MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC LIBRARY
NOT TO BE TAKEN FROM THIS ROOM

THE SAINT PAUL GLOBE.

VOL. [illegible] 78. TUESDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 5, 1897. PRICE TWO CENTS.

MINNEAPOLIS PUBLIC LIBRARY
NOT TO BE TAKEN FROM THIS ROOM

BULLETIN OF THE ST. PAUL GLOBE

TUESDAY, OCT. 5, 1897.

Weather for Today—
Fair and Cooler.

PAGE 1.
Lease of St. Paul Packing House.
Spain's New Cabinet Weak.
Trouble With Miners Again.
Twenty Thousand Chinese Drowned.
Arrest Cook County Commissioners.
Big Embezzlements at Cleveland.
Indiana Has a Yellow Fever Scare.
Pennsylvania Village Destroyed.
Seven Cotton Pickers Killed.
Sweeping Stockyards Decision.

PAGE 2.
Fights to Finish in St Paul.
Returning Harvest Hands Robbed.
Board of Equalization Adjourns.

PAGE 3.
Minneapolis Matters.
Tax Levy Fixed at 25 Mills.
Methodist Conference Appointment.
News of the Northwest.
Scorcher Gets Another Victim.

PAGE 4.
Editorial.
New Dormitory at State School.
Day's Social Events.

PAGE 5.
Boston Wins First Cup Game.
Sporting Gossip of the Day.
Smith the Featherweight Champion.

PAGE 6.
Wall Street Bulls Put to Rout.
Bar Silver, 55 3-4c.
Cash Wheat in Chicago, 87 3-8c.
World's Markets Reviewed.

PAGE 7.
Local Passenger Men Meet.
Railway Gossip.
Luetgert Battle of Bones Nears End.
Syndicate Offer for the U. P.
Wants of the People.

PAGE 8.
Lewis Wants Aid in Bank Cases.
News of the Courts.
Destruction of Hotel Lafayette.
Judge Willrich Again at Work.

EVENTS TODAY.

Met—Julia Marlowe, 8.15.
Grand—A Hired Girl, 8.15.

MOVEMENTS OF STEAMSHIPS.

NEW YORK—Arrived: Cevic, Liverpool; City of Rome, Glasgow; Massachusetts, London.
QUEENSTOWN—Arrived: Pavonia, Boston for Liverpool.
MOVILLE—Arrived: Parisian, Montreal, for Liverpool.
GIBRALTAR—Arrived: Fulda, New York for Naples and Genoa.
BREMEN—Arrived: Havel, New York, via Cherbourg.

The recall which Weyler is promised will not be in the nature of an encore.

"Bones" was a great entertainer of the public long before the big Chicago show.

It's all in the line of hogging it for Swift & Co. to lease the South St. Paul pork packing works.

Corn is king this week in Sioux City, but rye can be depended on to get in a little work on the side.

It is a generous and patriotic lot of Cubans in New York who want to purchase Cuba from Spain—if Uncle Sam will furnish the cash.

Kentuckians think that the worst phase of the famine in India is the fact that 1,183 people died from snake bites there last year.

Attendance of 10,000 at yesterday's Temple cup game indicates that there are other places in Boston besides Faneuil hall where fans congregate.

Now if the Hoosiers do not put that cup into too steady use, perhaps they will not suffer the fate that overtook the champion Millers.

The Canadian government has a curious way of making it hot for miners in the Yukon country by demanding a royalty of 25 cents a cord on wood.

Good husbands are apparently so scarce in St. Louis that they are appreciated. One woman there has offered $4,000 for the worse half of a neighbor.

The secret of the delay in that little affair with Spain is out. Uncle Sam was awaiting the return of Gen. Miles before feeling safe in opening up on the Don.

The principal reason, perhaps, why Mr. Debs has come to the conclusion that strikes do not pay is that his business as promoter hasn't been very good of late years.

One divine of that city claims that Chicago is getting near to heaven. If so, it may be safe to assume that some alderman has designs for the annexation of the city with the golden streets.

What a happy family Uncle Samuel will have to add to his museum, if he should adopt Cuba, Hawaii, Guatemala and a few others who are said to be wanting to get in out of the wet.

Latest reports are that mining for gold quartz has begun in the Klondike region. Pay dirt must be playing out up there, as gallons was the smallest measure heretofore used in the stories of returning miners.

The liberality of Spain's Liberal cabinet is something wonderful. It will grant Cuba autonomy provided the Cubans will assume the Spanish war debt and allow the imposition of a Spanish customs tariff.

If the Luetgert case as an attraction doesn't pay for keeping it on the boards, it will be because the price of admission is not high enough. It has entered its seventh week and is still playing to standing room only.

The old adage, "Where there's much smoke there must be some fire," is not always correct. Smoke over Lake Michigan is so dense that lighthouses are hidden from view, yet no one can be accused of having set the lake ablaze.

WELCOME SWIFT & CO.,

THE BIG PACKERS.

They Have Leased the Pork and Beef Packing Plant at South St. Paul.

Market for the Northwest | Employment for Hundreds.

Most Important Deal for St. Paul That Has Been Closed for Years—Will Begin Killing as Soon as Possible.

The St. Paul Union Stockyards companw has leased the valuable property known as the Minnesota packing house at South St. Paul, to Swift & Co., of Chicago, for a term of 999 years, on conditions which make it practically a sale of the premises.

No other deal, it is claimed, was ever consummated in this city of such great importance not only to the stock yards company and the city of St. Paul, but also to the state of Minnesota and the entire Northwest. It means a new industry for this section and the dawn of a new era in the packing business of the northwest. It means a new market for all the live stock of Minnesota and the tributary states, and it is the forerunner of the development of St. Paul as a distributing center to the northwest and even to the Pacific coast and far off Alaska of the finished product, a business which has hitherto been handled exclusively by the Chicago and Kansas City packing houses.

Several members of the immense concern of Swift & Co., were in the city last week looking the property over, and before they left Friday night the memorandum of a lease was entered into and signed by them and the Union Stockyards company's officers, so that the deal is practically closed. Negotiations for the lease have been under way for some time, and mention of them has been made in the Globe, so that the announcement did not come altogether as a surprise, although the good news is none the less pleasant because anticipated. Swift & Co. have already sent a small force of men, including foremen, superintendents and bookkeepers, who will superintend the work of getting the plant in shape. It will take them a month or nearly that long, to get the pork packing house ready, but the entire plant will be in full operation within a very few weeks, and will then employ a force of from 500 to 800 men. Their intention is, after a time, to make such additions, extensions and improvements as the business may require, and they are expected to invest heavily, putting in new buildings and machinery for the collateral branches of the business, such as sausage making, canning, etc.

The plant is valued at $600,000. On a tract of eighteen acres of land, admirably situated on the river front and threatened by a system of railway trackage, are the substantial buildings of brick, all four stories high, with stone foundations, and occupying altogether between four and five acres. They include a hog killing house, lard refinery, sausage department, beef and mutton slaughtering house, warehouse and cold storage, large and extensive smoke houses, a fertilizing plant for both the beef and pork house, ice houses with capacity of from 40,000 to 50,000 tons, stock sheds, storage sheds, etc. They are thoroughly modern structures and completely furnished with excellent machinery. The grounds and buildings are lighted at night by 3,000 electric lights, both arc and incandescent. In the power department are eight large tubular boilers for the pork house and two fine steel boilers in the beef house. The slaughtering capacity is 3,000 hogs, 500 head of cattle, and 2,000 sheep per day. The buildings were erected in 1887 and 1888, by the stockyards company. On Jan. 1 of the latter year business was commenced by Fowler Brothers, afterwards merged into the Minnesota Packing and Provision company, which operated them until last spring. Possession of the buildings was obtained by the stockyards company July 1, and this concern has since operated the beef and mutton plant on a somewhat small scale, merely to keep it running while negotiations were pending for the lease of the property. The plant has never been operated at its full capacity.

The money consideration of the lease is not made public, but Gen. Mark D. Flower, president of the Stock Yards company, said, in speaking of it, there are other considerations in the matter besides the mere item of dollars and cents, and one of them is that the lessees agree to occupy the premises and operate them in a thorough manner; the lease is for 999 years and is practically vesting the ownership of the property in Swift & Co. The consideration is in every way satisfactory to the Stock Yards company.

Swift & Co. is one of, if not the largest concerns doing a packing business in the world, and it is a question if any other concern does as large a business as it. The company has a capital invested of over $10,000,000, and its business last year aggregated the almost incomprehensible sum of $104,000,000. Their locating here, and identifying themselves with the business of South St. Paul is sufficient to insure an immense live stock market and a very extensive packing business, which will bear favorable comparison with anything of the kind in the country, and means a live stock and general market for all the cattle and sheep of Minnesota, the Dakotas, Iowa and Montana. Heretofore there has been no market in St. Paul or the Northwest for fat cattle, only the ordinary stock being purchased, while the fat stock was sent farther on to Chicago. The difference in freight rate in favor of the St. Paul market is about 14 cents per hundred weight, added to which is the neccessary loss by shrinkage by shipping to Chicago, and the extra cost of feeding, all of which will enable Swift & Co. to buy at fully ½-cent a pound below the Chicago market. To this must be added the saving of freight on the return shipment of the finished product, and it can be readily seen that the other large packing establishments cannot compete for the Northwestern trade; it was a shrewd move on the part of Swift & Co., who will doubtless reap the benefit of it.

Of the leasing company, G. F. Swift is the president; E. C. Swift the first vice president; L. F. Swift the second vice president; L. A. Carton, treasurer, and D. E. Hartwell the secretary. One of the company will make this his local residence. The company owns houses in Kansas City, Mo.; East St. Louis, Mo.; South Omaha, Neb.; one of the largest plants at the Union Stock Yards, Chicago, and is building a house at St. Joseph, Mo.

Gen. Flower was seen at his home last evening by a Globe reporter, and was naturally highly elated over the close of the deal, not entirely for the benefit it will be to the Union Stock yards, but also from his public spirit and pride in the advancement of St. Paul. In an interview he said:

In my judgment there hasn't ever been anything in the business history of Minnesota of so great importance to the city of St. Paul and the state in general as this deal. It means that one of the very largest concerns in the world has become identified with us, and that they intend their St. Paul plant to make this market and packing interest equal to the entire output of the stock ranges of Minnesota and the adjoining tributary states. It means that you will see no more long trains of cattle pass through here for Chicago.

Swift & Co. made it one of their principal points in their negotiations, whether we could get a sufficient amount of live stock here for them, and we will do that. I wish to emphasize the point again, that nothing has ever happened here that was of such prime importance to the farmers and stock growers of the Northwest, as well as every business man, as the location of Swift & Co. here.

We are now negotiating for the lease of the Dakota Packing company's plant, and there are several other large packers who are figuring on it; this will make a great competitive stock market, as good as any in the country.

Swift & Co. took into consideration the transportation facilities that South St. Paul afforded before coming to any agreement. They had that all looked over thoroughly and they were very well pleased, too. South St. Paul is connected by a belt line and transfer with every road running into St. Paul, and those lines pretty well cover the whole country.

President A B. Stickney, of the Chicago Great Western railway, and one of the founders of the stockyards, was interviewed and said:

Swift & Co. have made the lease, coupled with an agreement on their part to vigorously prosecute the packing business in all its branches at South St. Paul.

The firm expects to run the plant to its full capacity, and in a short time to increase the present capacity.

The difficulty of starting a packing business grows out of the difficulty of finding a market for the product, but Messrs. Swift & Co. already have a market. They are the largest packers in the United States or in the world.

Their history is most remarkable. Only eighteen years ago the Swifts commenced their present business at Chicago with a limited capital, but, such has been their enterprise that last year their sales amounted to more than $104,000,000. Their sales for the present year will be even larger. This is probably the largest business in the United States, with the possible, but by no means certain, exception of the Standard Oil company.

I asked Mr. Swift if there was a limit to their business, and his reply was that they considered their business young yet.

The Swifts will commence at once to put the plant in good repair and be ready to commence packing in a few weeks. In fact, they commenced slaughtering cattle today.

Their location at South St. Paul means that there will be a strong market for live stock of all kinds at South St. Paul every day in the year. It means also that all the range stock, which now goes through St. Paul, will be brought and slaughtered here.

It means that from $20,000,000 to $30,000,000 will be paid out here annually for live stock, in hard times just the same as in good times.

It was the splendid live stock business which carried Kansas City through the recent business depression. The packing houses there did not stop buying and selling for a single day, and, like the splendid flouring mill business at Minneapolis, their business increased all the time.

The location of Messrs. Swift & Co. at South St. Paul, will compel their competitors to locate here too or give up competition in the vast territory which is tributary to the Twin Cities, which they will be hardly willing to lose.

There is another phase worth considering. It is undoubtedly true that wherever the products of a country are marketed, there will a jobbing trade center.

With the live stock market established, and with a grain market already established, the Twin Cities may feel assured that they will continue to hold the jobbing trade of the Northwest.

INDIANA IS ALARMED.

Steps Taken to Keep Yellow Fever Out of the State—No Deaths at New Orleans.

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 4.—Refugees from the yellow fever districts of the South that come into this state are to receive attention from the local and state health officers. This decision was reached at a conference between the governor and the state board today. It is held that there is danger of the fever being brought into Indiana if the warm and dry weather continues, and the refugees are permitted to come into the state unnoticed. It was decided to use a part of the emergency fund appropriated by the last legislature in placing men at the Illinois-Indiana line, whose duty it will be to see that persons from the infected territory, not provided with proper health certificates, are not permitted to enter the state.

NEW ORLEANS, Oct. 4.—For twenty-four hours, closing at nightfall, there had not been a single death recorded in the office of the board of health. Yesterday there had been thirty-one new cases reported, and at 7 o'clock tonight twenty-two were reported since 9 o'clock last night. Yesterday there were nearly 200 premises under surveillance, in which yellow fever had been declared to exist, and in some of the houses there were four or five cases, yet not a single one had proved fatal in twenty-four hours. The result was that tonight the death rate had fallen to a trifling excess over 10½ per cent, and the prospects for an early stamping out of the disease have been considerably brightened. There is no indication that the sickness will assume an epidemic form. All fear of that has disappeared, and people who have their families at other points are beginning to make arrangements to bring them back.

At a special meeting of the board of health this afternoon it was decided that the ship bringing Sicilian immigrants upon arrival here shall be detained at quarantine at the mouth of the river until further orders, and notice to this effect was sent to Collector Wilkinson.

Six days have passed since Ocean Springs has had any yellow fever. If the present immunity from disease continues until Friday of the current week, the board of health will officially declare the Mississippi resort free of fever. Ocean Springs was the first to contract the disease and will probably be the first to get rid of it.

VICKSBURG, Miss., Oct. 4.—Dr. Metcalfe, of Natchez, has gone to take charge of the cases of yellow fever at Nitta Youma. A letter from Mr. Bloum stated that the local physician declined to treat the case, that Miss Thompson, one of the sick, was sinking, and that Operator Smith, the depot agent, was sick, and that there are two suspicious cases. The state board of health ordered Dr. Metcalfe to the scene. Bloum's message also reported two suspicious cases, negroes, at Nitta Youma. Five nurses were sent to Edwards today. Excitement here is over and the town is free from suspicious cases.

The city council held a conference tonight with the local members of the legislature, and it was resolved to ask the governor to place $50,000 at the disposal of the state board of health to aid in the fever fight. The legislators present pledged to sign a memorial areeing to vote for the appropriation when the legislature meets in May and to obtain enough signatures to guarantee passage and justify the governor's advance action.

The Italian immigrant ship will not come near the city. The immigrants will be placed on a steamboat at the mouth of the river and taken to the plantations up the river.

BOARD ALL ARRESTED.

Commissioners of Cook County Taken Into Custody.

CHICAGO, Oct. 4.—The entire board of commissioners of Cook county was arrested today on warrants taken out by the Christian Citizenship league, of North Harvey, a small town adjoining Chicago. The offense for which the county commissioners were arrested was the issuance of a liquor license to Hans Peetz, of the town of Bremen, whose saloon lies within the two mile limit of the village of North Harvey. It is claimed the act of the board was a violation of the local option law, which gives incorporate cities and villages the right to prescribe prohibition districts. The license was granted, it was claimed, in spite of the protests from the citizens of North Harvey. The commissioners say that the matter was carefully considered and they believed they had a right to issue the license. All of the commissioners were immediately released on bonds within a few minutes after the warrants had been served.

Sweeping Stock Yards Decision.

Every Point Decided Against the Kansas Company by Judge Foster.

TOPEKA, Kas., Oct. 4.—Judge Foster today handed down his opinion in the Kansas City Stock Yards case in which he decided against the company on every legal question raised. The opinion is very sweeping, and the decision is a complete victory for Attorney General Boyle. The stock yards company will appeal to the United States supreme court.

The case was brought in such a shape to make Boyle and not the state the defendant, although it was an attack on the state law passed by the last legislature, to regulate produce charges on livestock at yards, and in application for an injunction to restrain Boyle as a state officer from enforcing the law.

There were three points on which the stock yard owners relied. Judge Foster said that none of them could stand. His decision boiled to a few words is: "The law governing stock yards charges was regularly passed by the Kansas legislature. The stock yards company is only an incident of commerce and in the absence of action by congress is subject to the state laws. Congress has not acted to fix regulations governing it. The charges fixed by the legislature would give a reasonable return on capital invested."

Wanted Great Riches.

So Mr. Shipherd Is Out on Bail Charged With Embezzlement of $200,000.

CLEVELAND, O., Oct. 4.—John J. Shipherd, who has for several years been prominent as an investment broker and street railway promoter, was arrested this morning on the charge of embezzlement. He was taken before a justice of the peace on a state warrant and was held in custody until 3 o'clock this afternoon, when he was released on $10,000 bail. The warrant was issued at the instance of Frank De Hass Robison, and the charge grew out of the business dealings of Shipherd and Robison, who have been closely associated for several years in street railway enterprises in this city and elsewhere. The warrant distinctly charges that Shipherd embezzled $183,286.15 of the personal property of Robison, in addition to 112 street railway bonds of the value of $95,200.

At the same time a petition was filed in common pleas court asking for a receiver for the brokerage firm of Charles H. Potter & Co., with which Shipherd was heavily interested and of which he was the manager. In the petition it was charged that Shipherd and the firm of Potter & Co. had converted to their own use the proceeds of securities left in their hands by Mr. Robison. These securities included three sets of Fort Wayne, Ind., street railway bonds, and the sum for which Robison asks judgment is $991,761. Included in these bonds were 112 $1,000 bonds of the value of $95,200, and upon which one of the charges of embezzlement against Shipherd is based. Mr. Robison also represents in his petition that the firm of Charles H. Potter & Co. is insolvent and that it owes to about twenty banks in the vicinity of this city and to individuals a sum aggregating about $2,000,000, which it cannot pay. It is alleged that the securities left with Shipherd by Mr. Robison were hypothecated by him at banks for the purpose of raising money with which to carry on the various enterprises in which he was interested.

When arrested Shipherd had just reached the brokerage office of Potter & Co., in the Wade building. He was dumfounded when the constable served the warrant.

"Surely, you are not going to take my body," he said to the officer.

"Yes, I must do so," replied the constable.

"What are you going to do?" asked Shipherd.

"I am going to take you before a justice, and he will then arrange your bail."

Then Shipherd accompanied the constable to the justice's office. On the way Shipherd said: "Well, I suppose that technically I am guilty; but I have not a dollar in the world. Of course I speculated and invested with the money. If things had come my way, I would have been without doubt the richest man in Cleveland."

While awaiting the appearance of his attorney, for whom he sent as soon as arrested, Shipherd was asked how much he owed Mr. Robison.

"Oh, my," he replied. "That I do not know. The amounts in these transactions are so enormous I lost all track of them a long time ago. I am now hopelessly lost. By bringing this action against me Mr. Robison has ruined me. A year ago I would have taken my oath that I was worth $200,000 over my investments; today I have not a cent in the world, not even enough to hire an attorney. Knowing that I have not a dollar, Mr. Robison now makes me the scapegoat in the hope that others interested will shell out the money he wants. Negotiations have been going on for a year with Mr. Robison to settle these matters, but he has purposely held back until now. For a year I have had all I could do to earn enough money for the daily bread of my family by doing a little scalping on the street. I know not what to do now. The disgrace, of course, falls keenly upon my family, but I do not care, for I am not guilty. I owe lots of money to hundreds of others besides Mr. Robison.

"In the fourteen years I have been in business in this city I have done a business of fifteen million dollars. Yes, sir, I did that right down there in my little shop. I have been successful and unsuccessful during that period, but when fortune went against me, I was always able to recuperate and pay my creditors. During my business experience, until last year, my credit was almost unlimited. I have combatted without success the panic of the last four years, while heavily interested in pioneer railroad work. The securities I held fell and greatly depreciated during the hard times. Four of the railroads I was connected with failed to bring returns, and here I am now."

At first Shipherd stubbornly refused to permit anybody to go on his bond. He said he was ready and willing to go to jail. Finally, however, he concluded to accept bail and his bond was signed by two of his friends.

SEVEN KILLED IN DEAD MAN'S CUT.

Party of Cotton Pickers Struck on a Grade Crossing.

WILLOW SPRINGS, Mo., Oct. 4.—A passenger train on the Kansas City, Fort Scott & Memphis railway ran into a wagon containing seven persons at Dead Man's Cut, three miles north of here, this morning at 9 o'clock, instantly killing six and fatally injuring the other one. Those killed were:

Philip L. Wooton.
Philip Wooton Jr.
Amanda Wooton.
Dora Wooton.
Mrs. Francis Malbrey.
Infant child, four months old.

Philip Wooton's wife is so badly hurt that she cannot live. The train was stopped and the remains of the dead and injured were brought here. Conductor Hallaway says proper signals for crossing were given, but they were not heard. The crossing is considered one of the most dangerous in the country, being a curve and a heavy grade. The bodies are now in charge of the coroner here. The persons killed lived in Texas county, Mo., and were on their way to Arkansas to pick cotton.

Plum for Wisconsin.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 4.—Mr. Finch, who is named as United States minister to Uruguay and Paraguay, is editor and proprietor of the La Crosse, Wis., Republic and Leader. He has been prominent in Republican councils in Wisconsin for many years and has the reputation of being a man of literary attainments and general ability.

NEW CABINET NOT STRONG

Some of the Most Famous Liberals of Spain Are Not on the List.

AMNESTY FOR AMERICAN PRISONERS.

Release of Those Confined in Cuban Prisons Expected as an Early Result of Senor Sagasta's Policy—Scheme of Autonomy.

MADRID, Oct. 4.—The new ministry is constituted as follows:

Senor Sagasta, president of the council of ministers.
Senor Gullon, minister for foreign affairs.
Senor Greizard, minister of justice.
Gen. Correa, minister of war.
Admiral Bermejo, minister of marine.
Senor Pulgoerver, minister of finance.
Senor Capdepon, minister of the interior.
Count Xiguena, minister of public works.
Senor Moret, minister for the colonies.

The ministers, after an informal meeting, proceeded to the palace and took the oath of office.

The cabinet is regarded as fairly strong, although some disappointment is felt that Senor Gamazo, Senor Maura, Senor Armijo and others who had been looked upon as probable members are not included. It is understood that Senor Maura, who was the author of the first Cuban home rule bill, felt that he could not act satisfactorily with Senor Moret, while Senor Gamazo, who is a relative of Senor Maura, feared that his presence might imply a leaning toward the Maura schemes of reforms. Consequently Senor Sagasta was compelled to take less prominent men.

At a cabinet council this evening it was decided to appoint Senor Ames Salvador, minister of finance in the Sagasta cabinet of 1895, director of the Bank of Spain. Count Romanones has been appointed mayor of Madrid and Senor Aguilera prefect of police of that city.

WASHINGTON, Oct 4.—One result of the formation of a Sagasta cabinet in Spain, it is believed, will be the granting of amnesty to most if not all of the American prisoners held in Cuba, and the pardon of many Cubans condemned to imprisonment in the island of Ceuta. Pending the completion of the Sagasta cabinet there has been no official intimation that such action would be taken, but it is said to be a natural and necessary part of the new Spanish policy, involving the withdrawal of Gen. Weyler and the adoption of more conciliatory plans. The Competitor prisoners, it is expected, will be released early, and Miss Cisneros also.

Concerning the pending claims, such as that in the case of Dr. Ruiz, it is said that a commission probably will be proposed to deal with all claims arising during the rebellion, and there are intimations that steps towards the creation of such a commission are now under way.

Although there is continued reticence at the state department concerning Spanish-Cuban affairs, it is understood that the government has been informed that Spain will offer autonomy to Cuba similar to that enjoyed by Canada, and in administration circles the prevalent opinion seems to be that if a full measure of real autonomy is offered, it should be accepted by the Cubans. The incoming of the Sagasta cabinet is welcomed by the administration, which several weeks ago was apprehensive of a possible early disturbance of our friendly relations with Spain.

The statements attributed to the new premier that he would favor the largest measure of autonomy have directed attention to the past efforts toward autonomy. Those offered by the Conservative cabinet and made known to the United States through the Spanish minister, Dupuy de Lome, contemplated a council of administration, elected in part by the Cubans, which was to have an advisory power in shaping the affairs of the island. This plan has taken the form of a lengthy decree, which has been already gazetted, although it has never been put into effect in Cuba, owing to the disturbed conditions. The objection found to this plan was that while it was in name autonomy, it did not give real home rule, as the Cuban council was not to be a legislative body with final powers of making laws, but merely an advisory council. In contrast with this, it is said that the Liberal plan of autonomy, as desired by the Autonomist party of Cuba, contemplates a colonial parliament or legislature with final powers of law-making, save the usual power of veto preserved in all forms of constitutional government. This would be on the lines of the home rule operating in Australia and Canada, and the latter countries were cited as examples of complete autonomy by the Spanish statesman, Castelar, when autonomy was first suggested for the island. Such a measure of autonomy, it is said, would command much support in Cuba among the substantial elements there, including the Autonomist party. In this connection it is understood that the newly-chosen president of the insurgents, Mendez Capote, is a man of conservative tendencies, and during a visit to Washington some months ago is said to have expressed views favorable to a close of hostilities on some fair basis of compromise.

LONDON, Oct. 4.—A leading London diplomat, discussing the crisis in Spanish affairs, said to a representative of the Associated Press today: "I believe the change in the Spanish cabinet will result in the recall of Capt. Gen. Weyler from Cuba and the substitution of Marshal Blanco for him, because Sagasta (the new premier) personally dislikes Weyler. Sagasta will probably discuss Cuba with Gen. Woodford (the United States minister to Spain) in a more conciliatory manner than his predecessor, but he is not likely to do more than that. Sagasta has been informed on authority that the Cubans will accept autonomy and the withdrawal of the Spanish troops, although they have protested that they will not do so, but I doubt if Spain will consent to these measures."

PARIS, Oct. 4.—A special correspondent of the Figaro has written an article, which is published in that paper today, on the mission of Gen. Stewart L. Woodford, the United States minister to Spain. The writer says the attitude of Gen. Woodford has thus far been irreproachable, and, after reiterating the supposed plans of the United States, he concludes: "Senor Sagasta's responsibility is heavy and by no means enviable. It is dangerous to admit in the negotiations with the Cubans the interference of the United States as the latter would thereby acquire a kind of right to control the affairs of the island. It is, moreover, impossible to mistake the aims of American diplomacy, which desires to gradually detach Cuba from Spain. The latter is entitled to the solicitude of Europe, who is herself threatened in regard to her colonial security."

LONDON, Oct. 4.—A special dispatch from Madrid, published here this afternoon, gives the substance of an interview between a newspaper correspondent and an unnamed member of the new Spanish cabinet. The latter is quoted as saying that Senor Sagasta will carry out the Cuban reforms proposed by Marshal Martinez de Campos, ten years ago. These include the granting of autonomy to Cuba on condition that she shall take over the Cuban debt, including the war debt and accept Spain's customs tariff. Continuing the new cabinet minister is said to have declared that Premier Sagasta would not consent to a customs union between the United States and Cuba, and that if the former were not satisfied, Spain was prepared to fight, as the Spanish navy was regarded as equal in strength to the navy of the United States. Further, if necessary, Spain, according to the cabinet minister, would have resource to privateering. In conclusion, the new minister is alleged to have said it was improbable that Spain would consent to recognize the insurgent debt, but Premier Sagasta would not prevent the new Cuban government dealing with it.

TROOPS CALLED FOR.

Trouble Expected at the Mines at Edwardsville.

EDWARDSVILLE, Ill., Oct. 4.—Troops were called for today to check what appeared like an inevitable conflict at the coal mines. Strikers organized and made open threats to use force in preventing a resumption of work. When it became known that strikers were marching from neighboring points, the officials called on the state authorities for the militia. The mines are strongly guarded, but the sheriff's force is not adequate to cope with the strikers in case an attack is made. The day passed without an outbreak, but trouble is expected tomorrow when the non-union men go to work. Several companies of the militia have been ordered to be in readiness to move at a moment's notice, and will probably be ordered here tomorrow.

FIVE HUNDRED ARE HOMELESS.

The Pennsylvania Village of Austin Wiped Out by Fire.

AUSTIN, Pa., Oct. 4.—Fire broke out this afternoon at 2:45 in Weed's livery barn on Turner street. In five hours' time every building in town but five was burned to the ground. Turner street was the principal residence street of the town, and probably 500 people are tonight homeless. The fire was started by a load of hay being run into a gas jet. In all about 100 buildings were burned, mostly residences, among the larger losses being the Methodist church, Presbyterian church, opera house, Welch's meat market, Hellwig's drug store, Gallup's livery and Weed's livery. The loss is placed by insurance experts at from $150,000 to $200,000.

Twenty Thousand Chinese Drowned.

Sixty Villages Destroyed by the Worst Floods of Recent Years.

TACOMA, Oct. 4.—The steamer Victoria brings news of the most disastrous floods that have visited China for many years. Sixty villages near Tung Chou, containing over 800,000 inhabitants, have been destroyed by floods, and the people drowned or forced to flee. There is no means of learning how many thousands have been drowned, but the number is estimated by Chinese authorities at 15,000 to 20,000. The flooded district is within twelve miles of Pekin, the capital of China. As a rule, Chinese officials make very little stir when a calamity like this happens, but the proximity of the disaster has resulted in its being brought to the attention of the emperor, who has ordered that all possible relief be given. Survivors from the villages nearest Pekin have been allowed such shelter as they can find on the city walls, but thousands are without protection against the rain, which continues to fall. The distress of these people is most pitiable. Public-spirited and wealthy men of Pekin and Tung Chou are actively assisting the authorities in providing them with food. The unusual rains began July 23 and continued until Aug. 15. The prefects, local magistrates and people of the flooded districts prayed for the cessation of the rain for seven days before they were finally driven out of their homes. Early in September high officials of Pekin and Tien Tsein suddenly forbade the slaughter of cattle, their object being to appease the wrath of the gods, and stop the rain. Proclamations to this effect were posted. The result was to cut off the entire meat supply, which led foreign consuls to protest against the prohibition, and to report the situation to the foreign ministers at Pekin. It is claimed that the action of the officials constitutes a violation of the treaty rights.

Early in September there was another uprising in Formosa. A battle took place, which resulted in the killing of 200 rebels and many Japanese soldiers. Capt. Takeuchi, who commanded the Japanese, cut down thirty rebels with his own hand.