The Morning Call.

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DIPLOMATIC DELAYS.

Matta's Message to Minister Montt.

Probable Result of the Investigation of the Baltimore Murders.

The Chileans Claim That the Police Were Justified in Their Action—Montt's New Cabinet.

Special to THE MORNING CALL.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Senor Montt, the Chilean Minister, had another interview with Secretary Blaine to-day. The Minister laid before the Secretary the following translation of a telegram from Matta, Minister of Foreign Affairs, bearing on the inquiry into the trouble in Valparaiso between the Chileans and the sailors from the United States steamer Baltimore:

SANTIAGO, December 31, 1891.

To the Minister of Chile, Washington: From a summary of the proceedings it appears that the struggle began between two sailors in a tavern at ward "Arrayan"; that it was continued in the streets with the accessions of numbers of the inhabitants and transient parties from the streets called Del Clave, San Francisco and Alamos. The disorder continued to the streets Del Arsenal and San Martin, where the police force succeeded in restoring order. All the North Americans except two state that the police did their duty, and, from the voluminous proceedings of appeals, the court has done its duty. Whenever the Prosecuting Attorney renders his opinion and the time for producing evidence shall have expired, sentence will be given establishing who and how many are the guilty parties, which may only be presumed at present. Whoever they may be they will be punished. The legal proceedings are being actively carried forward to their proper termination.

MATTA.

AVOIDING RESPONSIBILITY.

The Minister, when asked by the Associated Press reporter for his opinion, called special attention to the statement that all North Americans, excepting two had said the police did their duty. He regards this as favorable to the Chilean side of the controversy. It is noted that the Chilean Minister of Foreign Affairs promises that when due process of law, according to Chilean jurisprudence, be observed, those found guilty will be punished, and says these judicial proceedings are being carried forward actively. This in connection with the statement that the police did their duty is sigficant, as showing that the Chilean Government does not wish that the action of individuals belonging in Chile shall be confounded with the actions of those connected with the Government and having official station. Those nameless acts on the part of individuals, as the dispatch says, are being inquired into under the usual judicial proceedings of Chile, which are conducted secretly, and, it is said, with the cumbersomeness attaching to nearly all the law courts deriving their authority and precedents from Spain. This Government has never asserted the right to interfere with the ordinary judicial methods of other nations. It is, however, watchful to see that the customary judicial methods are followed, regarding, of course, the extraordinary character of the offense, and is, in the meantime, making provision for the always possible occurrence of some untoward event, such as undue delay or a final response not consistent with the dignity of the United States.

CHILE'S INTENTIONS.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—The Santiago (Chile) correspondent of the Times to-day affirms, on what he declares to be the highest authority, that Chile would not feel humiliated in helping to the utmost of her power to terminate peacefully and in a manner honorable to both herself and the United States a conflict which, but for the lengthy and secret form of criminal procedure followed in Chile, which allowed constant false reports hostile to a good understanding to be propagated abroad, could never have attained such exaggerated proportions. The correspondent says it is evident there are firebrands who are anxious for the inauguration of a war, which would be disastrous to the best interests of both countries concerned.

WATCHING CHILE'S AGENTS.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—A Washington correspondent telegraphs to his paper as follows: Within the last few days instructions have been sent to our naval attaches at London, Paris and Rome to acquaint the State Department with the movements of Chile's agents in Great Britain and on the Continent. Similar instructions were sent to the United States Consuls at a number of the more important maritime cities of Europe. It will be the business of these officers to familiarize themselves with all the transactions of Chile's representatives known. For example, Chile has been quietly negotiating with some big gun manufacturers for the purchase of heavy ordnance and other munitions of war. It is also known that several of the brightest young men in the Chilean army have been sent to Germany to study the latest modes of war as they find its expression in the Kaiser's school of military training. Lieutenant Ward, our naval attache at Paris, was asked several weeks ago to send to the Navy Department not only a full description of El Capitan Prat, the formidable cruiser, which is being built on the Seine for the Chilean Government, but the progress that is being made upon her, the number of men engaged in her construction, the hours of labor employed and the earliest practicable date when she could be made ready for sea.

PROTECTION FOR THE REFUGEES.

The Administration is believed to have found means of affording protection to the refugees at the American Legation, even in the event of war. What to do with these people has been a perplexing problem. It is now expected in the event of hostilities the representatives at Santiago of Russia and France will join in a request to President Montt that nine of the Chilean refugees at present under the protection of Minister Egan be permitted to accompany him out of the country. It is also expected that the representative of Great Britain will join in the request. If so, it is hard to see how the Chilean authorities can refuse it. At all events, the fact is the refugees will not prevent our Government from making war upon Chile, if such an act is deemed necessary.

THE WAR SPIRIT UNIVERSAL.

So conservative a man as Representative McCreary of Kentucky, a legislator long experienced, who served for years on the House Foreign Affairs Committee, said today: "The war spirit is very general throughout the country. It is not confined to the young men who have come upon the scene since 1861. I find it quite prevalent among the soldiers who served in the Union and the Confederate armies. A million of these men would respond to the call to arms. There will be no trouble about the number of men. The only embarrassment would be whom to select."

RETIRED NAVAL OFFICERS READY.

It is stated that the two best-known naval officers in the retired list have filed their application for service in the event of war with Chile. One of these is Admiral Thomas H. Stevens. The war spirit is quite as strong in them now as it was three decades ago, when they were known as two of the bravest officers in the navy, and there is no question but that they would render a good account of themselves should their services be required.

BROWN POWDER AND GUNCOTTON.

Within the past two days 45,000 pounds of brown powder and 22,000 pounds of guncotton have been forwarded from the East to San Francisco. The brown powder is intended for the great naval guns, and the cotton for the shells and torpedoes. Beyond these facts there is nothing to be learned at the departments this morning concerning war preparations.

MONTT'S CABINET COMPLETED.

The Herald's Valparaiso special cablegram says: President Montt's Cabinet is composed of the following: Minister of the Interior, Ramon Barros Bueos; Foreign Affairs, Veaturo Blanco Viel; Justice, Juan Castellon; Finance, Francisco Valdes Vergara; War, Luis Pereira; Public Works, Augustin Edwards. All of the new Ministers have accepted and took the oath today.

THE BOSTON AT IQUIQUE.

IQUIQUE, Dec. 31.—The United States cruiser Boston has arrived here.

THE SAN FRANCISCO'S TARGET PRACTICE.

SAN DIEGO, Dec. 31.—Captain Sampson of the cruiser San Francisco is preparing to remain here some time. "Our regulations require target practice every three months," he said this morning, "and after January 1st we shall have practice here." He added that he now believed the Baltimore would not stop here, but would proceed direct to San Francisco.

THE CHARLESTON ARRIVES.

SAN DIEGO, Dec. 31.—The Charleston has arrived, but is anchored outside and will not be in until morning. It is said that an officer is on his way in to report to Admiral Brown at the Hotel del Coronado.

The cruiser Charleston anchored off Hotel del Coronado this afternoon about 4 o'clock. Admiral Brown of the cruiser San Francisco received word that the Charleston will come inside the harbor on the morning of January 1st at 10 o'clock, so there will be two modern men-of-war in the harbor at the same time, with a third, the Baltimore, daily expected. Great preparations are being made for a grand New Year's ball, to be held at the Hotel del Coronado the night of January 1st. Admiral Brown and other officers of the San Francisco and Captain Remy and officers of the Charleston will be present in full uniform.

DYNAMITE PLOTS.

The French Chamber of Deputies and Dublin Castle Threatened.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—To-day the people of Paris were startled by rumors published in the Soleil and other newspapers that a plot had been discovered in the Russian colony having for its object the destruction of the building in which the Chamber of Deputies sits, and also the building occupied by the Russian Embassy. The conspirators, it was said, had arranged to blow up these buildings with dynamite. A knowledge of the plot came to the police in some unknown manner, and an investigation was immediately set on foot. The rumor must have had some basis in truth, for many refugee Russians residing in Paris and suburbs have been taken into custody. A number of the houses occupied by suspects have been searched by the police, and it is reported a quantity of incriminating documents have been found.

PHYSICAL FORCE IN DUBLIN.

DUBLIN, Dec. 31.—A decided sensation was caused in this city to-day by the rumor that the "physical force" party had resumed operations here and that their first attempt had been made against Dublin Castle, the official residence of Earl Zetland, Viceroy of Ireland. It has transpired that a number of workmen were employed in making alterations lately in and about the castle and one of the places which was being overhauled was the office directly under the room in which the Privy Council holds its meetings. While the workmen were pursuing their occupations there suddenly was a tremendous report in the office above referred to, which shook the building. Nobody was hurt.

DAMAGES BY THE EXPLOSION.

The police were immediately notified and began an investigation into the affair. The damage to the castle was very heavy. The ceilings of the two floors above the cellar were blown to pieces, the heavy beams in some places being torn into small pieces and the furniture in the office beneath the Privy Council chamber was completely smashed and destroyed. The affair created consternation among the people living in and employed about the castle. All the dynamite outrages perpetrated in London and other places in Great Britain were called to mind and a large number of people have no other opinion than that the "physical force" party has again put their policy of terrorism into effect.

INVESTIGATION BY THE AUTHORITIES.

The Irish authorities immediately telegraphed to London summoning their assistance. Colonel Magendie, Chief Inspector of Explosives at the Home Office and Inspector of Explosives in this city, declares the explosion was caused by a large quantity of gun-cotton. A meeting of the Privy Council was to have been held to-night, and it is supposed the miscreants made some miscalculation in their arrangements for timing the explosion. It was announced that one of the principal clerks in the office of the Chief Secretary for Ireland had a very narrow escape from death by the explosion.

The castle officials stated this evening that after the first feeling of the alarm had passed away the consequences of the explosion were found less serious than they had feared. The expenditure of a few pounds, they say, will repair the damage. The Privy Council met as usual after the explosion. Chief of Police Mallon says the force of the explosion was exerted chiefly in an outward direction, and it may possibly have been an explosion of gas.

STOLEN KISSES.

A French Husband Shoots His Wife's Admirer in a Railroad Car.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—Mme. de Rute (nee Ryse), more generally known as Mme. Ratizzi, a well-known writer and editor of the Revue Internationale, has decided to bring suit for damages against several French newspapers for saying that she incited Bouly de Lesdain to shoot his wife, Mme. Bouly de Lesdain, and Regis de Bouef while the three people last mentioned were traveling in a reserved compartment in an express train during the night of April 27th last from Bordeaux to Paris. Bouly de Lesdain saw, or thought he saw, De Bouef kissing his wife on the train as they were nearing Mount Moreau, and the husband immediately drew a revolver, fired twice at De Bouef, wounded him severely in the head, and then fired one shot at his wife, slightly wounding her. When the train stopped at Mount Moreau, Bouly de Lesdain sprang from the train and gave himself into custody. He was tried at the Charente Assizes and acquitted.

THE SOUDAN SITUATION.

The Power of the Mahdi Waning—Enmity Toward the Italians.

CAIRO, Dec. 31.—Father Orwalder, who recently escaped from Omdurman, is strongly in favor of reconquering the Soudan. In an interview to-day he declared that Mahdism has been expiring ever since the death of the so-called Mahdi, and his successor Mahdi Khalifa, who is now 43 years old, is losing his energy. He leads a luxurious life, and possesses a harem with 150 inmates. He has abandoned all designs to extend his power northward. The Mahdi means to attack the Italians at Bisha, first organizing an expedition of 4000 troops to take Kassala.

Seizure of the Ladrone Islands.

MADRID, Dec. 31.—A sensation has been caused by advices from Manila, the capital of the Philippine Islands, to the effect that Japan has occupied some of the islands near the Mariana Islands. The Government organs declare that the Spanish squadron will visit the principal ports of Japan, then dispersing, will proceed to the Marianas for the purpose of reasserting Spanish supremacy.

French Prisoners Recaptured.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—The five prisoners whose escape from Montpelier Prison was reported yesterday have been recaptured. They were mobbed on the way back to prison, and the infuriated crowd nearly succeeded in lynching them. The cause for the expression of anger was the murder by the escapes of one of the guards and one of the prisoners who, it is evident, had refused to join the desperate men in their break for liberty.

Fifty Nihilists on Trial.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 31.—Fifty Nihilists, suspected of being connected with a conspiracy formed in Moscow, are on trial in Warsaw citadel. Among the prisoners are four women.

Terrible Gale in Ireland.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—A terrific gale was prevailed in Ireland. A number of houses and a large quantity of property have been destroyed.

MEXICAN FRONTIER.

Reported Large Accessions to Garza's Followers.

The Command of the Murdered Garcia With the Revolutionists.

Concentration of All Available Troops Along the Right Bank of the Rio Grande. The Situation Serious.

Special to THE MORNING CALL.

MONTEREY (Mexico), Dec. 31.—News was received here late last night that General Lorenzo Garcia, in command of the troops in the field in the northern part of Mexico, with headquarters at Mier, was murdered by his command, and the entire force, numbering several hundred men, under his immediate command, has gone over to the revolutionists, crossing over into Texas in a body at a point between Roma and Carrizo. The private soldiers in the Mexican army are nearly all convicted criminals who, instead of being given a term in prison, are sentenced to serve with the military. They are desperate characters and nearly all secret sympathizers in revolutionary movements. General Garcia was one of the most prominent and efficient officers in the Mexican army and his death at the present time is a serious blow to the Government.

Governor Reles has been in constant telegraphic communication with President Diaz all day, but the nature of the dispatches is not known. Governor Reles, the State of Nuevo Leon and the military authorities here are much disturbed over the situation on the frontier. The movement of troops through here, from the lower part of the republic during the past five days, has been very great, and the transportation facilities of the Mexican National Railroad have been insufficient to accommodate the heavy demand made upon it by the Government. The garrison here has rushed all its available troops to Nuevo Laredo, from which place they are distributed along the right bank of the Rio Grande.

GUARDING THE FRONTIER.

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 31.—At the War Department to-day it was ascertained the Mexican Government is moving troops from the interior garrisons to strengthen the army operating against Garza. It is now estimated there are fully 3000 soldiers guarding the long frontier from Laredo to Matamoras.

REPORTS DISCREDITED.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—Minister Romero said this morning that he had heard nothing, except from the newspapers, about the assassination of General Garcia and the desertion of his troops to the revolutionists. He did not credit the story, but army officers familiar with the character of the Mexican soldiers on the frontier are more inclined to accept it as probably true.

Officials at the War Department are watching the situation on the Rio Grande with deep concern, but are without news from General Stanley this morning. They are apprehensive that Captain Bourke's force may be very much outnumbered by the revolutionists, but they feel confident that officer will conduct himself with all necessary prudence, and that he will soon be re-enforced.

BUILDING EXPERIMENT.

A Twelve-Story Steel or Iron and Glass Structure.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—The Telegram announces this afternoon the forthcoming erection of a remarkable building on William street. It will be an entirely fire-proof structure, twelve stories in height, and composed wholly of steel or iron and glass. From the outside it will look like a stupendous box of crystal. Steel pillars will take the place of walls, leaving all intermediate space for windows so the sunlight will penetrate the deepest recesses of the interior, and even during cloudy weather no artificial illumination will be necessary. This glittering edifice, massive and mountainous, and yet so constructed that no space will be wasted in the thickness of pyramidal walls, will have a frontage of about two hundred feet on Williams street, and be occupied, not by offices, but by manufacturing interests. Lower New York has now no such building, where the vibration of machinery can have no effect upon its stability. This new departure was conceived in consequence of the deadly disaster in Park place last summer when sixty-five persons were crushed and burned alive. The building will be almost earthquake proof. From the investors' standpoint a twelve-story manufacturing building will be an experiment, although there is not a reasonable doubt of a fair percentage of profit. The average downtown office building returns a net income of 6 per cent on the market value of the land and building.

RETURNING HOME.

A Russian Admiral and His Staff Officers in New York.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—The morning papers noted the fact that two mysterious Russians are stopping at one of the hotels registered simply as "Nazimoff" and "Klador." They denied themselves to an interviewer and that enterprising young man proceeded to hazard various conjectures, and finally concluded that they were either nihilistic plotters who had escaped from the Russian secret police or else members of the latter body. These surmises had the required effect of breaking the reserve of the gentlemen to-day, the elder of them proving to be Vice-Admiral de Nazimoff of the Russian Navy, who is returning home after a service of three years in the Pacific squadron, accompanied by his staff officer, Count de Klador. The Admiral said his stay here would be somewhat prolonged, as a pickpocket last night relieved him of letters and all of his valuables as he was leaving a crowded theater lobby, and he must necessarily await more funds and the action of the police.

A BAR-ROOM STORY.

A Tramp Who Claims to Be Ex-President Marsh of the Keystone Bank.

ELKTON (Md.), Dec. 31.—It is just stated that a fine looking man, dressed as if accustomed to move in good society, entered the bar-room of the Fenton House here about 9 o'clock Tuesday night. He requested to be allowed to remain there until the bar-room closed. This was granted, and when the closing time came he started out, remarking that he would have to tramp again. Before leaving he said he was Gideon W. Marsh, late President of the Keystone Bank of Philadelphia, but requested the people not to say anything about it. He had left his valise with its contents in New York to pay a hotel bill of $25. The man said that in passing through Philadelphia he stopped to see John Wanamaker. The Postmaster-General was not in the city, but his confidential clerk offered him all the money he wanted, which he refused. The man answered very much the description of Marsh. The last seen of him he was walking down the railroad track in the direction of Baltimore.

HALF A MILLION LOST.

Barrel Works of the Standard Oil Company Destroyed by Fire.

BAYONNE (N. J.), Dec. 31.—The great barrel works of the Standard Oil Company at Constable Rock is burned down and the loss is estimated at $500,000. The fire started at 8:30 o'clock last night in the heating-room of the barrel works. The entire Bayonne fire department quickly responded to the alarm sent in, and over five hundred men, including the police and firemen, began fighting the flames, but they soon found out that they could not control them until the entire plant and an immense amount of lumber around it were destroyed. Next to the barrel factory were the chemical works, which were saved after hard work. The building was filled with barrels, both completed and unfinished, and about the structure, which was 350 feet long, 200 feet wide and three stories high, there were great stacks of lumber ready to be converted into barrels. The machinery in the burned building was valued at over $200,000. The officers of the company estimate the entire loss at $500,000. The company carries its own insurance.

THE BARNABY CASE.

Closing Arguments in the Trial of Dr. Graves for Murder.

DENVER, Dec. 31.—Judge Belford to-day resumed his argument for the prosecution. "I will read some of Dr. Graves' letters to show you how corrupt he was and how utterly helpless this woman, with her immense fortune, had been. This letter is dated July 8th and addressed to Miss Hanley. He fastened upon Mrs. Barnaby a spy. The letter is addressed to Miss Hanley, not to Barnaby, and contained an inclosure for Mrs. Barnaby. It is registered to Miss Hanley. Was there some secret instruction in it? Why register this letter? The whole conduct of this man seems snake-like. 'It is registered to Miss Hanley to save you the trouble of postoffice receipts,' he says. Why, if he did not wish to bother her with postoffice receipts, did he register the letters? He says he should prefer her to pay Bennet as little as possible in order that he might pay him by check. Do you remember the child-like question Mrs. Barnaby asked Worrell Jr. when he was driving her about the city when she was thinking of investing here? 'Can I have the power of attorney to sign my own checks?' Think of this, gentlemen. They point out Barnaby as a wretch, and before the dew is cold on his brow Graves and Ballou are plotting to divide $35,000 between them." Continuing his argument Judge Belford said that the first will made by Mrs. Barnaby was drawn up by Colonel Ballou two weeks before a compromise was effected on Barnaby's will. In this document Doctor Graves was bequeathed $25,000, and Judge Belford said he believed Ballou and Graves forced Mrs. Barnaby to make this will before they would attempt to break Barnaby's will.

Judge Furman, counsel for the defense, then began his speech. He made a brilliant argument, but failed to touch upon many vital points made by the prosecution against Graves. At the conclusion of his speech the court adjourned until Saturday, when District Attorney Stevens will make his last speech for the prosecution, and it is the intention of both sides to allow the jury to retire on Saturday night.

TERRIBLE CRASH.

Railroad Wreck Caused by a Station Agent's Neglect.

DENVER, Dec. 31.—A disastrous wreck occurred on the joint track of the Denver, Texas and Fort Worth and Union Pacific railroads a few miles north of Granero's, a small station midway between Pueblo and Trinidad, two hundred miles south of Denver. The road had been blocked by snow for two days, and when the blockade was raised this morning two double header trains were started, one from the north and the other from the south. The station agent failed to deliver the dispatcher's order to the north-bound train and the two trains came together from opposite directions with a terrible crash. Fireman H. Grubb of the Denver was instantly killed and Mail Clerks Walcott, Erbelt and Evans badly injured. The trains were heavily laden with passengers, but as far as learned they escaped serious injuries. The four engines were badly wrecked, the four mail-cars are a total loss and a baggage-car was nearly demolished. The station agent disappeared after the wreck and has not yet been found.

FIGHTING FOR CONTROL.

Interesting Party Contest for Possession of the New York Legislature.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—A morning paper says the Republicans of New York are holding consultations relative to the recent contested election results in this State. The paper adds: There was a meeting of the Republican leaders in the State last night. Those present were Senator Hiscock and ex-Senators Platt, Warner Miller, Director Hendrick, Chauncey M. Depew and Chairman of the Republican State Committee Brookfield, with Colonel George Bliss and Joseph Choate as counsel. Just what was done none of the gentlemen present would say, but all were unanimous in saying that every legal means would be exhausted before a surrender was made. The general opinion is that the Republican Senators will refuse to join in the organization of the Senate until the Democrats are prepared to act fairly.

OHIO SENATORSHIP.

Close and Exciting Contest Anticipated Between Foraker and Sherman.

COLUMBUS, Dec. 31.—Ohio's Senatorial fight has now reached its hottest degree, and the next few days will witness one of the most exciting conflicts of the kind this State has ever experienced. Senator Sherman arrived this morning and proceeded at once to his headquarters in the Neil House, where the day was spent greeting members of the Legislature. The Sherman men claim to have secured two accessions to their ranks. It is now evident there will be a split in the Cuyamoga delegaton, which was counted solid for Sherman. It is asserted Foraker will get two of their votes, and probably four.

A FINISH CONTEST.

Purse Offered for a Fight Between Ryan and Needham.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—The Metropolitan Club of New Orleans to-day wired an offer of a $3000 purse for a finish contest between Tommy Ryan of Chicago and Danny Needham of San Francisco. The California Athletic and Pacific clubs, it is said, were bidding against each other for this contest, and run the figure to $2000, when the Metropolitan raised it to $3000. Ryan has signed and will put up a forfeit to-morrow. He will meet Needham for any part of $5000, the latter's original offer, or fight for the bare purse. Needham has been notified and will probably accept.

A MADMAN'S CONTEMPT.

He Fires Several Shots at the British House of Commons.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—A man named Borlas, a graduate of Oxford University, was arrested to-day while he was amusing himself by bombarding the House of Commons with a revolver. To the court, Borlas declared he was an Anarchist, and as he wanted to show his contempt for the House of Commons he decided that shooting at the House would be the proper course to show his contempt. The prisoner was remanded for further hearing. The opinion is that the man is mentally unbalanced.

DARING JAIL BREAK.

Deputy Sheriffs Surprised and Knocked Senseless by Desperate Prisoners

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 31.—The Republic's special from Cheyenne, Wyo., says: This evening Charles Muller, a double murderer, William Kingin, a cattle-thief, and Henry Johnson, a negro, awaiting trial for selling whisky to Indians, escaped from the County Jail. They surprised a Deputy Sheriff, and as he entered the cage, knocked him senseless, bound him and fled. A posse is in pursuit.

New York Police Department.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Interesting statistics of the work of the Police Department for the year were given out at headquarters to-day. More arrests have been made than during any previous year. The total number of all offenses is 90,207; the largest number was drunk and disorderly; 23 of the arrests were for arson, 123 for homicide, 1894 for grand larceny, 3460 for violation of the excise laws and over 4000 for being suspicious persons. The number of lost children taken in charge by the police was 3134: 132 persons were reported missing; 201 foundlings were picked up in the street; 203 bodies of unknown dead were received at the Morgue.

General Kirby Smith's Residence Burned.

NASHVILLE (Tenn.), Dec. 31.—The residence of General T. Kirby Smith at Sewano, Tenn., was burned this morning with all its contents. Friends have already started a movement to raise a sum sufficient to reinstall the old veteran and his family in comfortable surroundings.

Two Boys Drowned.

GRAND RAPIDS, Dec. 31.—Willie McDonald and Walter Dolan, of this city, went skating with companions this afternoon. McDonald broke through the ice and Dolan went to his assistance. Both boys were drowned.

PASSES PROHIBITED.

The Interstate Commerce Commission's Decision.

Unjust Discrimination by Railroads Decided Unlawful.

The Federal Finances—American Forestry Association—Production of Tobacco. Reciprocity Agreement Signed.

Special to THE MORNING CALL.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—The Interstate Commerce Commission to-day announced its decision in the railroad pass case. The Boston and Maine Railway, in its answer, stated that it was in the habit of giving passes as a business feature of its administration to numerous classes of persons, which it specified in its answer. The commission, in its opinion, discussed the statute and cites authorities at some length, and concludes: "The construction we give Section 2 of the act is that where the service of a carrier subject to the act is like and contemporaneous for different passengers, a charge to one of a greater or less compensation than to another constitutes unjust discrimination and is unlawful, unless the charge of such greater or less compensation is allowed under the exceptions provided in Section 22. And where the traffic is under substantially similar circumstances and conditions in other respects, it is not rendered dissimilar within the meaning of the statute by the fact that such passengers hold unlike, or as sometimes termed unequal, official, social or business positions or belong to different classes as they ordinarily exist in the community, or are arbitrarily created by the carrier. This would exclude the right to give interstate passes to certain classes, specified in the answer, which included 'gentlemen eminent in public service,' 'higher officers of States,' 'prominent officers of the United States,' 'members of railroad Legislative committees,' and 'persons whose good will is important to the corporation.'"

There were other classes of pass-holders named in the answer whose passes, though in form free, were free only in name, because in reality there was some consideration for them, such as those issued to newspaper men in exchange for advertising, to hotel proprietors, ice-dealers, milk-dealers, and to some other persons who are claimed to stand on special ground of right. As to this class of persons, the commission said the investigation would have to be extended to enable it to pass satisfactory judgment thereon and avoid delay, which a proper and full investigation of these classes would occasion. And in view of their minor importance, and yet perhaps of the greater difficulty of decision, and of the urgency that the defendant had been informed at the time of the decision upon the leading question involved, namely, the general construction of the statute upon the subject of free transportation, the commission concluded to hold the case as to such special classes of persons for such further investigation as might be necessary to put it in full possession of all the facts before finally passing upon them, and in the meantime to issue the order applicable to the classes first named, in accordance with the construction of the law as set forth, this being pursuant to the practice in other cases.

AMERICAN FORESTRY ASSOCIATION.

The members of the American Forestry Association, which concluded its tenth annual convention yesterday, called by appointment on President Harrison to-day to present the memorial adopted by the association asking the Executive to establish the following additional timber reservations, namely: Turtle Mountain Reserve in North Dakota, Crater Lake Reserve in Oregon, Lost Park Reserve in Colorado and Sierra Madre Reserve in California. The most striking passage in the memorial was: "If it is once understood that on these reservations neither bona-fide settlement of agricultural lands nor the right to prospect for minerals and to open mines is not to be interfered with, and the demands for wood material be satisfied in a legal, equitable and simple manner, all bona-fide opposition it is believed will cease, and the boon which such preserves promise will be welcomed by all persons interested in the steady and prosperous development of the Western States." The President expressed his hearty co-operation with the objects of the association.

PRODUCTION OF TOBACCO.

The Census Bureau to-day issued a bulletin giving the statistics of tobacco production in the United States. The entire crop in the country amounted in 1889 to 488,255,896 pounds; the number of planters being 205,862 and the area devoted to tobacco culture, exclusive of counties cultivating less than one acre, 692,990 acres. The total value of the crop of the producers, estimated on a basis of actual sales, was $34,344,443, an average of 7 cents per pound or $50 28 an acre. The average price per pound raised by producers in States producing 5,000,000 pounds or upward ranged from 4.5 cents in Missouri and 4.7 cents in Maryland to 12.8 cents in Connecticut and 14 cents in North Carolina. The product of Louisiana averaged 25.2 cents per pound to the producer.

THE FINANCIAL SHOWING.

The revenues of the Government for the month of December were $28,500,000, or $2,500,000 less than the expenditures for the same period. This has had the effect of reducing the Treasury cash balance to $30,405,749, including $14,000,000 in subsidiary silver and $12,356,927 on deposit with national banks. The balance December 1st was $30,126,917. There has been a decrease in the bonded debt to the extent of the 4½-per-cent bonds redeemed, but the cash balance available for the payment of the debt is less than on the 1st inst. The principal item in the disbursements for the month was $13,125,000 on account of pensions. The amount of 4½-per-cent bonds redeemed to-day was $4200, making the total redemptions to date $22,469,750, and leaving outstanding $8,034,950.

PROPOSED SHIP-CANALS.

Representative Chipman of Michigan will bring before Congress a bill to provide for the construction of a ship-canal around the American side of Niagara Falls; also of a similar waterway across the State of New York, from a point near Buffalo to the Hudson River, so that vessels from the lakes may have free access to tide-water. The projected canal is to be 150 feet wide, with an average depth of 20 feet, and will cost from $30,000,000 to $50,000,000. Chipman thinks that such a canal would soon pay for itself.

REPORT OF THE CHRISTIAN COMMISSION.

The United Christian Commission has adopted the report of the Committee in favor of a Chaplain for every army post occupied by two or more companies, the erection of a library building and the creation of libraries, and the expulsion of all alcoholic drinks from military reservations.

SENTENCE OF INDIANS COMMUTED.

The President has commuted to ten years' actual imprisonment at hard labor the sentence in the case of Mo-Jan-Qua-Di-Ver, Ham-Ah-Sa-La-Nu and Chu-Dul-En-U, three Yuma Indians convicted in California of the murder of a medicine man and sentenced to be hanged January 15th next.

PENSIONS GRANTED.

Pensions have been granted to the following Californians: James P. Wines, John A. Bonney, Stephen A. Martin, Bartlett B. Allen, William Rose, Edward S. Read, William Henbig, Virgie W. Earp and Augustus W. Blair.

SPEAKER CRISP RECOVERING.

Speaker Crisp's physician said to-day that the patient was making rapid progress toward recovery, and he thinks he will be able to preside over the House Tuesday. The Speaker, he said, had no symptoms of pneumonia.

THE NEW FRENCH MINISTER.

Secretary Blaine introduced the new French Minister to the President in the morning, and then received the Mexican and Chilean Ministers at the State Department.

RECIPROCITY AGREEMENT SIGNED.

The reciprocity agreement was signed to-day between Secretary Blaine and Senor Calmo, diplomatic representative of Costa Rica at Washington.

NO TROUBLE WITH INDIANS.

The Commissioner of Indian Affairs received a letter from C. E. Ashley, agent of the Cheyenne and Apache Indians, in which he says no trouble has come from the dancing now being indulged in by the Indians.

SECRETARY ELKINS INSTALLED.

Secretary Elkins came to the War Department this morning and received the officers of the department. He entered at once upon the discharge of his duties.

A COLORED JUDGE WANTED.

A committee of colored men from Virginia waited on the President to-day and urged the appointment of Professor Langston as Circuit Judge.

SOCIETY OF CHURCH HISTORY.

The American Society of Church History has decided to place at the World's Fair a suitable exhibit of its work.

CONCERNING COLUMBUS.

Where He First Landed and the Resting Place of His Remains.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 31.—At the last day's session of the American Historical Society President Adams of Cornell University, New York, read an interesting paper on "The Recent Discoveries Concerning Columbus." Volumes have been written on the subject of the first landing-place of Columbus in the New World and the final resting-place of his remains. President Adams is of the opinion that these questions have been definitely settled by the recent investigations of the German explorer, Rudolf Coonen, who went, about a year ago, to the Bahamas to study these questions. President Adams' paper reviewed the work of Coonen and gave the first information of the result of the explorer's labors.

Coonen's conclusion is that the first landing was on Watling Island, one of the Bahamas, and at or near Grahams Harbor on the west side of the island. This conclusion is arrived at after a most careful inspection of all authorities and comparisons with Columbus' journal, etc.

Of still more importance are his investigations in regard to the resting-place of the remains of Columbus. Coonen is convinced that the Spanish authorities are mistaken in supposing that his remains were transferred to Havana from San Domingo in 1795. On the 11th of January last, Coonen, in the presence of the Archbishop and a number of civil officials, as well as the Consuls of the foreign Governments at San Domingo, opened a casket, believed by the local authorities to contain the remains of Columbus. This had been sealed up at the time the vault containing the remains was discovered in 1877. Coonen photographed all the inscriptions with great care. They are found to differ very considerably from the representations previously published, and, in the opinion of the explorer, are incontestably genuine. The situation of the vault indicated that it was constructed before that which contained the remains taken to Havana. The remains of Columbus were taken from Spain to San Domingo about 1541, whereas the remains of his son and grandson were not transported till the beginning of the seventeenth century.

It seems improbable that the leaden box containing the remains of Columbus would have no mark by which it could be identified, as was the case with the box taken to Havana in 1795. The box discovered in the vault opened in 1877 contains five inscriptions, and Coonen believes that the charge of fraud brought by the Spanish officials against the authorities of San Domingo is unfounded. He says the inscriptions themselves, when carefully studied, show that they are old, and that the processes of oxidization, which have gone on since they were made, preclude the possibility of their being modern. In conclusion, he thinks the proof should be regarded as complete that the remains of Columbus are still at San Domingo.

CHINESE REVOLTS.

The Mongolian Uprising Said to Have Been Suppressed.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—According to a private letter received from Peking the number of Christians killed in the uprising in Eastern Mongolia was 500, while the rebels have burned two towns near the scene of the massacre. The insurgents in the district of Foo Keang are now utterly demoralized. Their leaders have given the fight up and concealed themselves. Chen Kun, the leading man, with his son, is attempting to make his way to the coast. The advices state that the trouble in the north is apparently over, but as a matter of fact no one knows definitely what has been going on. The Imperial Resident at Peking reports the completion of the review of the Chinese native troops in Thibet. They were mustered together and reviewed by the Resident in person. They showed considerable precision and regularity in their movements.

A Deadly Explosive.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—A Munich correspondent telegraphs that he learns from an officer of high rank that the new German artillery is possessed of an element of appalling effectiveness in the new bursting powder. In the war with France the best record made by the shells then in use was to cover with splinters an area of forty or fifty paces. There were seldom more than sever or eight persons wounded by the bursting of a shell. Experiments with the new shell have proved that it will destroy everything within a large area where it falls. Its splinters will cover a circle of nearly 900 feet. Some of the fragments will be large enough to kill a man, others being almost invisible and calculated merely to excarnate the skin. In an experiment an enormous target was riddled with thousands of holes by the bursting of a shell. Four shells were sufficient to sink an obsolete ironclad used as a target at Kiel. The informant expressed a belief that one battery, if the range were accurate, could annihilate a whole division.

A Rumor Denied.

MONTREAL, Dec. 31.—There was considerable agitation in Catholic circles here over the report that the Pope had been assassinated. The rumor was traced to the House of the Jesuits and Father Drummond appealed to. He admitted having heard it from an intimate friend, who would have no motive for deception. The telegraph and the newspaper offices were besieged by anxious inquirers, and apparent credit for the rumor was received in two or three quarters. It is not known how the report originated. Father Drummond has since received official denial of the story.

Several Vessels Lost.

MADRID, Dec. 31.—Twelve fishing-boats belonging to Vinaroz and San Carlos de la Rapita have been lost in the recent storm. Forty-eight persons were drowned.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—The schooner Catherine Richards was wrecked off Tralee, Ireland, yesterday, and five of her crew were drowned.

Agrarian Riots in Hungary.

VIENNA, Dec. 31.—The Hungarian town of Dorosma has of late been the scene of serious agrarian riots. A crowd of peasants, who assembled in a church to publicly assert their demands, were forcibly dislodged by the troops. Several persons were wounded in the struggle, and the troops still occupy the streets to keep order.

An Embezzler Extradited.

LONDON, Dec. 31.—Joseph A. Sheferth, formerly Secretary and Treasurer of the Royal Arcanum Building and Loan Association of Brooklyn, N. Y., has been arrested on the charge of embezzling $20,000 from the association, and to-day he was surrendered for extradition to the United States.

A Singer's Lawsuit.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—The Tribunal has declined to either award damages to Marie Van Zandt or to compel the newspaper, Le Petit Parisien, to publish in American papers the apology it makes for stating she was intoxicated on the stage during a performance in the St. Petersburg Opera House.

French Tariff Reduced.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—The Chamber of Deputies to-day rejected the duty of 24 francs placed upon petroleum by the Senate, and agreed to a duty of 12 francs on refined and 7 francs on crude petroleum. The tariff bill was then finally passed.

A Notable Wedding.

PARIS, Dec. 31.—The Duchess of Cambo-Selico, formerly Mrs. Singer of New York, was married to-day to M. Paul Schege.

Russia Orders Ironclads.

LONDON, Jan. 1.—The Russian Government has ordered four new ironclads.

HILL'S FAREWELL.

Retirement From the Governorship of New York.

The Event Signalized by a Dinner to Prominent State Officials.

Remarks on the Policy of the Democratic Party in the Present Congress. Issues to Be Kept Alive.

Special to THE MORNING CALL.

ALBANY (N. Y