



BULLETIN OF THE ST. PAUL GLOBE.

FRIDAY, DEC. 25, 1896.

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EVENTS TODAY.

Met—Dr. Bill, 2.30, 8.15. Grand—Siberia, 2.30, 8.15. People's—Lydia von Finkelstein, 8.15. Market Hall—St. James A. M. E. Fair.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMSHIPS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Arrived: Werkenham, Rotterdam. Sailed: Patria, Hamburg. QUEENSTOWN.—Sailed: Britannic, from Liverpool to New York. SOUTHAMPTON.—Sailed: Aller, from Bremen for New York. Arrived: Spree, New York for Bremen. PHILADELPHIA.—Arrived: Illinois, Antwerp.

Merry Christmas! Don't eat too much! And don't drink too much!

There will be another Christmas in 1897.

The early strawberry is here. It comes under the head of "Christmas greens."

Boston got some exercise yesterday. Its street cars weren't running, and it had to walk.

Mr. Sharkey may be said to be having a merry Christmas at the expense of M. Kangaroo Fitzsimmons.

Mr. McKinley didn't get all the turkeys. Somebody sent one to Cleveland which weighed fifty-seven pounds.

DEFEATED THE DON

THE CUBAN FILIBUSTER "THREE FRIENDS" ENGAGES IN A SEA DUEL WITH SPANIARDS.

CUBAN LIBRE'S FLAG AFLOAT.

A REGULAR SEA BATTLE IN WHICH O'BRIEN AND HIS MEN WIN.

A REQUISITE FOR RECOGNITION.

Two Spanish Vessels Attack the Filibuster and Both Are Driven Off the Coast.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25.—A World special from Key West, Fla., says: The lone star flag of Cuba has met the red and yellow banner of Castile upon the seas. The shrapnel, shell, and rifle volleys of a brave filibuster have made answer to the roar of Spanish twelve-pounders and have gained for Cuba the first victory on the ocean. The filibustering steamer "Three Friends" sailed from Fernandina, Fla., Sunday night, Dec. 13, carrying a valuable cargo of munitions of war for the Cuban insurgents. Eluding the vigilance of United States warships and revenue cutters and dodging every sail upon the ocean, the little steamer, with some fifty men, was within hailing distance of Cuba on the sixth night out. Surprised, trapped and fired upon, she threw shot into a Spanish naval coaster, frightened off a big gunboat and escaped from a swift cruiser, steering out to sea.

The "Three Friends" put in again to the coast and safely landed her cargo on the border of the great Zapata swamp. Not before in Cuba's struggle for liberty has the flag of Spain been fired upon at sea. No other filibuster, after having been attacked by the enemy, has stood by her guns and fulfilled her perilous mission. The account of this history-making trip is as follows: Early on the morning of Friday, the 15th, Cape San Antonio, at the western extremity of Cuba, was rounded. A stiff breeze was blowing off the land, and the ship headed southward. It was not known that the battleship Reina Mercedes, the cruiser Alfonso XIII and the coaster Doce de Mayo were patrolling the Pinar del Rio southern coast.

The sealed orders from the New York Junta were opened an hour after the cape had been passed. They gave no directions as to the course the vessel should take, its destination alone being mentioned. The orders of the Junta read: "Sail to the mouth of the San Juan river and there await a party of insurgents who will take charge of the cargo. Do not attempt to land men or munitions at any other point." The "Three Friends" made her way to the proper place to effect a landing. When all was in readiness the coast seemed entirely clear. On the lower deck amidships the first boat's crew, armed with machetes and revolvers, stood ready to arm the large surf boat, which already swung over the side. The crew consisted of Lieutenants Carbone and Guzman, Sharpshooter John Gorman and Privates Arcano and Edgardo. Maj. Peres Morales and Dr.

Bonjardin, who were also to go ashore in the first boat, stood at the gangway.

Behind the first boat's party stood a dozen men, armed with machetes and Remingtons, in line along the rail to repel boarders. The remainder of the expedition were gathered along the rails ready for debarkation.

When the filibuster was within 400 yards of shore the engineer discovered a moving object in the darkness under the lee, and informed Capt. Lewis that he saw a coaster. Without further ado the filibuster turned swiftly to starboard and pointed for the open sea. Capt. O'Brien, after allowing his ship to scamper 300 or 400 yards, however, then backed toward the mouth of the San Juan. In a minute more the black shape of a forty-foot coaster was seen darting out in the darkness. Away steamed the filibuster and behind, emerging from the shadow along the shore, came the coaster.

For a few minutes the exciting race continued, and then came a flash of light from the Spaniard. A second later came the crack of a two-pounder and then there was the hiss of a shell as a few rods in front of the filibuster was passed on the filibuster that all must fight. A few men broke open the rifle and cartridge boxes, and soon the entire party were armed. Sharpshooter Gorman gathered his rifleman along the stern rail upon the upper deck. Maj. Morales was in charge. A strain came a flash of light from the Spaniard. A second later came the crack of a two-pounder and then there was the hiss of a shell as a few rods in front of the filibuster was passed on the filibuster that all must fight. A few men broke open the rifle and cartridge boxes, and soon the entire party were armed. Sharpshooter Gorman gathered his rifleman along the stern rail upon the upper deck. Maj. Morales was in charge.

"Use the Hotchkiss," commanded Maj. Morales. Gunner Michael Walsh, who with his crew, had stood by the twelve-pounder in the bow, heard the command and called out to Capt. O'Brien to swing the ship around. In a minute the filibuster was almost broadside to the coaster.

The latter boomed the fourth time, but the smoke had not cleared away before the Hotchkiss on our prow belched forth and sent a shrapnel shell between the short masts of the coaster, and this was followed by a rattling volley from the line of men on the upper deck. The shrapnel shell fired from the Hotchkiss ended the fight, as the Spaniard sailed away, firing rockets calling for assistance. The call was promptly answered, for in a moment a gunboat, double the size of the coaster, appeared on the port. She opened fire with heavy guns, but did not have the range. Gunner Walsh rammed another shrapnel into the gun on the prow and yanked the lanyard. The shell flew straight for the gunboat and burst directly over her. It was answered by a still heavier thunder from the Spaniard, returning a shell for shell. The shot from the Spaniard disabled two of the landing boats of the filibuster, but did no other damage. The Hotchkiss was again loaded with shrapnel, and the next discharge struck the cruiser amidships. Then the "Three Friends" put on steam, leaving the war ship, probably disabled, but at all events silent and defeated, out of sight, behind a point of land.

As the cargo of the "Three Friends" was being landed the Spanish coast patrol came up and a fierce light ensued between them and the Cubans sent by Gen. Gomez to escort the cargo into his camp. After two hours of fighting the Spaniards were driven off and the cargo was landed and safely carried into the interior.

The vessel then lay to for several days in a secluded cove, and started for Florida last Monday. She was pursued by several gunboats as she entered the Windward Pass, and a ball from one of them tore a hole in her bulwark. A barrel of oil on the furnace fire soon ran up the steam, and the fast

craft crept away. Emerging from the Keys, two cruisers were found waiting for her and another race ensued. The Spanish vessels fired on her for half an hour.

Capt. Lewis then ran along the Keys and escaped from the Spanish war vessels and reached American waters near Miami, Fla.

MR. WEYLER'S YOUNG MEN.

He Indicates That They Have Been Doing Great Execution.

HAVANA, Dec. 24.—Gen. Hernandez Valesco has made an extensive reconnaissance in the vicinity of Aurora, Tanco-Taco and Paredon del Indio, province of Pinar del Rio. In the heights of Del Rio he dislodged a force of insurgents, and he destroyed a camp of the enemy at Loma Peleida. At Paredon del Indio the general's forces had an encounter with the insurgents, and destroyed extensive deposits of provisions, and burned forty dwellings inhabited by insurgents. The battalions of Granada and Baliar, while engaged in protecting the gathering together of cattle in Santa Clara province have repulsed an insurgent force, inflicting numerous loss on the enemy.

The Soria battalion, at the farm of Hilaro, and afterwards at Bernia, encountered insurgents in bands occupying entrenched positions, from which they were dispersed by the troops. The entire loss of the troops in these engagements was Maj. Lungo and twelve soldiers wounded.

During several skirmishes in Santa Clara, Matanzas and Havana recently, the insurgents left twenty-three killed, and the troops had five men killed and seventeen wounded.

At Callmet, Matanzas, the insurgent captain, Nazario Castillo, and eleven of his followers have surrendered to the Spanish authorities. The well known insurgent leader, Juan Ruiz, died during the night of Dec. 22.

MERRIAM IS IN THIS.

The Probable Cabinet as Given by the Times-Herald. CHICAGO, Dec. 25.—A special to the Times-Herald from Washington says: It is now possible to give some important news concerning the progress which President-elect McKinley has made in the task of making up his cabinet slate. It would be incorrect to say that Maj. McKinley has fully and finally determined whom he will ask to be his ministers. So far only two direct offers of places in the cabinet have been made, one of these to Mr. Hanna, who is not likely to be in the cabinet at all, and the other, to Gov. Dingley. But the president-elect has practically determined the composition of his cabinet, except as to one, or perhaps two places.

Unless he changes his mind the following will be the McKinley cabinet when it is finally announced: Secretary of state, John Sherman, of Ohio. Secretary of the treasury, Nelson Dingley, of Maine. Secretary of war, ex-Gov. William R. Merriam, of Minnesota. Secretary of the navy, Cornelius N. Bliss, of New York. Attorney general, Nathan Goff, of West Virginia. Postmaster-general, Henry C. Payne, of Wisconsin. Secretary of agriculture, Judge Waymire, of California.

Rochester Board of Trade. Special to the Globe. ROCHESTER, Minn., Dec. 24.—The "Rochester Dairy Board of Trade" was discussed at the city hall last evening by a large number of our representative citizens. Two committees were appointed, one on soliciting funds, C. F. Massey, George Waldron, A. D. Robinson, and one on permanent organization, F. H. Titus, W. J. Eaton, E. A. Knowlton, H. H. Witherspoon and A. T. Stebbins.

A SOP TO GERBERUS

SPAIN WILL CONCEDE PRACTICAL HOME RULE TO THE ISLAND OF CUBA.

CORTES WILLING TO TREAT.

A PROPOSITION FOR AUTONOMY IS MADE ON THE PORTO RICO PLAN.

PARTIAL TEXT OF THE PROPOSAL.

The Island to Be Governed by a Congress Elected Locally and a Spanish Governor.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 24.—Another important step towards the plan of home rule for Cuba has been taken by the Spanish authorities. The former plan, proposed but not executed some months ago, provided for a Cuban congress of thirty members, of whom the queen regent was to name fifteen and the people of Cuba were to elect fifteen. It is now proposed to do away with that part providing for the naming of members by the queen regent, so that the entire Cuban congress will be elected by the Cuban people. This, and the entire control given to Cuba in making the tariff laws of the island, will constitute the essential features of the new plan of home rule. That giving the people the election of the entire congress is felt to carry out in spirit as well as in letter the idea of home rule.

Thus far only the general nature of the proposed changes have been known to officials in Washington, and the draft of the revised plan of reform has not been received, nor is it likely to be completed until after the completion of the Porto Rico reforms, which will be signed by the queen regent tomorrow as a suitable Christmas act. Under the Spanish system it will be necessary to submit the foregoing changes to the cortes, which is not now in session, but likely to meet before February. The Christmas day reforms for Porto Rico are closely allied with those for Cuba, being the second section of the same law. They give Porto Rico a congress, the province of San Juan and Ponce alternating every two years in choosing members for a term of four years. The congress is given control of the whole island, public works, telegraph, postoffice, railways and navigation, agriculture, manufacture, trade, immigration and colonization, public instruction, charities, the health department, etc. The home government will continue to be represented by a captain general, who will exercise supervisory power and be the local delegate of the minister of the colonies. The foregoing was the plan approved by the cortes, but, as in the case of Cuba, it is believed the plans will be enlarged so as to make the congress wholly representative of the people of the island. The definite action of the queen in signing the Porto Rico reforms tomorrow is believed by officials here to be the prelude to similar action for Cuba.

Pipe of Peace for Baldwin.

DULUTH, Minn., Dec. 24.—Maj. Baldwin is in the city to spend Christmas. One of his handsome Christmas gifts is a pipe of peace, which he greatly prizes, and which was presented to him by White Cloud, the noted Chippewa chief, a short time ago, on account of his work in securing an investigation of the land frauds.

