portrait of George Washington by Gilbert Stuart, lent by Lord Rosebery, which fairly dominates the room.

Trinity House officials are holding an inquiry to-day at Portsmouth on the conduct of the British pilot who ran the Spree on Warden Ledge, inside the Needles. The vessel itself has completely recovered and sailed for Bremen this morning.

HAROLD FREDERIC.

JOY OF THE GERMANS.

Emperor William's Message to Krueger Arouses Enthusiasm.

HOSTILITY TO ENGLAND.

An Explanation Demanded of the Bold Invasion of the Transvaal.

MUST CEASE INTERFERENCE.

Otherwise Great Britain Will Become Involved in a Collision With the Fatherland.

BERLIN, GERMANY, Jan. 4.—The Emperor's act in sending a message to President Krueger of the South African Republic, congratulating him upon the victory of the Boers over the armed forces led into the Transvaal by Dr. Jameson, administrator of the British South Africa Company, is hailed with enthusiasm throughout Germany, and will add greatly to his Majesty's popularity, as being a true interpretation of the intensity of German public hostility toward Great Britain. The message of the Emperor could not have been a very great surprise to the English Government, as some days prior to the publication of the message the Emperor instructed Count von Hatzfeldt, the German Embassador to Great Britain, to inform Lord Salisbury, with the utmost frankness, that it was the firm determination of Germany not to allow the Government of the South African Republic to be overthrown.

At the same time Count von Hatzfeldt was instructed to demand an explanation of the movements of the authorities of the British South Africa Company. These representations were immediately answered by the British Foreign Office. The first replies made by Lord Salisbury were deemed unsatisfactory; so much so, indeed, that the relations of the two Governments on Wednesday became so strained as to be on the point of absolute rupture.

The consequence was that a diplomatic surrender on the part of Lord Salisbury was the only thing that averted the gravest climax. Even now, although the situation is modified, it is not devoid of danger, and the summaries of the comments of the English press upon the Emperor's interference in the Transvaal affair which are published here serve to heighten the popular anger against England, while the anti-English feeling pervades all classes of the German press. Every political party and group, the Socialists included, sides with the Boers and denounces the aggresion of England.

The North German Gazette quotes with expressions of approval the declaration of the Cologne Gazette that the Transvaal republic is an absolutely independent state, and the Deutsche Tages-Zeitung says that not only the road to Constantinople but also the road to Johannesburg lies through Berlin. Several newspapers with Government affiliations and inspirations concur in these expressions, and add that the alliance between Russia and France has been enlarged by the accession of the Triple Alliance to a concert of European powers with anti-English aims. A number of papers are exulting in the isolation of England and predict that her lonely situation will become an important factor in the settlement of the Venezuelan difficulty.

The youth, the brawn and sinew of Germany are moved to offer active assistance to the Boers, while their elders are inspired to tender moral and financial aid. Dr. Carl Peters, the explorer, was charged by the Deutsche Colonial Gesellschaft yesterday to send a cablegram to President Krueger of the Boer republic, expressing the sympathy of the society with him and his cause and promising active and material support. A private syndicate has placed at the disposal of Dr. Peters the sum of 300,000 marks for the purpose of organizing a corps of volunteers to go to the Transvaal, and similar offers have been plentiful. Among other offers is that of a number of young Americans studying in Germany, who have expressed their readiness to accept a chance to fight the British if a conflict in South Africa is continued.

The sum of the position is that Great Britain must withdraw her pretensions to a right to interfere in the Transvaal and punish the leaders of the British South Africa Company who are responsible for the invasion of the Boer territory, or she will inevitably become involved in a collision with Germany. A formal German protectorate over the South African Republic is not designed, but the Government of Germany will support the Transvaal Republic in declaring the convention of 1884 void, thus enabling the Boers to obtain their full independence of Great Britain.

Virtually England's claim to suzerainty over the Transvaal must in all respects be abolished. If the South African Republic shall ask a reference of the matters in dispute between itself and England, the question will be referred to the European powers which are interested in Africa, and Germany will support such a conference.

France can be relied upon to take part, and if a conference is had it will greatly disappoint German expectation if the discussion of the questions involved does not result in recognition of the independence not only of the Transvaal, but of the Orange Free State as well.

It is not denied here that reform in the administration of the internal affairs of the South African Republic is advisable, but these must be obtained without the application of foreign pressure, British or any other, as strictly questions for internal settlement. Little or no sympathy is bestowed upon Dr. Jameson, and Mr. Chamberlain's appeal to President Krueger to deal generously with the British South African prisoners is derided by the German press, which declare that a summary trial by court-martial, followed by the prompt execution of the leaders of the raid, commends itself to German opinion as the proper mode of procedure in their case. A strict application of the law involving the sacrifice of the lives of the rank and file of the prisoners would not meet approval here, but it is the general opinion that an example ought to be made of the leaders.

It has transpired that the Emperor has had a serious quarrel with Prince Frederick Leopold of Prussia, the husband of Princess Louise Sophie of Schleswig-Holstein, sister of the Empress, over the recent accident to the Princess while skating near Glenicke Castle, Potsdam, when the Princess and one of the ladies of the court, Baroness Comar, broke through the ice and came very near drowning. It appears that the Emperor upbraided the Prince for the indifference of his treatment of his wife and the Prince used some pretty rough words in replying to the Kaiser's rebuke. The Emperor thereupon placed him under arrest for fourteen days, with confinement in a room in his castle for that length of time. The Kaiser immediately telegraphed for a detachment of the First Guards to be sent from Potsdam to Glenicke Castle to guard the Prince, and he has since been confined there, not being permitted to leave his chamber upon any pretext.

The prospects of an amicable settlement of the question affecting American insurance companies are improving. Baron von der Horst, the Prussian Minister of the Interior, is conducting negotiations in a most friendly spirit, which leads to the expectations that an agreement will be reached for a modification of the laws now operating against the American insurance companies.

The Berlin Handels-Zeitung devotes considerable space to the publication of complaints of the increasing difficulties and vexatious treatment which beset importers of German goods in New York. The paper says that the American consular authorities admit that the treatment shown to these importers is in retaliation for measures adopted by Germany which are impeding imports from New York into Germany.

DISPUTES AMONG LEADERS.

Causing Separate Raids Upon the Italian Forces.

ROME, ITALY, Jan. 4.—Advices received by the Government from Abyssinia state that the commander of the Italian troops at Makalle has informed General Baratieri, commanding the Italian forces operating in Abyssinia, that disputes among the leaders of the natives are causing separate raids to be made upon the Italians. The rumor that King Menelek, with his forces, had begun an advance is denied. The Abyssinian army is still at Dolo.

A Negro Knighted.

LONDON, ENG., Jan. 4.—Among the New Year honors conferred by the Queen was the bestowal of knighthood on Mayor Lewis of Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone. Mayor Lewis is a pure-blood negro. This is the first time that the honor of knighthood has been bestowed on one of his race.

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We sell nothing but pure wool clothing.
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