The St. Paul Globe

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WEATHER FOR TODAY.

Minnesota—Snow flurries and warmer Monday; Tuesday partly cloudy; fresh northeasterly winds.

Iowa—Snow flurries and warmer Monday; Tuesday partly cloudy; fresh northeasterly winds.

North Dakota—Warmer and partly cloudy Monday; Tuesday fair; variable winds.

South Dakota—Warmer and partly cloudy Monday; Tuesday fair; variable winds.

Montana—Fair Monday, with warmer in extreme eastern portion; Tuesday fair; variable winds.

Wisconsin—Warmer, with snow flurries Monday; Tuesday warmer, with rain or snow; winds shifting to fresh northeasterly.

ST. PAUL.

Yesterday's observations, taken by the United States weather bureau, St. Paul, P. F. Lyons observer, for the twenty-four hours ended at 7 o'clock last night. ——Barometer corrected for temperature and elevation.

Highest temperature	9
Lowest temperature	—11
Average temperature	—1
Daily range	20
Barometer	30.17
Humidity	72
Precipitation	0
7 p. m., temperature	7.8
7 p. m., wind, north; weather, partly cloudy.	

YESTERDAY'S TEMPERATURES.

	*8pm	High		*8pm	High
Battleford ...	6	8	Boston	14	36
Bismarck ...	4	4	Cheyenne	26	44
Calgary	32	44	Cincinnati	12	15
Duluth	4	8	Cleveland	14	14
Edmonton ...	26	32	Denver	40	54
Havre	36	40	Galveston	58	64
Helena	38	42	Jacksonville .	44	48
Huron	6	12	Montgomery .	40	44
Med. Hat	38	40	New Orleans.	60	64
Minnedosa ..	—2	—2	New York	14	16
P. Albert ...	2	4	Omaha	16	16
Qu'Appelle ..	—2	4	Philadelphia .	16	17
S. Current ..	22	30	Pittsburg	12	12
Williston	12	18	Pueblo	56	62
Winnipeg	—2	2	St. Louis	20	20
Buffalo	8	8			

*Washington time (7 p. m. St. Paul). —Below zero.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1900.

THE END IN KENTUCKY.

Since the return to his senses of the present occupant of the office of governor of Kentucky, as indicated by his bringing to an end the armed despotism which he so long maintained in that commonwealth, the public interest in the progress of events in that state has been reduced to a minimum. The belief prevails that the matters in dispute will be peacefully adjusted; and naturally enough there is no substantial interest maintained by the American people outside of the state affected in the result on party political fortunes.

While the Democrats from the outset have acted the part of peaceful and law-abiding men, and their political opponents have resorted to every form of public crime, from bribery and corruption to assassination and official usurpation, both sides have been naturally held responsible for the disgraceful scenes which happily have at last been brought to an end. The Globe felt called on to sustain the claims of its party associates throughout, save so far as they were made to rest on the palpable unfairness of the so-called Goebel law; and public sentiment throughout the country sustained the representatives of Gov. Beckham in all that was done or attempted on both sides since the assassination of Mr. Goebel. But the feeling was general, and still so remains, that something more is needed to the honor of Kentucky's people than any mere declaration as to the right or wrong of the contending claimants.

It is gratifying to observe that the latest aspects of this unfortunate contest show the good sense of all concerned. Since the decision of Judge Taft an agreement has been reached by the attorneys for the contestants for office whereby all the existing suits for injunction and otherwise have been consolidated, and will have the promptest hearing by the circuit court of Jefferson county, and, on appeal, by the highest court of the state. Whatever the decision may be the defeated party is then at liberty to have recourse to the supreme court of the United States, and all the matter in dispute will thus have been passed upon finally and irrevocably. By the decision reached in the last instance all the parties have further agreed to abide, Taylor holding the office of governor unless ordered to vacate by the state courts.

It will require but a few weeks at most before the courts of Kentucky have decided the questions at issue, and as everything will be done to hasten their decision, as well as the decision of the United States supreme court, should an appeal be taken, the controversy may now be regarded as at an end.

But the duty of the officials of Kentucky is not ended by any means. The country waits to see whether the possibility of such a disgraceful state of affairs will continue to exist, or whether steps will be taken to produce such a condition of public sentiment in the state as will put an end to the dominion of the assassin and bravo in political and social life. We may not expect the half-wild mountaineers, whose presence in Frankfort was the main operating cause to Goebel's assassination, to change their natures; but every one can expect to see public authority assert itself so as to put an end to the brutal practice now universal in Kentucky of going armed about the most ordinary transactions of life. This must be done by the people themselves, acting through their authorities. If it is not done, Kentucky will retain its present reputation of being the most lawless state in the Union, and its people bear the stigma of being a race of murderers and assassins.

A Chicago newspaper has gone to the trouble of compiling a schedule of the prices that Kansas City will charge for cots during the Democratic convention. This may be a reminiscence of the World's Fair, or it may only be a case of envy.

If any general were ever in need of a war expert it is Cronje. One of those London gentlemen would soon figure him out of his present predicament. A Berlin telegram would do equally well.

THE GRIM HUMOR OF IT.

The humors of the position into which the imperialist brethren have forced themselves are daily making themselves additionally plain. Even the grim process of robbery and spoliation about to be inaugurated on the defenseless people of Puerto Rico is bringing the absurdities of American imperialism into the foreground.

While the senate is engaged in establishing the need of free trade in Hawaii, the imperialists in the house have been struggling against heavy seas to show that free trade with Puerto Rico would be a most violent blow to domestic manufacture and to the suffering agriculturalists of the country. All is game which comes to the imperialist net. While we set steel traps in our islands in the Atlantic, we catch our bird in the Pacific by gently dropping salt on his tail.

What an ennobling spectacle it will be to hear grave and reverend imperialist senators like our own Messrs. Nelson and Davis, for instance, making constitutional arguments on the Hawaii measure establishing the right of the people of one of our "possessions" to be admitted to the Union, and to enjoy all the advantages of the constitutional system of free trade between all portions of the United States, including Alaska, and, the following week, showing with equally convincing force that so far as the Puerto Ricans are concerned we can, under the constitution, there inaugurate all sorts of political abominations, such as the suppression of free speech, of trial by jury, and of a free press, and make them contribute to the sustainment of our swaddling industrial infants by imposing on their products any "protection" we please, without regard even to the "favored nation" clause! And this is a situation, not the product of fancy or of unfair party political discussion, but a living, red-handed reality.

It is all a part of the system of "benevolent assimilation." We so have it on the authority of our Sunday-go-to-meeting president. For did he not preface his statement that we might work our sweet will on the Puerto Ricans by the declaration that his policy is a distinctively "benevolent" one? It may be an extremely benevolent idea that the descendants of the slayers of Capt. Cook, of the cannibals of the Sandwich islands, are perfectly qualified to become citizens of the United States, while the descendants of Columbus and Ponce de Leon and their followers are to be treated as national waifs and strays, unqualified and unfitted even for civil liberty, but the benevolence of such a view is of about the same moral order as is the religion which has our president and the members of his cabinet photographed as they emerge from the White house, and then has the photographs published throughout the press of the country as depicting these gentlemen on their way to church.

While the Filipino insurgents hold our army of occupation at bay, we at one and the same time declare them to be outside the usages of war, mere guerrillas that may be shot or hanged when caught, and then busy ourselves in the formation of another peace commission to send to their land!

What wonder is it under such circumstances that the entire civilized world looks upon us as a nation of benevolent pirates, who preach freedom or firearms, as may best suit our schemes of plunder and oppression of weaker peoples?

A CHINESE VIEW OF EXPANSION.

The Chinese minister to the United States is an exceedingly affable gentleman named Wu Ting Fang. Mr. Fang was the principal orator at a Washington's birthday celebration held in Philadelphia, and among other things said by him was this:

"As the recognition of the 'open door' in China by the great powers has recently been brought about by your government, the question now arises whether it is not time for this country to extend the Monroe doctrine to Asia. The Philippine islands are situated on the outskirts of Asia, and may be said to be at the door of that continent. The Monroe doctrine being the fixed policy of your government, the natural logic is that it should be applied to that part of the world where this country has possessions. This policy is by no means a selfish one, but as I have already remarked, is founded on justice and self-protection, and if persistently carried out it will tend greatly to the preservation of peace wherever it is enforced."

It might be supposed by the casual reading of the above that this eminent Chinaman does not fully comprehend the scope and meaning of the Monroe doctrine, or that this part of his speech was strongly tinged with humorous sarcasm. But Mr. Wu Ting Fang is a great student and a diplomat of distinguished ability. He probably has a more thorough understand of what is meant by and involved in the Monroe doctrine than nine out of ten American citizens, and it is clearly apparent that this part of his address is, and probably was intended as a rebuke to the expansionist ideas and policy of President Mcinley and his advisers.

His reference to "the open door" in China recalls the fact that, in the midst of the bragging and blowing of trumpets by Secretary Hay over the alleged recognition by the great powers of Europe of the "open door," Mr. Wu Ting Fang in his affable way drew attention to the fact that the United States government had neglected to mention the matter to China, the party of the first part, the inference being that without the consent of China any concessions made by European powers were valueless simply because they conveyed no title; that they were, in fact, merely quit-claims of a contingent interest.

Now Mr. Wu Ting Fang, in his innocent Chinese way, asks if it is not time for the United States to extend the Monroe doctrine to Asia, and he sapiently draws attention to the fact that the Monroe doctrine is a fixed policy of this government, and, as it must extend to all possessions of the United States, it necessarily must embrace the Philippine islands.

It is barely possible that Mr. Fang may not have been sincere when he described the Monroe doctrine as unselfish and founded on justice and self-protection, and that if persistently carried out it will tend to the preservation of peace "wherever it is enforced." It is probable that when he uttered this last phrase Mr. Fang metaphorically "winked the other eye."

But, whatever may be the meaning of the Chinese minister's speech and his intention in saying what he did, he certainly succeeds in presenting the expansion policy in a new light and in suggesting its utter incongruity with the traditional and constitutional policies of the United States.

AN IMPORTANT DECISION.

The decision of the supreme court of Illinois in the action brought by the Inter Ocean company against the Associated Press is to be regarded, for the present, at least, as possessing much importance to newspaper publishers within that state.

The Inter Ocean is a member of the Associated Press. That is to say, it has, or had, the right to secure the press reports of that concern for daily publication. But one of the rules of the association prevents its members from receiving press reports from any other agency antagonistic to it. This rule the Inter Ocean did not choose to observe, with the result that it was excluded from receiving thereafter the reports of the defendant concern. Suit was brought by the Inter Ocean to compel the delivery of news as usual. The lower courts decided against the Inter Ocean, on the principle that, having violated its own contract with the association in patronizing a hostile news agency, it was in the position of seeking equity while refusing to do equity. These decisions have been overturned, and the supreme court has decided that any newspaper in the Associated Press can obtain news from any other source whatever, and, also, that the Associated Press must furnish its news to all applicants on equal terms. This is, in effect, that it is in the nature of a common carrier for hire.

This is a far-reaching decision. Its possible effect will be to produce an entire change in the prevailing methods of news collection and disposition. Within the state in which it has been rendered it remains absolute, no appeal to the federal courts being possible, since each of the parties to the suit is an Illinois corporation. But similar actions are pending in other states against the Associated Press, and whatever the earlier decisions are in such cases, an appeal will be taken to the United States supreme court, and the questions at issue will be settled finally, and will apply to the business of news collecting all over the country.

The Associated Press has been able to maintain its ascendency by reason of its superior enterprise and the perfection of its news-gathering system. If the field of competition is to be thrown wide open, as the Illinois decision indicates will be the case, the organization will not necessarily be seriously affected. News gathering is in no sense a privilege or a monopoly. That organization which can do the work best will, in any event, secure the business. If the Associated Press does not rise to the occasion of being, as it has been for many years past, the best-equipped news agency in the country, it cannot survive. The great dailies must have the most complete system of news service possible. It does not matter much to them where they get the news, so long as they are able to furnish it to their readers. Every daily paper of any pretensions whatever spends large sums each month in furnishing its readers with the news from independent sources. If, in supplying the general news of current events, the Associated Press is not able to maintain its superiority to all other kindred organizations, its place will be speedily taken by some more perfect organization, no matter whether the Illinois decision is or is not upheld at Washington.

AT THE THEATERS.

METROPOLITAN.

Now and again word has floated westward that "Arizona," one of the few new plays of the season, is better than "Alabama," more true to life than "In Mizzoura." The large audience that witnessed its opening last night at the Metropolitan will heartily indorse the statement. And to excel "Alabama" means a great deal.

"Arizona" is the most consistently sustained in its equilibrium and rounding out of character portrayal of any play that has visited St. Paul this season. With the exception of the villain and his victim, all the women are pure and all the men with hearts of oak. It is fortunate, too, in the line of its presentation, for it succeeds "The Sign of the Cross," drenched as is that piece of dramatic decadence with Babylonish immorality, ghastly superstition and maudlin sentiment. It is a play into which a Western audience, particularly, can enter heart, soul and sympathy into all its details. It is a play in which virtue is the test; honor the soldier's watchword. It is a play overflowing with human nature—the rock foundation of the greatest successful dramas in any age. And, more than all this, it is a play of lifelike action, superbly staged, and presented by a cast eminently satisfactory in the smallest detail.

This crowning effort in the meritorious dramatic work of Augustus Thomas is out for its first season. In Chicago for many weeks it played to splendid business. It carries a story of woman's lifful lapse to the brink of dishonor and her rescue by one of the Chevalier Bayard type of heroes. Estella Bonham, wife of the colonel of the Eleventh United States cavalry, has been raised a rancher's daughter, and schooled in the lively city of San Francisco. The narrow horizon of her life at an army post becomes irksome. Through the perverseness of woman's nature—better appreciated, perhaps, by her sister woman—she imagines herself in love with a Capt. Hodgman, of her husband's regiment. An elopement is planned. On the eve of its success she is saved by the daring act of Lieut. Denton, who, like the hero of "The Galley Slave," falls a victim to unjust suspicion by Col. Bonham. The latter demands his resignation from the army unless Denton can explain his presence in the room of the wife. To explain means the incrimination of Mrs. Bonham. Instant resignation is the only way out of the difficulty, and Denton rises to the occasion and makes the sacrifice. This, however, is but the threshold of trouble. Denton loves the sister of the colonel's wife, Bonita Canby. To her comes the plausible Capt. Hodgman, and vilifies the name of her lover, even accusing him of the very crime of which he alone is guilty.

A faint shadow of this complexity is to be traced in "We 'Uns of Tennessee." In "Arizona," the situation is many fold more graphic. Lena Keller, the victim of Capt. Hodgman, has a lover in the person of Tony Mostano, a vaquero. To him Lena has confided her secret, and, "Some time I meet him; he go to hell," says Tony. Stung by the taunts of Capt. Hodgman, Lieut. Denton wipes the cheek of the villainous officer, and two shots are fired. From the effects of one Hodgman falls mortally wounded. The vaquero has kept his word, but Denton is accused, arrested and court-martialed for the crime. The confession and flight of Tony save his life. The confession of Estella Bonham saves his honor, and leaves him the accepted lover of Bonita and a half owner in Aravaipa ranch.

Some of the characters of Capt. Charles King's novels seem to have stepped out from between the covers of the book and to be walking on the stage.

Of the cast, each one is an artist. Henry Canby, by Mr. Theodore Roberts, is presented with a fidelity to the character of a wealthy Western rancher that won hearty applause from a most appreciative audience. Edwin Holt, as Col. Bonham, and Vincent Serrano, as Lieut. Denton, are comrades in choice bits of dramatic fidelity as they are comrades at arms in the story of the play. The Capt. Hodgman of Mr. George Nash was a well and equably sustained piece of villainy. He is the modern Iago devoid of all the "Hist! woman, I have thee in me power!" rant.

Miss Jane Taylor, the Estella Bonham of "Arizona," needs no flattery at a critic's hand. She portrayed the hesitating, weak, yet repentant woman of modern life. This is what is demanded of her part, and she disappointed no one. Miss Eleanor Robson, as Bonita Canby, improved all her opportunities, and in so elaborate a production as "Arizona" they are numerous.

Through the incidental pathos of the play run some threads of comedy that were picked up and deftly woven into a web of fun by George O'Donnell, as Dr. Fenlon, and Miss Mattie Earle, as Mrs. Canby.

The audience was large and enthusiastic. In one box were seated the principals of "The Sorrows of Satan," including Charles Kent; from another Otis Skinner and Walker Whiteside witnessed the play. "Arizona" will be seen all the week, with the usual Wednesday and Saturday matinees. —R. F. S.

GRAND.

Patrons of the Grand opera house last night witnessed a thoroughly good performance of Gillette's famous play, "Secret Service." With the managers who have handled the play the question has not been one of the play itself, but rather one of securing talent to give the play an interpretation that would do justice to its great effective forces. Those who have seen the best presentations of "Shenandoah" saw in it more mechanical effects, but the thread of interest is no stronger or more continuous in "Shenandoah" than in "Secret Service." "Shenandoah" is more sombre and has not the continuous vein of comedy through it that lightens the tense situations and serves to prevent the oppression incident to prolonged high nerve tension.

"Secret Service" is a war story. The scene is in Richmond, Va., the few hours before the capitulation of the Confederate capital to the besieging Union forces. The principal characters are Edith Varney, daughter of a prominent Confederate general, who meets, and falls in love with Lewis Dumont, attached to the federal secret service, who is in Richmond disguised as a Confederate Capt. Thorne. The part of Capt. Thorne is taken by William B. Smith as the leading man. Benton Arresford, attached to the Confederate secret service at Richmond, who has been rejected by Miss Vanney, is played by Frank Rolleston; Marion Childers takes the comedy role of Caroline Mitford, a sweet sixteen-year-old daughter of the Confederacy, who furnishes all of the comedy there is in the play.

The plot of the play is the discovery of the work of the federal secret service agent, who is arrested by his brother. Arresford conducts the investigation and discovers enough to warrant the arrest of the spurious Capt. Thorne, who, through the efforts of Miss Varney, has been given a commission in charge of the war department telegraph lines. Thorne, acting as a secret service agent for the Union forces, corrupts servants in the employ of the Varney family. His brother is a prisoner of war at Libby and a negro servant carries secret dispatches between the brothers.

The servant is arrested, and one of the messages found in his possession. Arresford informs Mrs. Varney and her daughter that Thorne is a federal spy, and undertakes to prove the charge. With Edith Varney he secretly watches Thorne while the latter is on duty in the telegraph office, and as Thorne is in the act of sending out a forged dispatch that will lead the Confederate forces to defeat Arresford shoots him through the hand, and when the corporal's guard enters, Thorne turns the tables by ordering the arrest of Arresford. The arrival of Gen. Randolph, in command at Richmond, causes an investigation, and the forged telegram is not sent. Arresford denies Thorne's authority at the telegraph office, and Miss Varney hands Gen. Randolph the commission she has received for Thorne through the president to command the telegraph office. After finding himself in control under the commission, Thorne refuses to act, and stops the forged message. Mr. Smith's strong lines are those in which he tells Miss Varney of his love for her, confesses his connection with the federal secret service, and goes away under guard to a drumhead court-martial, after assuring her that a secret service official is not the master of his own movements, and that a soldier's death would be vastly preferable to being shot as a spy. As Edith Varney, Miss Frances Ring has the natural beauty and manners of a cultivated Southern woman, and she was at all times equal to the trying lines of tense situations. All of the other characters are well presented, and the result of witnessing the performance is the finding of deep interest from the rise to the fall of the curtain.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

DAYTON, O., Feb. 25.—Rev. Edward Lorenz, editor of the German Periodicals of the United Brethren church, and for more than forty years a prominent minister in that denomination, is dead, as the result of a rupture of a blood vessel in his brain occasioned by a paroxysm of coughing.

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Feb. 25.—B. E. Cook, who was a captain of New York militia, did escort duty to Gen. Lafayette on his trip up the Hudson river in 1824, died today, aged ninety-seven years.

LONDON, Feb. 25.—William Butterfield, the celebrated architect, is dead in his eighty-sixth year.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—Edward Stephen, president of the Home bank, died today, aged seventy-five years.

NEWS OF A DAY IN BRIEF.

Vienna—A peace demonstration, organized by the Peace Association of the World, was held here today, and was largely attended.

Chicago—Mrs. Potter Palmer today said that she had received a cablegram reporting the Princess Cantacuzene much better.

New York—The British ship County of Edinburgh, which went ashore near Manasquan, N. J., a couple of weeks ago, was floated today, and is now anchored off Bay Head.

Gambier, O.—The Students' Missionary Association of the Protestant Episcopal Church has selected for the place of its next annual convention, the Theological seminary at Philadelphia.

Pittsburg, Pa.—It is learned from an official of the Pittsburg Coal company, the local combine, that lake shipments will commence much earlier this season than last.

STORM IN OHIO.

Severe Temperature, With Heavy Snow in Some Parts.

CLEVELAND, O., Feb. 25.—The storm which began on Friday night reached its height today. The temperature here was near the zero mark and a fierce gale from the northwest blew all day. During much of the day snow fell also. Street car railways were operated with difficulty. The storm was general throughout Northern Ohio, and at several places very low temperature was reported, the minimum at Youngstown being 16 degrees below zero.

A wealthy farmer, named Matthew Latimer, aged seventy-two, was frozen to death last night while walking a half mile to his home near Elyria, O.

Capital Chat.

Washington Gossip, Political and Otherwise, for the Readers of the Globe.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 25.—(Special.)—The talk for the vice presidency on the ticket with Mr. Bryan has resurrected an interesting fact concerning the marvelous organization of Tammany. Among the men mentioned for this place has been Towne, of Minnesota, should it fall on the Middle West; James H. Lewis, of Washington, should it go to the Pacific coast, and William Sulzer and Amos Cummings, of New York, should it go to the Atlantic coast. Towne has the disadvantage of being a Silver Republican. Lewis has the disadvantage, however well known he may be personally, of coming from so small a state that there will be little to gain if her electoral votes were won by his nomination. Sulzer is being put forward upon the theory that he is a German, and that the Germans should have representation. But the Germans say Sulzer is an Irishman, because his mother is and that his father was only a part German. Amos Cummings has friends among the newspaper men. Being a member of the Typographical union, he has many friends among labor organizations, but unless Tammany is for Cummings he stands not the ghost of a show. Tammany is for what Croker wants. Croker is in public life for business. Amos Cummings has no chance for the nomination for vice president for the reason that Croker is in politics for business. He clings to a friend, and never forgets an enemy, nor neglects a revenge. Cummings did him an offense, so he thinks. Whether this is true or not it is sufficient to settle Amos' fate.

* * *

In the congress of 1893-4 the Pacific funding bill, so-called, for funding the debt of the Central and Southern Pacific railroads was before the house. Maguire, of California, led the fight against it. Hepburn, of Iowa, and Powers, of Vermont, were strongly for the bill, while the Democratic side was generally against it. Two votes upon that bill settled the vice presidential possibility of two distinguished gentlemen in the nation. Sibley, of Pennsylvania, voted for the bill, and for this reason he was beaten for the vice presidential nomination on the ticket with Bryan in 1896. The California delegation fought him, claiming that the state would be lost, which, without Sibley, was safe. Sibley has never forgotten this slight upon him, and from that time he has taken little interest in the Democratic party, and his present attitude of a complete change against the Democracy is not so much a conversion of his views as his feeling that Bryan prevented his nomination for the vice presidency when he could have been, and the Democracy, for which he claimed he had suffered ostracism for supporting Mr. Cleveland, deserted him. Amos Cummings was the only one of the New York delegation who voted against the funding bill. He did this in spite of Croker's instructions to vote for it. Croker was a friend of Huntington and of Huntington's New York interests. But for the fact that Cummings was a friend of the newspaper men he would have been beaten for his nomination for congress. As it was, he barely slipped through. Since then he has been given his nomination most grudgingly. Now that he is seeking the vice presidency Croker will see that he is defeated in revenge for Cummings' defiance of Croker by voting against Huntington. Thus it is plain how two votes on the bill have to a great extent affected the aspirations of two gentlemen for nomination for the vice presidency.

* * *

The speech of Senator Wolcott in the senate a few days ago, seeking to justify his position as one of the commissioners sent by President McKinley to procure bimetallism, and wherein he paid such glowing compliment to the president, and indicated that he would vote for the gold standard bill, is understood here to be in pursuance of a policy previously outlined, and in which Wolcott is to be favored with a cabinet job.

Senator Wolcott wanted to be minister to England when it was understood that Choate was to resign. Choate has always insisted that Chauncey Depew should have been sent to England, and refers to him as "Old Lady" Depew, and that he (Choate) should have been sent to the senate, for which place he feels his abilities fitted him. Wolcott realizes that he is beat, whether the legislature is Democratic or otherwise. He has no hope of coming back to the senate, so he has come out strongly against every position that he has previously occupied, and he makes a strong speech for the administration in behalf of a bill the provisions of which, in 1893, Wolcott condemned as the most outrageous ever conceived by the ingenuity of man. This speech was against President Cleveland's attempt to repeal the Sherman law. However, Attorney General Griggs is tired of his job. He has begun to chafe and squirm a bit under the assaults made by the public against him of granting official favors to trusts and monopolies, and he claims that he can make more money—and he needs it—by at once returning to private practice. He has his eye on Sewall's seat, and he thinks he can come to the senate, an ambition he has long had. This administration will help him. The Central Railroad of New Jersey elected Sewall, and is more friendly to Griggs. Should the latter resign his position in the cabinet, Wolcott will be named for the place. Wolcott has kept pledges with the president. He is supposed to lead off and bring to the support of the bill the silver men of the West. He has kept his part of the agreement. Whether the gold standard be right or wrong, many men in public life are whispering on the corners that so wise a man as Wolcott should have profited by the fact that D. W. Voorhees, who is a strong man in the Democratic party, and had been a strong silver man all his life, became the spokesman of the administration in the senate, and went to his death in political obscurity. The gold men in the Democratic party did not respect him, and the silver forces looked upon him as selling himself for official favor.

* * *

This new move in the cabinet is not without interest in other directions. Upon reflection, it will be observed that the present cabinet is the first one since 1860 in which there is not one Southern man. The South has been without representation in the cabinet since Gary resigned the postmaster generalship. If Wolcott should go in the cabinet in place of Griggs, the only other open place will be that of Long. The president cannot afford to have Gage leave at present. Gage will ask to retire if the president is re-elected, but the position will be filled by a New Yorker. The position of secretary of the navy would be given to the South, if a man can be found satisfactory to the president. If the new department of commerce and industry, for the creation of which a bill is now pending in congress, should be established, this position may be one to satisfy the South. In the meantime, the president is agitating himself to find a Southern man to put upon the Philippine commission, in order to even what has been impressed upon him as the unfair balance of official favors. —J. S. Van Antwerp.

Mrs. Sartoris' Condition.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—The following statement relative to the condition of Mrs. Nellie Grant Sartoris was given out today by the attending physicians:

"Mrs. Nellie Grant Sartoris is now convalescing from an operation and will be about in a few days. On account of public statements that her malady was cancer we state that after the operation an examination has proved that there is no evidence that cancer has ever existed."

Soldiers' Bodies Brought Home.

NEW YORK, Feb. 25.—The United States transport Sedgwick arrived this morning from Matanzas, Cienfuegos and Havana with twenty-seven cabin passengers and forty-six discharged soldiers. The Sedgwick also brought a quantity of baggage, fifty-four soldiers' bodies and $230,000 in specie.

LIKE A SEA OF FLAME

A SUBURB OF PARIS HAS AN EXCITING AND DISASTROUS FIRE

ALCOHOL AND OIL STORES

A Series of Explosions Occurred, Spreading the Burning Fluid in All Directions—One Hundred and Fifty Persons, It Is Estimated, Were Hurt and a Number of Them Most Seriously.

PARIS, Feb. 25.—As the result of a fire that broke out this morning at St. Ouen, a suburb of Paris, in a collection of alcohol and oil stores, a series of explosions occurred, spreading the flames until a block of sixteen immense warehouses were involved in a huge conflagration. A great concourse of spectators had assembled and had approached too near, when suddenly and unexpectedly the explosions occurred. A large number of people, including some firemen, were more or less injured. The last explosion occurred at 6 o'clock this afternoon, when it was thought that much danger had been averted. Thirty persons were injured by flying debris.

The official computation shows that 150 were hurt and quite a number seriously.

The fire broke out at 8 o'clock from some cause as yet unknown, and had obtained a firm hold before it was discovered. It progressed without exciting incidents during the morning, and at 1 o'clock had been gotten under control. At 4 o'clock, however, the falling walls permitted the flames to reach a number of alcohol vats, and then the explosions began to take place. The block of warehouses was almost surrounded by unoccupied ground, over which the

BURNING ALCOHOL SPREAD

when the buildings collapsed, resembling a sea of flames and causing consternation throughout the district. People in the dwellings near by began hastily removing their furniture. The suffocating heat and fumes seriously hampered the work of the fire brigade. A number of engines were sent from Paris to assist. The firemen worked fearlessly, and more than once were precipitated to the ground by falling roofs and walls.

A detachment of soldiers aided the firemen in emptying the adjacent houses of furniture, and the ambulances were busy in carrying victims to neighboring hospitals.

Fortunately the flames did not reach the immense reservoirs of petroleum. The loss is estimated at 2,000,000 francs.

NO REGARD FOR ROYALTY.

Influenza, Which Is Raging in Berlin, Attacks the Emperor.

BERLIN, Feb. 25.—The influenza is still raging. Princess Frederick Charles has been attacked. The Italian ambassador here, Count Lanza de Busca, had invited Emperor William and the elite of Berlin, among them United States Ambassador White and Mrs. White, to a dinner today, but he was seized with influenza this morning and the dinner was postponed.

STUBBORN FIGHT

Continued From First Page.

who has fallen in the course of the campaign.

LORD ROBERTS' REPORT.

Lord Roberts has sent the following additional advices to the war office:

"Paardeberg, Saturday afternoon, Feb. 24.—Methuen reports that Barkly West was occupied by our troops on Feb. 22. The loyal inhabitants displayed great enthusiasm.

"The country west of the railway from Cape Town to Kimberley is gradually settling down. A detachment has started from De Aar for Britstown, and Douglass and Prieska will shortly be visited by our troops.

"Methuen's account of the admirable manner in which the Kimberley hospital is managed made one desire to send some of our sick and wounded there."

SHORT OF AMMUNITION.

A dispatch to the Morning Post from Kimberley, dated Friday, says:

"Gen. Cronje is reported to have plenty of provisions, but to be running short of ammunition. Mr. Rhodes is extremely hopeful that the war has reached its concluding stage."

SEVERE FIGHTING TO COME.

The Times publishes the following dispatch from Colenso, dated Saturday:

"The British are no wwithin two miles of being in touch with Ladysmith; but the ground still to be covered is the hardest part and very severe fighting must be expected."

PRETORIA PERTURBED.

The Lourenzo Marques correspondent of the Times says:

"The feeling among officials at Pretoria borders on consternation. Gen. Louis Botha and Pretrin are both urging President Kruger to sue for peace. At Bloemfontein Gen. Cronje's position is regarded as hopeless."

RISING IN PRIESKA.

The Standard has the following from Cape Town, dated Saturday:

"The Boer force occupying Prieska consists of 120 rebels, led by Free Staters. A proclamation has been read annexing the Prieska district to the Free State, and all loyal British have been given five days to quit the place. I am assured by residents of Prieska that unless troops are soon sent there the whole northeast district will rise."

BOERS AT THE VAAL.

KIMBERLEY, Friday, Feb. 23.—It is reported that the Boers were in strength at Fourteen Streams to the north, on Wednesday, having two guns and many wagons. They had just reached the bridge over the Vaal river.

KIMBERLEY'S BELATED MAIL.

KIMBERLEY, Friday, Feb. 23.—October's mail arrived today by the first passenger train from the south.

CRONJE'S FINE DEFENSE.

Keeping the British at Bay With All Odds Against Him.

PAARDEBERG, Orange Free State, Wednesday, Feb. 21.—The fourth day of Gen. Cronje's fine defense opened in startling fashion. Soon after dawn a most terrific rattle of rifle fire broke out, waking the sleeping camp. It was the heaviest fire during the war, and all awaited with foreboding the news of its effect. It soon developed that the Gloucesters and Essexes had lost their way and had bivouacked, in error, close to the Boer laager on the north side of the river. As soon as they were perceived by the enemy the latted fusiliaded. Wonderful to tell, the British casualties were practically none.

There was desultory firing all day on both the north and south banks, Gen. Knox's brigade holding and pushing forward the line south of the river, while Gen. Smith-Dorrien, on the north side, worked toward the laager. Meanwhile Gen. French advanced in a northerly direction near a strong kopje held by some of Cronje's men, reinforced by a Ladysmith contingent. At the same time Gen. Broadwood's brigade, with a battery of horse artillery, took up positions to the left and rear of the same kopje.

The front of the hill was thoroughly searched by a raking fire. Suddenly the Boers bolted from every side towards Gen. French, who headed toward the drift, shelling vigorously. A great number escaped, but many were killed by shrapnel, and about forty were captured.

As oon as the kopje was evacuated this correspondent visited it. The position was found to be wonderfully strong naturally, and to form the real key to the position in the case of defense against Boer reinforcements advancing from the east. Our first contact with the Ladysmith Boers was singularly unfortunate for them. A great deal of forage, provisions and equipment was captured, and the kopje was frequently dotted with blood, showing that many wounded had been removed.

The Boer method of removing their dead is to tie a couple of reins to the body, which is thus dragged off by two horsemen at full gallop. There were several pour parlers today on the subject of a short armistice. It seems that Gen. Cronje is willing to surrender, but that the young Transvaalers refuse. The other beleaguered Boers are anxious to give up. A British doctor, who visited the Boer lines to see to the wounded, found the trenches along the river full of wounded and saw many dead.

A deserter who came into camp last night says that yesterday's bombardment was appalling in its effects, especially in the case of the howitzer batteries enfilading the river.

The position today is practically the same. The Boers are strengthening their entrenchments around the laager, although their case is hopeless.

The capture of the kopje today has given the British a splendid position, and will prevent a Boer relieving force reaching Cronje. Everybody admires the splendid stand of the burghers, but from a humanitarian point of view it is considered that further resistance on the part of Gen. Cronje will be criminal. Every shrapnel shell finds a victim, and, unless a miracle occurs, his force must be wiped out or captured. The former result is terrible to contemplate, but, although it would require a few days, it would be easy to accomplish.

Today Lord Roberts sent Gen. Cronje an offer of a safe conduct for the women and children, together with a free pass to any point for them, and also an offer of doctors and medicine. Cronje's reply was a curt refusal, and desultory shelling was resumed.

THURSDAY.

PAARDEBERG, Orange Free State, Feb. 22.—Artillery shelling continued during the early part of last night. As soon as the last gun was fired the Shropshires, who had been occupying the river bed since Sunday, rushed forward, seized an additional 200 yards of near ground and intrenched a fresh position before daybreak. At dawn Gen. Cronje found himself docked that amount of space. The Shropshires had done excellent work under galling fire since Sunday, and they were relieved by the Gordons today.

The exchange of positions had its amusing features, in spite of the danger. The Gordons crawled on their stomachs to the trenches, and the Shropshires crept out of these by actually climbing over the Gordons.

The scene of the last five days' fighting is one of the prettiest sights in South Africa. The river at the point where Gen. Cronje is ensconced and fighting for life resembles some parts of the Hudson river, the ground all around sloping toward the stream. All the highlands are covered by British artillery. Cronje is faced in the front and rear from both banks by the British, while Gen. French's horse, far away on the flanks, prevent a sudden inrush of Boers.

During the artillery firing last evening the mules of the Eighty-second battery, which had remained hitched to the carriages, suddenly stampeded and galloped off en masse, but today the wagons, with one exception, were recovered.

Gen. French has sent in seventy-five prisoners. A British patrol, eight miles to the west, discovered thirty Boers wandering away and corralled them. Already this force has captured 460 of the enemy, while many dead Boers have been seen.

The Boer prisoners are all depressed at the present course of the war, and they comment bitterly upon Gen. Cronje's persistence, which they call "murder."

Today a German ambulance attached to the Boer forces was allowed to traverse the British lines in front of Jacobsdal. Quantities of cattle, sheep and oxen have been captured while wandering from the Boer laager.

FRIDAY.

PAARDEBERG, Orange Free State, Feb. 23.—The British are gradually closing in upon Gen. Cronje from all sides, making his position more impossible than ever.

During the course of last night the