hours from a very reliable source that the new minister will negotiate a new treaty with the provisional government which will place the islands virtually under the protection of the United States. It is understood that when completed this treaty will be at once submitted to the United States senate with President Cleveland's message. In the meantime, the United States will let matters remain in statu quo here, both internally and externally.

The evidence of the determination on the part of the United States was seen during the night of November 9, when, for some reason unknown to the provisional government, boats of the Philadelphia were dropped into the water and were supplied with loaded Gatling guns and small arms. Details of men were kept under orders all night and the boats were not taken aboard until 4 a. m. of the 10th inst. An interview with a prominent provisional government official failed to throw light on the circumstances.

He said: "We are here to keep the peace. The demonstration could not have been intended against us.

"Yes, there have of late been threats, but the government has placed little credence in them. The royalists, if they find their cause hopeless, may try something desperate. The United States seems bent upon keeping the peace at all hazards, though if it came to trouble it would probably be virtually settled before the troops could be landed from the war ships. The government relies upon the citizens reserve guard in case of trouble and is confident it will not be disappointed."

Reserve Guard Ready.

During the past three days the marshal has personally met the citizens reserve in squads and given them their last instructions in case trouble comes. Each man has a Remington rifle and a belt of fifty cartridges. Every member of the guard represents either the property or mercantile interests of Honolulu, and as the marshal significantly remarked, they are not in this row to seek their fortune. There is no doubt that the organization of the citizens guard, now numbering over 400 men, has had a very salutary effect on the unsettled state of the country. The royalists, on the other hand, claim that there is not and never has been any danger except that worked up in the imaginations of the annexationists. Their leading men say they are confident the ex-queen will be restored, because the United States must either annex the islands or restore the old regime.

The arrival of Theodore H. Davis created no stir. He has attempted to gain an audience by several anti-annexation articles.

The editor of the Holomua, the ex-queen's organ, has been held for libel committed against T. W. Hobson, formerly a newspaper correspondent. It is understood the government is taking steps to investigate the conduct of the royalists retained in office against the protest of the Annexation club. It is thought that certain expressions of opinion, conveyed to the government through the squad meetings of the citizens reserve guards, has had some influence in starting the action. A rumor was started yesterday that the ex-queen had received a letter from Minister Willis assuring her that the period of her troubles was nearing an end and that she would soon find rest. No credence is given the rumor.

The financial department of the government continues to make its favorable weekly showing, with a large cash balance and an improved condition in the Postal Savings bank. There is a steady demand for the government bonds at par.

FEATURES OF THE SITUATION.

Inside Information as to the Negotiations at Honolulu.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—In the regular news that came up from Honolulu today by the steamer Australia there was no light shed on what is the most interesting feature of the situation. This feature is, what will the provisional government do and what influences modified Minister Willis' course and prevented him from carrying out the instructions which Gresham gave him when he left Washington? The answer to the query reaches the heart of the whole matter, and this answer was secured from one of the arrivals on the steamer Australia. His name cannot be given, but he is entirely trustworthy and what he says may be vouched for as truth and not mere rumor, gossip or influence. He is in a position to know whereof he speaks and he declares confidently that official intelligence which came up by this steamer will bear out his assertions.

In a talk this morning he said: "I went down on the steamer which carried Minister Willis to the island. I found out that the game of the administration had been flushed even before Willis left San Francisco.

"While he was waiting for the departure of the steamer he was amazed to learn through sources which, of course, cannot be divulged, that Hawaiian Minister Thurston at Washington had obtained full reports of the decision of the cabinet on the Hawaiian policy and had sent long dispatches to President Dole. Thurston in these dispatches, which would reach Honolulu at the same time Willis arrived, informed Dole of the decision of the cabinet to restore Liliuokalani. He urged upon him, therefore, to lose no time in preparing for the emergency. He told Dole of Secretary Gresham's argument that the provisional government lapsed the moment the United States formally declared against annexation and urged him to at once declare a repuolic as the only means of saving the government from falling again into the hands of the queen's followers.

Willis Was Surprised.

"When Willis learned of this he was paralyzed, for it upset all his plans, which were founded on the assumption that Thurston was in ignorance of the decision of the administration. So he wired to Gresham, and it is believed he received orders to proceed according to his own discretion and not to bring about an armed conflict if it could possibly be avoided.

"You know what occurred November 7 when Willis presented formally his credentials. The speeches were of the usual order—full of platitudes and meaning nothing. The crowd that listened to them never dreamed that the two chief actors knew each other's purposes and were to have it out in private when the polite public function was ended. When the audience dispersed President Dole and Minister Willis met; apparently for a mere friendly exchange of courtesies, but when they went apart from the other officials they exchanged some very plain language.

"Willis opened the fight by declaring that he could not tolerate the declaration of a republic. He didn't say positively what he would do in such an emergency, but he intimated that it would effectually end the whole controversy in summary fashion. This ultimatum and the knowledge that Willis had full information of Thurston's dispatch induced President Dole to hesitate about declaring a republic. Willis, on his part, at once set about sounding the public. His agents went among all classes of people and they brought him reports that a very large part of the community was in full sympathy with the provisional government. This was a surprise for Willis, and as there was no question of its accuracy he in turn feared to take any decisive action against the existing government.

"There are all sorts of rumors in regard to the armistice, but these are the facts. Neither side has enough confidence to make a move. From good sources I also learned that agents of this government, whether inspired by Willis or by the queen it could not be learned, had been among the provisional army trying to corrupt the soldiers. The rank and file of the small army is made up of all nationalities, such fellows as could be scraped up in an emergency. Some of the worst men have been thinned out, but the force does not rank high for character or efficiency. In one company, that of Captain Good, out of 100 men a majority were found with strong leanings toward the restoration of the monarchy. The fellows who talked the loudest about the restoration of the queen were those whose character suggested they could be reached by coin. In Captain Zierler's company, also of 100, practically all the men were loyal. They were addressed by President Dole, who urged them to watch for any sign of disaffection in the other company, and to do their best to suppress it.

"The general opinion in Honolulu is that no bloodshed will occur, as it is held that the American minister has been called down. This queer result has increased the prestige of the government among the foreign representatives, and every one laughs at the ludicrous fiasco of Cleveland's diplomacy."

AS VIEWED IN HONOLULU.

Minister Willis and His Instructions Reach the Sandwich Islands.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—The dispatches from Honolulu render it very evident that the people there, probably including the Hawaiian officials were up to the time of the sailing of the Australia, in entire ignorance of the program outlined by this government and the decision reached by the president and secretary of state that Liliuokalani should be restored as monarch. Instead of receiving any intimation of Mr. Willis' instructions the provisional government appears to have been led to believe that the present relations were to be in no way disturbed. Evidently that was the construction placed upon Mr. Willis' address to Mr. Dole. Mr. Willis' subsequent utterances do not appear to have been of a character to change this opinion, and the supporters of the present government, instead of interpreting the boat demonstrations of the Philadelphia as hostile, as it might have done if the Hawaiians had been in possession of the facts as given out at Washington, they seem to have adopted the conclusion that these were intended as an assurance of the determinination of the United States to prevent internal disturbances and to be entirely happy over the prospect.

Had Cause for Caution.

All this goes to confirm the theory of those who believe that Mr. Willis discovered a state of affairs in Hawaii which his instructions did not anticipate. Those who entertain this opinion dwell upon the two incidents of the marshaling of the Hawaiian forces and of the lowering of the Philadelphia's boats. Were these boats fowered and manned with the intention of effecting a landing in the interest of the queen and was the undertaking given up when it was found that the Hawaiian government had 400 men armed and were prepared to take any steps necessary to protect the government of President Dole? These, they say, are pertinent questions, in view of the present state of affairs, and they argue that if it is the real situation Minister Willis concluded that the time was not opportune for a coup d'etat and decided to take no decisive steps until he could hear from the home government again and receive further instructions as to his method of procedure in view of the changed state of affairs. This is, of course, speculation. The communication, when it is received, should it be given out, may change the entire aspect of affairs. It has been said that Minister Willis' instructions were to restore the queen, but they do not contemplate a resort to force upon the part of the United States to accomplish that purpose.

Caused Great Surprise.

There is surprise manifested on all sides in the government at the intelligence that affairs are unchanged at Honolulu. It is evident that different news was expected. This will throw forward the interest and suspense to a certain extent to the arrival of the next steamer from Honolulu. Advertisements in the Honolulu newspapers are that the Alameda will sail from Honolulu Thursday, November 16, she is due on next Thursday. This will be the next news from Honolulu unless a special chartered steamer should arrive. It must be remembered that unless Minister Willis has proclaimed his instructions in Honolulu the public there is in absolute ignorance, even yet, of the plan to restore the queen. No whisper of the talk here and no line of all that has been written in the past ten days has reached the islands. The first steamer to leave after Secretary Gresham's letter was published left Vancouver on Thursday. The Monowai left San Francisco yesterday. She is due in Honolulu next Friday.

Unless Minister Willis tells the news the Hawaiians will continue in ignorance of the plan to restore the queen.

WHAT PASSENGERS SAY.

Persons Direct from Honolulu Comment on Gresham's Letter.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 18.—All the passengers who arrived on the steamer Australia from Honolulu today expressed the greatest surprise when informed of the nature of Secretary Gresham's recent letter, and several refused at first to believe such a letter had been written. Among the passengers was Dr. L. W. Taylor, a physician of Washington, who is returning from a pleasure trip to the islands. He said:

"My stay in the islands was about a month, and I had exceptional opportunities of meeting the best informed people there. I found the intelligent and educated elements strong in favor of annexation to the United States, with a small exception. This annexation sentiment prevailed among the educated men of the native race to whom I talked. Among the ignorant and superstitious Kanakas there is, of course, a sort of traditional awe of royalty, and it is from this class only or chiefly the ex-queen gets support in her aspirations to recover the throne. Among the educated and property owning classes there is no respect for her pretentions.

"Of course there has been much speculation regarding the policy to be presented by Minister Willis. Gresham's letter to the president, which has stirred up so much talk in this country, had not been published or heard of there, so the Hawaiians are in the dark as to the policy of the Cleveland administration.

It Would Be Impossible.

"From what I learned on the islands I think it would be impossible for the queen, if reinstated, to retain the throne, unless constantly backed up by the power of the United States. The feeling is very strong against a return to monarchy. If the queen were restored, and the United States government should then stand aside, she could not then retain the reins.

"I found the men at the head of affairs there have the respect and confidence of the business community and educated people generally. The provisional government has given a wise and economical administration and everybody knows it."

Claus Spreckles, the sugar planter, who is so largely interested in Hawaii, was seen at his office after the arrival of the steamer. He said: "My correspondence says everything is quiet on the islands. It is the papers that have been making all the fuss."

"Have you any information about arms being landed on the islands?"

"Arms? No. How could they get arms without everybody knowing it. Would not the manifest at the custom house show stuff."

"It is said Minister Willis called on the ex-queen," was suggested.

"If he did I have not learned anything about it," replied Spreckles, "and our agent would be apt to let me know if that were true. There is not anything to tell."

"What do you think would be the best way out of the trouble?"

Spreckels' Hope.

"I have nothing to say about it. Let them fight it out to suit themselves. It's all the same to me. When I went out there last summer I told them what I wanted and they would not have it that way. An independent republic would have been the best thing. But now I suppose the queen will have to go back to the throne."

Honolulu newspapers of recent dates contain frequent editorial allusions to Minister Willis and his actions in connection with the presentation of his credentials to the provisional government. They also publish accounts of the ceremonies, including the speeches of Minister Willis and President Dole, and also letters of credentials from President Cleveland. The first of these letters reads:

Cleveland to Dole.

GROVER CLEVELAND, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, TO HIS EXCELLENCY, SANFORD B. DOLE, PRESIDENT OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF HAWAIIAN ISLANDS: Great and Good Friend—Mr. James H. Blount, who has for some time past resided near the government of your excellency in the character of envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of America, having for personal reasons resigned his office while on leave of absence in the United States, and being unable to present his letters of recall in person, I have entrusted to his successor the duty of placing them in the hands of your excellency. I am pleased to believe that Mr. Blount, during his mission, devoted all his efforts to strengthening the good and friendly relations which have so long existed between the two countries, and I entertain the hope that, while filling satisfactorily the trust imposed on him, he gained your excellency's esteem and good will.

Written at Washington this, the 27th day of September, 1893. Your good friend,

GROVER CLEVELAND.

By the President:
ALVEY ADEE, Acting Secretary of State.

Cleveland's Other Letter.

The other letter is:

GROVER CLEVELAND, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, TO HIS EXCELLENCY, SANFORD B. DOLE, PRESIDENT OF THE PROVISIONAL GOVERNMENT OF HAWAIIAN ISLANDS: Great and Good Friend—I have made choice of Albert S. Willis, one of our distinguished citizens, to reside near the government of your excellency in the quality of envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of the United States of America. He is well informed of the relative interests of the two countries and of our sincere desire to cultivate, to the fullest extent, the friendship which has so long subsisted between us. My knowledge of his high character and ability has given me entire confidence that he will constantly endeavor to advance the interests and prosperity of both governments and so render himself acceptable to your excellency. I therefore request your excellency to receive him favorably and to give full credence to what he shall say on the part of the United States and to the assurances which I have charged him to convey to you of the best wishes of this government for the prosperity of the Hawaiian islands. May God have your excellency in His wise keeping.

Written at Washington, this 27th day of September, 1893. Your good friend,

GROVER CLEVELAND.

By the President:
ALVEY ADEE, Acting Secretary of State.

Hawaiian Comment.

The passage in President Cleveland's letter, "He will constantly endeavor to advance the interests and prosperity of both governments and so render himself acceptable to your excellency," calls forth special editorial comment, and one of the papers, the Hawaiian Star, prints the sentence for several days at the head of its editorial column in bold type under the heading, "Good Cheer from Cleveland." It says:

"The policy of the United States toward Hawaii, so far as it concerns the status of the provisional government, appears in the expressive clause of the letter of credence borne by Minister Willis from President Cleveland to President Dole: 'He will constantly endeavor to advance the interests and prosperity of both governments and so render himself acceptable to your excellency.'

"It must appear to the most casual thinker that Minister Willis cannot advance the interests and prosperity of the provisional government in a way that will be acceptable to its president without maintaining a friendly policy toward it. Certainly such instructions as he is bound by are incompatible with a policy on the part of the great republic of restoring the dethroned queen to power by force of arms or otherwise."

The Star, in commenting on the royalist party, says: "The brains and strategy of the party, it is needless to say, are supplied by British subjects, whose hatred of Yankees inspires their actions quite as much as does their wish to keep the islands for such contingencies as may favor British jurisdiction here. As Minister Willis stays in Honolulu and studies the recent history of the islands he will recognize in the British minister an able and intrepid foe of American progress and a firm friend of the lost cause."

Their Hope in the United States.

The Commercial Advertiser says editorially: "Only one construction can be placed on the letter of President Cleveland to President Dole, and that is of the most cordial friendship and good will between the existing government of America and that of Hawaii, coupled with a desire to perpetuate the harmony now established between the two nations as at present administered. It is hoped by all that this may be still further cemented by a convention which shall bring to us in some permanent form the protection of the government of the United States and thus restore business confidence, which has been unsettled during the past few months."

SURPRISED THE ADMINISTRATION.

It Hardly Can Credit the Story that the Monarchy Has Not Been Restored.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—A member of the official household of the president yesterday expressed the opinion that the importance of the Hawaiian question was grossly exaggerated by the public. The gentleman to whom this opinion was expressed was somewhat surprised upon going to the State department and entering Secretary Gresham's office to hear the same opinion expressed in almost the identical language, but there would have been need in the department and white house today for a dozen copies of the Associated press dispatch from Honolulu to supply such high officials as it is usual to extend the courtesy of a special copy to, so great was the interest.

Bothered the Secretary.

After the first bulletin that the provisional government was still in power was shown to Secretary Gresham he hastened over to the white house and did not return until after 3 o'clock. Meantime the copyrighted letter of the Associated press from Honolulu was sent up.

A copy was taken to Secretary Herbert in the Navy department. Saturday is always the secretary's busy day, but he laid aside the important business he had on hand and had his secretary read to him the whole dispatch. The assistant secretaries and chiefs of bureaus in the State, War and Navy departments were equally interested in the detailed report of the Associated press.

When Secretary Gresham returned from the white house he said he had read the dispatch. He had read with the president the special copy sent up to the white house. When the Associated press bulletin announcing that the provisional government was still in power was first shown the secretary he declined to believe it. The disappointment and excitement caused by the announcement was evident in the State department. The secretary departed almost immediately for the white house. No room was left for doubt that the department felt absolutely sure the news by today's steamer would be that Minister Willis had already carried out his instructions.

Retreated Into Silence.

As soon as the truth was accepted that no change had been made in Honolulu up to the time of the departure of the Australia every one connected with the many departments of the government retreated into impenetrable reticence, which the excitement of the first news had shown signs of breaking through. Nothing of official information that came by the Australia is at all likely to be given out in an official way. It may be looked for in driblets and made up of surmises and conjectures in the same way the news of the past twelve days has trickled into the public knowledge. All that is definitely known is that the State department has a dispatch from Honolulu that arrived by the Australia today. No conjecture can be formed of what is in it. Mr. Gresham said pleasantly at 4 o'clock:

"You have all the news today, and I have nothing to give you. Mr. Dabey, the solicitor, has some business to attend to. Nothing, however, that concerns the news."

In fact a visit from Sir Julian Pauncefote during the afternoon apparently precipitated the secretary into a field of activity other than the Hawaiian question, and a scurrying of messengers and dispatching of letters was the result. Nothing was indicated as to what the new question was, but it was not an unwelcome variation from Hawaiian matters.

The bureau which usually translates the messages received in the Navy cipher, and does it behind closed doors, did not disappear from the world this afternoon. This seems to show that the message received from Minister Willis was not received in cipher.

Demonstration by the Philadelphia.

The episode reported by the Associated press correspondent at Honolulu of the manning and arming of boats of the Philadelphia is interpreted to mean that matters were all prepared for the carrying out of Minister Willis' instructions at that time, but that developments on shore showed the minister how much more serious an undertaking it was than he had supposed or than those who gave him the instructions had imagined. It is believed he thereupon abandoned his purpose for the time being and determined to wait for further instructions. The supposition of the Honolulu correspondent that the Philadelphia's men were being prepared to suppress a royalist outbreak seems to indicate that the royalists on shore have been cognizant of what was going on on the Philadelphia and were stirred in sympathy. Whatever the movement of the Philadelphia's men portended, it is certain the provisional government has not been informed of any intended action. It can be accepted without question that the provisional government had no knowledge of the purpose of Minister Willis to restore the queen.

It is believed by some naval officers that Mr. Willis has found things so different from what his instructions led him to accept that he has deferred operations until he receives further instructions.

Armstrong's Explanation.

W. N. Armstrong has an explanation to offer that would put a new phase on the whole situation. He argues that the advisors of the ex-queen are sufficiently astute to show her the folly of going back on the throne unless she could have some assurance of her own safety and of the maintenance of her authority. He thinks Paul Newman, who was the queen's counsel before the last administration, and is still her right-hand bower, would convince her that she ran a great risk by accepting the throne and would see that guarantees were made to insure her against such risks. It is not presumable that Minister Willis is equipped with authority to give such guarantees, and it is doubtful whether President Cleveland has it in mind to continue United States protection to the queen after she is restored. In fact, everything goes to show that President Cleveland's belief is that public sentiment was outraged when the queen was deposed and it was only the authority of the United States marines that accomplished it. The administration evidently has not taken into consideration a serious opposition to the restoration of the queen or any hesitancy on her part to resume the throne. Mr. Armstrong's long and thorough acquaintance with the islands make his view of the case of particular interest.

The Hawaiian legation received nothing today from Honolulu by telegraph from San Francisco. Their only private advices was the following dispatch from the Hawaiian consul at Honolulu, sent after he had talked with persons on the Australia:

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 18.—L. A. Thurston, Hawaiian Legation, Washington: Willis has said or done nothing. Gresham's letter not known. CHARLES WILDER.

This is conclusive as indicating that Minister Willis has, as yet, said nothing to the provisional government regarding his instructions.

Would Not Discuss It.

Secretary Herbert declined to discuss the present Hawaiian situation, but said, referring to the question in a general way:

"When the American people come to thoroughly understand the position of this administration toward Hawaii they will endorse it as entirely patriotic and just, and the administration in the end will receive the commendations, rather than the criticisms of the country at large. The people of the United States may be relied upon at all times to be fair and to favor justice when they know all the facts in any given case."

An effort was made to find Secretary Lamont for the purpose, if possible, of ascertaining his views, but the announcement was made in his office that he had left for New York and probably will be absent until Monday.

WILL NOT SURRENDER.

Opinions that the Provisional Government Will Hold Its Own Against Willis.

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 18.—Charles R. Bishop, one of the largest property owners and leading citizens of the Hawaiian islands, was among the Hawaiians who awaited news from Honolulu with great anxiety and when he boarded the steamer Australia upon her arrival here this morning, he was soon in consultation with ex-Consul Severance.

"I am uncertain what effect the disclosure of the United States government's intentions will have," said Mr. Bishop. "The royalists have all along been confident that matters would take a turn in their favor and claimed to have good reasons for their confidence. The provisional government is made up of men of character, spirit and courage, and in an issue of arms, if there is no outside interference, they certainly would be able to take care of themselves. Of course, if the United States uses force quite a different phase might be placed on affairs. Nevertheless the provisional government will not surrender the ground already secured without exhausting every honorable method of sustaining their position."

General Alfred S. Hartwell, who came from Honolulu on the previous steamer and who is in close touch with the provisional government, received letters today describing the situation there.

"The publication in Honolulu of Mr. Willis' instructions will, I am satisfied, consolidate the members and adherents as nothing else could do," said General Hartwell. "The strain of anxiety and uncertainty in Hawaii must be severe, but I find it difficult to believe that the matter will reach the emergency of arms. I cannot for any moment believe any officer in the United States navy will bring himself to fire upon the Americans in Honolulu and I believe that when the facts are laid before President Cleveland he will see to it that no action shall be taken which may precipitate internal conflicts."

General Hartwell is an old friend of Attorney General Olney and he expressed his confidence that Mr. Olney would advise President Cleveland in such a manner as to prevent serious complications. "I rely on him," he continued, "to advise President Cleveland that no hostile action on the part of the United States against the existing government of the Hawaiian islands will be admitted by the rules of international law. It would be most unfair to have taken action by the United States without an opportunity being given to the provisional government to controvert ex parte statements concerning the manner of its initiation. The establishment of the provisional government was not a relolutionary act, but was essential to prevent impending anarchy."

CLEVELAND WAS ANNOYED.

Information from Hawaii Did Not Please the President.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—[Special Telegram to THE BEE.]—Secretary Gresham professes to be highly indignant over the alleged "leaking" of news concerning Hawaiian affairs, but he ignores the fact that the first newspapers to print the forecast of the president's intention were the English journals supplied by Reuter; that the first American to have the tip was Claus Spreckels and that Liliuokalani and her satellites knew of the matter long before the news was published here. It is understood on the best of authority that Secretary Gresham took steps this morning designed to prevent any further "leakage" of news from his department. Anticipating the arrival of the Hawaiian steamer with news from the scene of greatest interest just at present, he issued an order to each bureau chief, requesting him to administer an oath of secrecy to each of his employes. Clerks, typewriters, messengers, doorkeepers and elevator conductors were all included, and there were some funny scenes enacted shortly after the official day had begun, as the various underlings of the diplomatic branch of the government were required to elevate their palms and swear not to divulge a single word of information concerning Hawaii, yet the "news," all there was, was known on the streets long before the first telegram was received over the department's wire. That the information brought by the Australia was disappointing to Mr. Gresham was apparent, and a friend of the president who was in the white house when the information, "God, and not Liliuokalani, reigns in Hawaii, and the provisional government still lives," declares that the president was visibly annoyed over the news.

Before additional instructions can reach Mr. Willis, President Dole will be fully advised of the condition of things in the United States, and Minister Thurston is confident that the men in control of affairs in Honolulu will be able, with the moral support of the public in the country, to maintain their independence.

Arrested the Cashier.

LIMA, O., Nov. 18.—B. C. Faurot, president of the defunct Lima National bank, today begun suit against his cashier, F. L. Langan, to recover $60,000, which he alleges Langan, as treasurer of the Mexican Railway company, collected and failed to turn over.

GAS FRANCHISE DISCUSSED

Commercial Club Considers the Recent Asphyxiation of Taxpayers.

PROTEST OF OMAHA PROPERTY OWNERS

Adjourned Without Definite Action—Mass Meeting of Citizens to Be Held Tomorrow Night to Register Disapproval of Councilmanic Haste.

Last evening the Commercial club met for the purpose of considering the recent action of the city council in passing an ordinance granting a franchise to the Omaha Gas Manufacturing company for fifty years. The attendance was not large, yet there was a representative gathering of business men and taxpayers.

The sentiment of the meeting was not unanimous, and the discussion of the important subject was curtailed by adjournment. For the most part attorneys did the talking, and, with the exception of W. S. Poppleton, opposed the proposition of the club taking any action upon the subject or expressing any sentiment.

In the absence of President Gibbon, W. M. Weller was selected to act as chairman of the meeting. He said that the work the Commercial club did was taken as expressing the sentiment of the business men, and important public matters should be discussed by the club. Mr. Weller said that he took the proposition to grant a franchise to the gas company in the manner it had been was simply preposterous. It struck him as being very peculiar that the city council should adopt such an important public measure without first having it thoroughly ventilated and discussed in the public press. He said that he understood a number of gentlemen were present to discuss the subject, and he invited them to address the club.

A copy of the ordinance was read by the secretary for information.

Queer Aversion to Publicity.

In response to a question Councilman Munro said that last year the company sold approximately 143,000,000 feet of gas, and that it was an increased amount over the previous year. Mr. Munro detailed the proceedings of the introduction and the subsequent course and passage of the ordinance, the facts being the same as printed in THE BEE of Wednesday. He said that he believed the charter contemplated that an ordinance of this kind should be published at least two weeks in the official paper prior to its passage. He said that the objection to the ordinance was not in what it says, but in what it does not say, and he believed that the company was amply protected and not the city; that the section was eliminated which empowered the city acquiring the property by condemnation, and the one giving power to the council to fix the rates to be charged, and that these eliminations made the ordinance objectionable. In the old franchise the power was given when the process of manufacture is cheaper that the price of gas could be correspondingly reduced. It is not in the new franchise. He claimed that franchises fixing prices on this character of public commodity and necessity should not be granted, and that privilege should remain open.

Clinton N. Powell inquired as to the real object of the meeting and as to what course it is intended to pursue.

Chairman Weller said that the object was to secure an expression from the members present as to the wisdom of granting a franchise for fifty years under the existing ordinance.

G. W. Furnas thought that in view of the ordinance having passed the council, that whatever was done should be in the way of inducing Mayor Bemis to veto the measure.

Mr. Munro thought that the suggestion was a good one, and he also expressed the belief that an expression from the Commercial club, as a representative body, would go a long ways toward influencing the members of the council in sustaining the mayor's veto.

Mr. Poppleton's Protest.

W. S. Poppleton was called for. He said it must seem to everybody that an effort had been made to suppress all discussion of the subject. It was his opinion that when such important measures were carried through as this one there was but one conclusion to reach and that was that there was something the matter with it. The matter with it, he contended, was plainly evident when the ordinance was read. The former franchise provided a forfeiture of privileges in case of a nonfulfillment of contract, but this had been eliminated from the new one. He spoke of the other defects of the ordinance as pointed out by Mr. Munro. Mr. Poppleton thought that the time had arrived when franchises in Omaha should not be granted without compensation to the city. He said Omaha should profit by the experiences of other cities. He referred to the fact that New Orleans has lately extended the franchise of its street railway company for fifty years, upon the payment of $700,000. He favored passing resolutions of censure of the strictest kind, and in case the council failed to sustain the veto of the mayor, and he felt confident that the mayor would veto the same, that the matter should be tested in the courts.

W. N. Nason thought that the public spirit of the men who had invested their money in the gas plant should be considered, and he questioned the wisdom of the club expressing itself upon such a matter. He believed the councilmen were elected to serve the people and were responsible to the people for their acts.

W. V. Morse said he had had many dealings with corporations and his sympathies were with the under dog on this occasion. He answered the question of the franchise being exclusive by saying that it was not. He said that Mr. Poppleton's statement that St. Louis pays $1.25 per 1,000 feet for gas, while it was correct, was not to be used as a comparison. St. Louis, he contended, was a large and prosperous city and consumed 1,200,000,000 feet of gas, while Omaha consumed 143,000,000. He said he was growing weary of all this jangling about franchised corporations and did not believe that such a spirit would build up the city. He stated that there is not a franchise in the city that is worth $1,000. He thought the franchise was a fair one and should be given the company.

Curtis R. Turner took issue with Mr. Morse on the proposition that a franchise in this city is not worth $1,000, and he thought that the franchise should not be given away, and that in time to come the gas works should become the property of the city.

Brogan Straddled the Fence.

F. A. Brogan did not feel disposed to take up either side of the question and thought the Commercial club should express itself one way or another. If it did there would certainly be a clash of commercial interests, and he believed it would be wrong to have the club take action beyond the discussion of the subject.

Clinton N. Powell pointed out what he considered the good parts of the ordinance. He said the company was responsible for any damage that might result from its plant, holding the city harmless; to keep the streets in repair when it tears them up; the franchise is not exclusive, and as he had heard no charge of jobbery, he felt that the franchise was just and equitable and he failed to see wherein the interests of the city were not protected. He believed the greatest objection to an expression was that the objects of the Commercial club did not contemplate such and would prove fatal to the club.

A. C. Patterson said that the corporate interests seemed to have great fear for the future of the Commercial club, and in view of that fact he moved an adjournment in order that the meeting could be resolved into a citizens' meeting.

C. S. Montgomery thought that if the subject was such that the Commercial club could not discuss that the citizens could not discuss it. He believed that the club should "either take the bull by the horns and swing the animal or drop it." However, he was not sufficiently acquainted with the subject to know how he would vote on the measure were he a member of the council. He contended that the charter gives the council power to fix rates or acquire a gas plant, and that the franchise of the company would be under the regulations of the charter. He believed that each new council could fix the rates, regardless of the fact that a maximum rate was fixed in the ordinance. Also that the law of trade and competition would regulate the charges. He held that no privileges had been given away by the new ordinance, and from his short notice of the same saw nothing objectionable in it. Mr. Montgomery said the Commercial club should antagonize no public enterprise, and if it did, discussion would follow, and he felt that the gas company and its friends would be disgusted and withdraw from the club. He did not object to discussion, but opposed any action.

Mr. Brogan moved an adjournment, which motion was lost by a vote of 20 to 14.

Met for Discussion.

Chairman Weller explained that the club had not met for the purpose of taking any action on the gas ordinance or antagonizing the gas company. It was simply to discuss and work for the welfare of the city of Omaha.

Mr. Patterson withdrew his motion to adjourn and organize a citizens' meeting.

Mr. Morse moved that the subject under discussion be dispensed with and that the subject be taken up as to how Omaha can promote and extend its trade in its commercial tributary. This motion was declared out of order.

Mr. Turner introduced a resolution pronouncing the ordinance granting the franchise as not to the best interests of the city. This resolution was also ruled out of order.

Mr. Brogan again entered his plea of disruption in case the club took any action. He again moved to adjourn, and as several had left the club rooms the motion prevailed by a slight majority.

Mr. Patterson announced as soon as the club adjourned that a meeting of business men would be held Monday evening at Patterson hall, Seventeenth and Farnam streets, to protest against the outrage the council had perpetrated upon the people and that discussion would not be choked off.

WITHOUT A CRISIS

[CONTINUED FROM FIRST PAGE.]

caused the Bulgarian nation the deepest grief. It was a heavenly providence that cut short the precious day of the beloved hero of Slivnitza on the anniversary of his victory."

The emperor of Austria announced his intention of sending his aide-de-camp to the funeral.

Received by Von Caprivi.

Cancellor von Caprivi today received the African traveler, Eugene Wolf, at a special audience, and the Post learns that the chancellor urged the explorer to continue to devote himself to the further development of the German colonies.

Count von Useden, the introducer of the diplomatic bill, visited United States Minister Runyon today.

Mr. Poultney Bigelow, with his wife and son, has arrived here, enroute to England, where he will spend the winter.

The concert of Mrs. Bloomfield Seister of Chicago was an enormous success. Mrs. Bloomfield Seister has been engaged by telegraph to visit a dozen leading cities of Germany and started today for Vienna.

The announcement that the New York Arion society would participate in the jubilee carnival at Cologne has greatly delighted the inhabitants of that city. The Cologne Gazette today reprints the announcement with a description of the New York Arion's intended charts, with their groups of Indians, cowboys, and the representation of a Mormon with eleven wives and many children.

LUCANIA IN ROUGH WEATHER.

Arrives at Queenstown After Experiencing Unusually Heavy Seas.

QUEENSTOWN, Nov. 18.—The steamship Lucania, Captain McKay, which sailed from New York for Liverpool on November 11, arrived at 4:30 this morning, after a most terrific battle with the waves. The time of the Lucania in crossing the ocean was six days, fourteen hours and forty minutes. During the passage heavy seas broke over the vessel, flooding the cabins, owing to the fact that large quantities of water were washed down the saloon ventilators, causing much inconvenience to passengers.

Mr. Lewis Beckendorfer and his wife were twice compelled to change their cabins, owing to the water which was taken on board.

At supper yesterday evening the Lucania lurched heavily and Mr. Beckendorfer was thrown from his seat, the force of his fall breaking his leg. In addition several of the steerage passengers and members of the crew were knocked down and injured by the terrible seas which washed on board the steamship or by the terrible rolling and pitching, which was a result of the heavy weather encountered. In all twelve persons were treated for more or less serious injuries sustained during the passage across. One of the steerage ventilators was washed away.

Mr. I. D. Smith, one of the passengers, who claims to have crossed the Atlantic ninety-four times, at all seasons of the year, says he never experienced such weather as that which the steamer ran into yesterday.

JOY AMONG THE MINERS.

Thanks Voted to Lord Rosebery While Town Criers Proclaim the Good News.

LONDON, Nov. 18.—A meeting of the delegates of the miners was held in this city today. Mr. Samuel Woods, member of Parliament for one of the divisions of Lancashire and vice president of the Miners Federation of Great Britain, presided. The meeting adopted a vote of thanks to Lord Rosebery for his efforts in bringing about a settlement of the dispute between the Coal Owners association and its striking employes. The meeting also decided to continue to levy the sum of 1 shilling per day from its working members until November 25, as the bulk of the men will have no wages until December. The meeting further decided to urge the public to continue its subscriptions for the relief of the striking miners for a few weeks longer.

Telegrams received from the colliery districts say that there is general rejoicing among the miners and their families, and that in several districts the town crier is going around ringing his bell and informing the people that the miners can go back to work on Monday.

For many weeks past relief organizations have been hard at work in all the colliery districts, usually with the local member of parliament as the leader. The distress among those dependent on the miners' wages for their subsistence has been intense, but much has been done in this way to relieve it.

MARSEILLES POLICE ACTIVE.

Eyewitnesses of the Anarchists' Movements Found, but Are Very Wary.

MARSEILLES, Nov. 18.—The investigation made by the police into the plot to blow up the residence of General Mathelin, commander of the Fifteenth Army corps, has resulted in the discovery of several persons who saw the anarchist criminals on Wednesday night while the latter were taking steps to carry out the outrage they had planned. The police, however, are unable, it is said, to obtain much information from the people as they fear to risk drawing upon themselves the vengeance of the anarchists.

All of the anarchists who have been arrested expressed approval of the outrage when brought up before a magistrate for preliminary examination.

"One Will and That is My Will."

BERLIN, Nov. 18.—The Germania declares that the emperor in his address to recruits yesterday, said: "I want Christian soldiers who say their Lord's prayer. Soldiers are not to have a will of their own; you must have but one will, and that is my will; one law, and that is my law."

Connected with the Tariff Bill.

LONDON, Nov. 18.—The Daily News in its financial article says it believes that the real mission of Mr. Conrad L. Jordan, the assistant treasurer at New York, is connected with the McKinley tariff bill.

Children at the Augusta Fair.

AUGUSTA, Ga., Nov. 18.—Education day at the exposition brought out 5,000 school children and twice as many others. Dr. L. M. McCurdy, ex-minister to Spain, made an address. A feature was the choral singing by 600 school children.

SHE IS QUEEN OF THE OCEAN

Fast Time Made by the Cruiser Columbia on Her Trial Trip Yesterday.

THERE'S NOTHING AFLOAT CAN TOUCH HER

Thirty Miles an Hour Made by the Commerce Destroyer on Her Official Trial Trip—It Was a Most Satisfactory Test.

BOSTON, Mass., Nov. 18.—The Columbia today fairly won her title of queen of the ocean. Faster than ever sped warship or merchant vessel she steamed over the coast from Cape Ann to Cape Porpoise on her trial trip with the United States board of inspection on board. Her average speed was twenty-two and eighty-one one-hundredths knots. But she steamed seven and three-fourths knots of her run at a rate that averaged twenty-five and three-one hundredths knots an hour.

It was a magnificent display of speed. By her little four-hour spin she won for her builders, William Cramp & Sons, the neat bonus of $350,500.

The Columbia took up anchor and started out from President's roads at 8:15. It was 9:20 when the red flag, announcing that the trail was on, was run up to the foremast head. The crew of the Dolphin gave a parting yell as the Columbia left her far astern, her wheels revolving at the rate of 135 revolutions a minute.

Took a New Start.

It was not long before there was a startling decrease of speed. Then the red flag came down and the Columbia took a wide swing seaward. The Cramps wanted a new start, as one of the boilers had begun to foam. The ship went a mile