THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

ESTABLISHED JUNE 19, 1871. OMAHA, MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 30, 1895. SINGLE COPY FIVE CENTS.

ASSURED OF THEIR LOYALTY

Great Demonstration of Many Factions of Havana's Population.

DANGER MORE APPARENT THAN REAL

Campos Assures Them that the Efforts of the Insurgents Must Fail —Thanked the People for the Generous Demonstration.

HAVANA, Dec. 29.—Last night's demonstration of political parties in honor of General Campos proved the grandest popular outburst of sympathy toward the Spanish cause that has ever taken place in Havana. Conservatives, autonomists, reformists, Spaniards, Cubans, men, women and everybody united in a great brotherhood. About 40,000 people in all took part in the demonstration. The procession started at Central park and took its course up Obisto street to the Plaza de Armas. In front of the palace of General Campos a committee went up to give the general greeting.

Senor Santos Guzman of the Union Constitutional spoke on behalf of the conservatives as follows: "Our party reassures you of its unconditional support wherever it is necessary. The entire country is represented here in the palace tonight. We protest against the revolution, backed by many foreigners and by many Cuban bandits, and we are not disposed to be ruined by a tendency toward the rule of barbarism."

General Campos answered as follows: "What can I reply to the noble words of Senor Guzman in behalf of the three parties? I congratulate myself upon the unity of the political parties, and I entreat you not to forget at this moment what should be the standard of our future doings. The danger that threatens us is more showy than real, because the genuine majority of Cubans will forever remain under the glorious banner of the civilized discoverer of America.

"I do not deny that my mind was gloomy a few days at Matanzas, when I saw the flames even to our horses' hoofs. I do not deny my great sorrow when towns perish. I confess that if the enemy had attempted to resist there would have been cruel punishment meted out for their execrable crimes.

"In view of the behavior of the rebels, I decided to return to Havana to conduct operations from here. But, gentlemen, I was disheartened at the thought that I had fallen under your displeasure. But upon arriving here I saw that I was assured of your unconditional support, which brought me ease of mind. I am, therefore, compelled to persevere, as I have always done, in the love of my country."

THANKS TO THE POPULACE.

General Campos was acclaimed in and outside the palace and had to make his appearance on the balconies while the spectators were frantically shouting: "Viva Espana! Viva Campos!"

In returning his thanks to the people General Campos said: "Your demonstration in my honor is a proof of your love towards Spain, and I protest against the vandal deeds of those who, in the name of liberty and independence, desolate this beautiful and wealthy island, which is not even the land where they were born. In the presence of this glorious demonstration, I feel proud that I was president of the council by which liberty to the negroes was sanctioned, because that law equalizes all who are brought under the glorious Castilian banner. Thanks to you in the name of Spain, of our virtuous queen and of the king."

This address was followed by more shouts of "Viva Espana" and great and prolonged cheering.

The different party leaders all signed a message which was sent to Senor Canovas Del Castillo, the Spanish premier, giving a description of the successful meeting and demonstration.

NOT OUT OF MATANZAS.

In spite of the reports received here yesterday that the main body of the insurgents had retreated from the province of Matanzas and were once more in Santa Clara, reports continue to come in of damage done at various points in Matanzas and of the threatening movements of bodies of insurgents. Whether these are wandering and isolated bands cannot be said accurately. An engagement with an insurgent band is also reported today from the province of Pinar del Rio, the westernmost on the island. Uneasiness is also caused in official circles by reports coming from the province of Santiago de Cuba.

The report of Jose Maceo's flight, which was received here yesterday, seems to have been without foundation, as there are renewed evidences of his activity in that province and the troops stationed there are finding abundant occupation.

The Spanish authorities have reason to believe that a movement is contemplated in the Oriental province (Santiago de Cuba) to bring about the junction of the insurgent bands, and troops are actively engaged in trying to prevent the coming together of Jose Maceo and Rabi, whose combined forces would afford means for a formidable movement that would effect a diversion and prevent the withdrawal of Spanish troops to reinforce those acting against Gomez, Maceo and Bandera in Matanzas and Santa Clara provinces.

Nothing authentic is known of the whereabouts and doings of Gomez and his forces, who were said to be threatening Cienfuegos. Nothing has been heard from there today, though several skirmishes are said to have occurred in Santa Clara province, with the result that fifteen insurgents were killed and nine taken prisoners. The insurgents seem to be still in considerable force in the neighborhood of Cardenas and Cimarrones. The bands of Pancho and Peres, who were said to be retreating, burned the station at Murga and destroyed several houses at La Guinallas. They also plundered the stores at Contreras.

GAVE THEM A SCARE.

The bands of La Crete and Roleff were last evening discovered to be moving in the immediate vicinity of Cardenas, just east of Matanzas, and the news created a great deal of excitement at that place, as it was suspected an attempt was about to be made to capture the town in pursuance of the earnest desire of the insurgents to hold a seaport. The garrison was called to quarters in some haste and waited long in expectation of an attack, while the volunteer forces of the business men were also put under arms, manifesting enthusiasm in the service. The band of Rebau was also reported to be moving upon Cimarrones.

The authorities here continue to claim with jubilation that the insurgents are powerless to capture any towns or seaports. The skirmish in Pinar del Rio occurred in the district of Guahajay, the city of that name, capital of the district, being about twenty miles southwest of Havana. A column of troops attacked a band led by the famous insurgent-bandit leader, Perez del Gado, who is said to have been seriously wounded, one of his men being killed and three taken prisoners.

An expedition, numbering eighteen men, led by a brother of the leader, Maya Rodriguez, has landed at Estra Junta, province of Puerto Principe. The plantations in Puerto Principe have commenced grinding their cane.

The guerrilla chief, Lolo Benitez, surprised a band of twenty in the district of Manzanillo, province of Santiago de Cuba, among them being several insurgent leaders, who were celebrating Christmas night, and four of them were killed and three taken prisoners.

A column commanded by General Tejeda has had an engagement at Lomacegos and taken strong positions held by the insurgents at San Prudencio, in the province of Santiago. The insurgents left on the field nine killed and carried away numerous wounded. Of the troops three were killed and ten wounded.

Telegram of Confidence to Campos.

MADRID, Dec. 29.—The cabinet council has decided to send Captain General Campos a telegram of confidence and congratulation.

TAKING REVENGE ON THE BOERS.

English More Interested in the Transvaal Than in Venezuela.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The Times this morning publishes long dispatches from Capetown, Paris and Berlin bearing on the Transvaal question, which seems to be displacing the Venezuelan question in the public interest. The Paris dispatch quotes the Debats as saying: "The London Times seems to be avenging itself on the Boers for the moderate tone it was obliged to adopt toward Uncle Sam." The Debats then proceeds to argue upon the danger to French interests of allowing England to seize the Transvaal.

A dispatch to the Times from The Hague says that Holland's attitude on the question is apparently one of indifference.

The Berlin dispatch says: "The action of the Uitlanders in the Transvaal has given rise to an unusually violent explosion of anti-English feeling in the German press." The National Zeitung is quoted as follows: "Germany, Portugal and possibly France cannot allow the Boer republic to become the exclusive property of England, especially of such a dangerous personage as Mr. Cecil Rhodes."

The Times dispatch then continues: "The Koenich Zeitung, the Kreuz Zeitung and other papers express similar sentiments. It cannot be denied that while the relations between the English and German governments are in no way cordial, a widespread feeling of animosity against England exists in Germany."

The Times also has a column article explanatory of the Transvaal trouble, which says: "Equity of representation with taxation; language law; responsibility of the administration to the legislature and the removal of religious disabilities are among the chief of the Uitlanders' demands, while they desire to maintain republican institutions."

An editorial in the Times complains that the French and German press are criticising England without properly grasping the history or geography of the question. The Times believes that no desperate remedy, such as an appeal to force, will be required. Some reasonable concessions, it continues, even though not all that the Uitlanders might rightfully claim might avail to postpone a conflict.

JOHANNESBERG, Dec. 29.—The political situation here is acute on account of the struggle of foreigners in the Transvaal to obtain equal political rights with the Boers. There are persistent rumors of secret arming of the miners and warlike preparations, on account of which women and children are leaving. General Joubert, commander-in-chief of the Transvaal forces, has been summoned to Pretoria from Natal. The Americans and Germans are siding with the Transvaal government in the controversy over conceding rights to foreigners.

Sold to Stamp Collectors.

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 29.—The Postoffice department has sold for $5,000 the unsold stock of the old retired issue of postage stamps to collectors.

In the town of Tapalpa, state of Jalisco, the police endeavored to stop disorderly conduct at a public ball. A fight followed in which a policeman was killed. He was formerly a noted bandit and served several terms of imprisonment, but since joining the police his conduct has been excellent.

Albert Correo has been granted a concession to construct a railway in the state of Tobasco, but no subsidy is allowed.

Acting for the Insurance Companies.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—A Berlin dispatch to the Standard says: Mr. Poultney Bigelow had an interview lasting several hours on Sunday with Dr. Miquel, Prussian minister of finance, which occasioned much talk. It is quite untrue, however, that he presented an ultimatum on the subject of the insurance companies. It was stated several days ago that Mr. Bigelow was not acting for the United States government in Germany, but he spoke for the insurance companies.

Mounting Some Heavy Guns.

TAMPA, Fla., Dec. 29.—Passengers arriving from Cuba tonight report active operations around the fortifications in Havana commanding the harbor entrance. Passengers saw four immense eighty ton improved guns, with many smaller ones, which are soon to be placed in position on the railroad from Havana to San Antonio. Explorers or freight trains precede all passenger trains. It is difficult to man these bomb hunting freight trains. General Callaxio Garcia arrived from New York tonight.

Gave the Chancellor an Audience.

VIENNA, Dec. 29.—Emperor Francis Joseph gave an audience today of nearly an hour to the German chancellor, Prince von Hohenlohe. Afterward a banquet was given in the chancellor's honor at the palace. Count Padeni, the president of the council for Austria; Count Goluckowski, the imperial minister of foreign affairs, and Count Kalnoky, the ex-foreign minister, were also guests at the banquet. Chancellor von Hohenlohe was seated at the emperor's right hand.

Failed to Create a Row.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The Turkish legation received from the sublime porte the following telegram under today's date: "Two Armenians of Aintab, having fired pistol shots with a view of again creating a sedition, disorders were about to begin, but, thanks to the measures taken, quiet has been restored."

Cold Consolation at Home.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—The Chronicle says: "Lord Dunraven's failure to incriminate Defender's owners or crew is complete. He may now in cold blood reflect that he has done more to breed bad blood between the two nations than President Cleveland and Secretary Olney combined."

California Wheat in Australia.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—A Melbourne dispatch to the Times says that a shipment of 1,000 tons of California wheat had arrived at Sydney. This stock of old Victoria wheat, together with the orders already placed in California, will cover the net deficiency for Australia.

No Need for the Meeting.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—The proposed meeting of the American society for the purpose of an expression of a hope for an amicable settlement of existing differences between England and the United States has been abandoned, in view of the improved situation.

Spanish Minister on a Tour.

TEGUCIGALPA, Dec. 29.—(via Galveston.)—Senor Ontiveres, the Spanish minister, has presented his credentials to the government. From this point he goes to Nicaragua, Costa Rica and Salvador, to the governments of which he is also accredited.

Sending Rifles to Abyssinia.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—The Rome correspondent of the Times hears that a Franco-Russian project to send 40,000 Berdan rifles and 2,000,000 cartridges to Abyssinia has been discussed in high circles in Russia.

Organized a Telegraph Company.

DENVER, Dec. 29.—It is learned that prominent citizens of Helena, Mont., have organized the Rocky Mountain Postal Telegraph company to purchase the plant of the old Rocky Mountain Telegraph company, which has been operating for several years in Montana, and will extend its lines to Ogden, Salt Lake and Denver. A contract has been made with the Postal Telegraph company for connections at Spokane, Denver and Cheyenne. Bonds to the amount of $500,000 will be floated for the work of construction.

Changes on the Vandalia.

TERRE HAUTE, Ind., Dec. 29.—The Express will announce on credible authority in the morning that William B. McKeen, for more than twenty-five years president of the Vandalia road, will retire at the annual election, January 15. It is rumored that Vice President and General Manager John G. Williams and General Superintendent N. K. Elliott will retire at the annual election.

Shot His Neighbor by Accident.

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., Dec. 29.—At the mouth of Salt creek, on Tug river, just before daybreak this morning, Fletcher Wallace, a prominent citizen, was shot fatally by Howard Newcome, a neighbor. Wallace had gone to Newcome's residence to borrow a horse, when Newcome thought he was a burglar and shot him.

MADE OFFERS OF MEDIATION

Dragomans of the Powers Might Be of Service at Zeitoun.

MORE TROUBLE BREWING AT SIVAS

Lord Rosebery Declines to Express an Opinion on the Armenian Situation—Must Be Good Reason for England's Course.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—A dispatch to the Times from Constantinople says: The latest advices from Zeitoun are that the insurgents have been reinforced by 500 men from Guen and have occupied new positions. Accordingly the dragomans of the powers went to the porte and offered to negotiate for a capitulation.

The Daily News' Constantinople correspondent says: In response to United States Minister Terrell's request to Consul Jewett at Sivas, that he should go to Marsovan, Mr. Jewett has wired that it is impossible to leave, as another outbreak is threatened.

The Graphic publishes a letter from Lord Rosebery to a correspondent commenting upon England's inaction in Armenia, in which he says: "I cannot believe that it means insincerity or incapacity on the part of a powerful government. They must have encountered obstacles of which we are ignorant. Perhaps they had to weigh the hideous alternative of abandoning the Armenians or facing a European war. Therefore, I must hear their case before judging them."

A Constantinople letter in the Times summarizes and tabulates from consular and other sources the Armenian massacres in the last two months. There are many places from which there are no details yet, but where known, the total is 18,000 killed. Turkish statistics give the killed in the towns at 20,000, with 2,500 villages in which the number of killed in them is unknown. It is estimated that there are 425,000 starving.

The correspondent of the Standard at Constantinople says: "It will be needless to be surprised any day at the discovery of a secret treaty between Russia and Turkey. A Russian syndicate, strongly supported by the embassy, has offered to replenish the Turkish treasury in return for the concession of a petroleum monopoly."

Regulars Replace the Reserves.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 29.—At the request of the United States minister, the sultan has ordered that regulars replace the reserve soldiers who are guarding the missionaries in the exposed parts of the empire.

SILVER ORGANIZATIONS UNITING.

Terms of the Proposed Consolidation Agreed Upon.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—For some time past negotiations have been pending for a complete consolidation of the American Bimetallic league, National Bimetallic union and the National Silver committee, the three principal silver organizations in the United States, representing all sections of the country. Yesterday these negotiations culminated in an agreement by the representatives of the respective organizations, by which such consolidation has been substantially perfected. Nothing now remains to be done but a ratification by the executive committees of these organizations, each acting separately, which will speedily follow. The consolidated organization will be known as the American Bimetallic union. Its principal office and general headquarters will be in Chicago, at 134 Monroe street, in the office occupied by the National Bimetallic union, with branch offices in Washington, San Francisco and perhaps in other cities, both north and south. It is the purpose of the united organization to press the campaign of education on behalf of bimetallism with the utmost vigor in all parts of the country. A conference of pronounced silver men will be held at Washington on January 22, when a plan of action will be outlined, which, it is said, will have an important bearing upon the political events of next year.

WORKED THE SAME GAME TWICE.

Sneak Thieves Getting in on Women's Jewelry Boxes.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—In addition to the robbery of $65,000 worth of diamonds and jewelry from the Madison square mansion of I. Townsend Burden Friday night, it now transpires that another robbery similar in its mode of execution was committed the same evening in the house of Mrs. Francis N. Barnes at 239 Central Park, west, at about the same hour at which the Burden house was robbed. The loss in the case of Mrs. Barnes, however, was considerably less than that of the Burdens, aggregating not more than $10,000. Mrs. Barnes had been at dinner with her son in the dining room, and discovered she had been robbed when she returned to her apartments. Her diamonds and jewelry were in a pasteboard box in a drawer in her dressing case, and she found that the top of the box had been torn off and its contents stolen while she had been at dinner. It is supposed the thief or thieves entered the premises by a window from the rear. Acting Captain O'Brien today said he is working on both the Burden and Barnes cases, with all the ability of the department, but that nothing of importance had been developed, and no arrests had been made.

CONGREGATION WITH THE RECTOR.

Bishop of Northern California Causes an Exciting Scene.

PLACERVILLE, Cal., Dec. 29.—Great excitement prevails here among all classes of people over the language used by Bishop Wingfield of the northern diocese of California, in criticising Rev. C. Pierce, rector and for thirty years pastor of the Episcopal church in this city. Bishop Wingfield, during the morning service, called a meeting of the vestry to determine whether this is a parish or a mission. Then pointing to the pastor, he said: "If it is a mission we are going to put this man out. He is not worthy of his position." He furthermore denounced Mr. Pierce as an unmitigated liar. The women comprising the congregation surrounded the pastor within the chancel, crying and attesting their allegiance to him. Excited crowds thronged the streets during the meeting of the vestry and threatened personal violence upon the bishop should his removal of Mr. Pierce be accomplished.

Passed a Burning Schooner.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 29.—Captain Scott of the British steamship Muriel, which arrived at pier 39, south wharves, today from Demarara, reports passing an unknown three-masted schooner December 28 in latitude 37:48, longitude, 74:36, burning furiously. "We first sighted the wreck," said he, "at 4:30 in the morning, and two hours later got within hailing distance, but saw no signs of life aboard. There were no marks visible by which she could be identified. The craft was laden with lumber and had not been burning long. Her fore and mizzenmasts were standing, storm foresail was set and the topmasts were gone." Captain Scott thinks the vessel was set on fire after having been abandoned by her crew.

Rabbit Hunter Discovers a Plant.

HENNESSEY, Okl., Dec. 29.—Three weeks ago Lemuel Lloyd, a colored Baptist preacher and justice of the peace for Cato township, was arrested for stealing a set of harness. He escaped from the officers. Yesterday, while Charles Charter, a constable, was hunting, he attempted to run a rabbit from under Lloyd's house and discovered a neatly hidden cellar. Investigation disclosed a trap door from the inside and articles that have been missing from the neighborhood for over a year were found, among them a suit of clothes which a negro named Marke Wilde served six months in jail for stealing. He was sentenced by Lloyd.

MIGHT BE SETTLED IN A MONTH.

London Chronicle's Opinion of the Venezuelan Boundary.

LONDON, Dec. 29.—The Chronicle publishes a mass of matter on the Venezuela affair, including maps in possession of the colonial office, extracts from the American papers which have arrived by mail and an article by Frederick Harrison, declaring that the Venezuelan claim is on all fours with a Spanish claim to Gibraltar. "If the United States can persuade Venezuela to submit to a bona fide boundary settlement," the writer continues, "and to drop her swagger about Charles V and Philip II of Spain, and can enforce an award when it is made, the question could be settled in a month. The Brussels delegate to the Venezuelan government, Veloa Golticoa, recently visited The Hague and exhausted every channel without success in support of the Venezuelan claim. Five years ago the British vice consul at Ciudad Bolivar examined the Spanish records and proved the British aspect of the case completely."

The Berlin correspondent of the Standard says: I have excellent reason to state that the reports of an agreement betwe n Russia and the United States about Venezuela are unfounded. On the contrary, the czar was painfully surprised at President Cleveland's message, and any war involving England would be unwelcome to the Russian court on the approach of the coronation.

The New York correspondent of the Times, while he affirms his previous convictions that there is no longer any feeling for war with England at present in the United States, says there lies a real danger for the future. He attributes this partly to the personal character of the president, or that quality of it "which his friends call firmness and his enemies stubbornness." The dispatch also enlarges at great length upon the evidence brought out by the recent Venezuelan incident of the existence of hostility toward Great Britain in the United States. He urges the importance of celerity in effecting a compromise of the questions in dispute, quoting the text "agree with thine adversary quickly while he is in the way."

ALVEY OFFERED THE THIRD PLACE

President Completes the Venezuelan Commission.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 29.—A dispatch from Hagerstown, Md., says: "Richard H. Alvey, chief justice of the United States court of appeals in the District of Columbia, has been requested by President Cleveland to become a member of the Venezuelan committee. The request was made on Thursday last in Washington. The proposition took Judge Alvey by surprise, and he begged for time to consider the matter before committing himself. This the president granted, and Judge Alvey now has the matter under consideration. He is at his home in Hagerstown, and will be here until his court meets, on the first Monday in January. Tonight Judge Alvey said that he had not yet fully made up his mind whether he would accept or not. Many important cases would come before the district court of appeals at the January term, and because of his heavy judicial duties and for other good reasons he hesitated about immediately accepting the president's offer. He is heartily in accord, however, with the president's views, and feels under obligations to further Mr. Cleveland's policy."

SCHEME TO ENLARGE THE ARMY.

Samuel Gompers Denounces the Late War Scare.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—Before leaving for Indianapolis, the headquarters of the American Federation of Labor, Samuel Gompers made a farewell speech to the Central Labor union today, in which he denounced a policy looking to war between the United States and England. He said: "Those who are stirring up this war scare are covering themselves with a mask of patriotism behind which is hidden nothing but bluster and pomposity. Around, below and beneath the so-called patriotism is a scheme to enlarge the army and navy. The true patriot is not looking for war. He wants peace. The workers of our country have no quarrel with the workers of other countries. They will not be swayed by political schemers. In the ranks of the sensible, cool headed workers and true American citizens you will find this so-called war scare has no effect. Labor is never for war; it is always for peace. It is on the side of justice and humanity."

NEEDS THE GOVERNMENT BEHIND IT

Armenian Minister Has Little Faith in the Red Cross Movement.

AMESBURY, Mass., Dec. 29.—Rev. H. A. Santakian, until three months ago pastor of the Second church at Kharput, Armenia, has just returned to this city and today gave the Associated press correspondent the contents of a letter from Kharput in relation to the massacre at Marsovan on November 15, which states several hundred were killed, the Girls' college burned, the houses plundered and a number of Armenian stores burned. At the present time there are no schools or churchtes in the town, which contains 1,000 Armenian families. Mr. Santakian graduated from the Andover, Mass., Theological seminary in 1889, and has passed the time since in Armenia. He says: "I do not think the present Red Cross movement will be a success unless backed up by the United States government. The trouble has been brewing since 1882, and it was only last year that the Turks made an attempt to burn the missionary building at Kharput."

ZINC SMELTERS FORM A COMBINE.

All but Four in the Country in the New Deal.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 29.—The biggest deal in the history of zinc mining in Missouri will be closed by January 1. It will unite all the zinc smelters of the country, except four, under one management practically, and the result will be, the promoters claim, better prices for zinc in all branches and a general revival of the industry. The money involved is about $2,000,000, which is to be furnished by New York and Connecticut capitalists. The deal was engineered by B. F. Hobart, president of the Kansas & Texas Coal company, which controls a big zinc smelter at Pittsburg, Kan. The new company will control all the zinc smelters in what is known as the southwest Missouri district, embracing the zinc producing territory in Missouri and Kansas. Two smelters in Indiana will come in also.

La Normandie Has a Rough Time.

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.—La Normandie arrived at her dock but a few hours late, although for four days she had been tempest-tossed and on Tuesday the seas ran particularly high, the wind blew what the old-fashioned mariners used to call "great guns," and the barometer dropped to 725. Purser Davis reported that notwithstanding the wind and high seas, there had been no accident worthy of mention. There were but thirty-four saloon passengers, including Mr. and Mrs. Kraft of Philadelphia and Mme. Michel. It was denied that Louise Michel, the famous communist, was among the passengers.

Killed in a Drunken Quarrel.

PRINCETON, Ind., Dec. 29.—Last night, near Oakland City, John Cooper was murdered by George Martin. Cooper and Martin were traveling horse traders and stopped at Oakland City yesterday to get a jug of whisky. They pitched their tent and quarreled. Martin grabbed a neckyoke and battered Cooper's brains out. Their families were with them. They were brothers-in-law. Martin rode away, leaving the dead man lying in his wife's arms. The woman remained in the woods all night with the corpse. Martin is at large.

Building an Immense Transfer Boat.

MILWAUKEE, Wis., Dec. 29.—Superintendent Martin of the Flint & Pere Marquette line said tonight his company has let a contract for the building of the largest steam car ferry in the world. The new ferry will not be ready until next October and will ply between Manitowoc and Ludington. The steamer will cost $300,000, will have three screws and will carry thirty cars. The length of the steamer between perpendiculars will be 351 feet, and her over all length 350 feet.

TELL DIVERGENT STORIES

San Francisco Pastor Causes a Woman's Arrest for Blackmail.

PAID A HIGH PRICE FOR SILENCE

Both the Minister and His Alleged Paramour Deny There is Any Truth in the Stories—Congregation Stands by Him.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29.—Mrs. Mary A. Davidson has been arrested on the charge of extortion, preferred by Rev. C. O. Brown, pastor of the First Congregational church. Dr. Brown charges her with blackmail, and says that he paid her $500 to secure her silence in regard to his alleged relations with Miss Overman, a young woman from Tacoma who visited at his house. The First Congregational church is the largest and most fashionable one of that denomination in the city. Mrs. Davidson, who is a woman about 60 years of age, came here during the Midwinter fair as representative of a Boston corset firm, and lately conducted a corset store of her own here. She has attended Dr. Brown's church for about a year, and has taken a great interest in church matters.

Miss Overman came here from Tacoma for her health, and visited at the house of Dr. Brown, whose family she knew in Tacoma. After a stay of several months, during which time she became acquainted with Mrs. Davidson, Miss Overman returned to Tacoma, but came back to San Francisco when Mrs. Davidson promised to secure employment for her.

According to Dr. Brown, Mrs. Davidson came to him last November at the time when there was intense excitement in the city over the exposure of several old men who had been debauching young girls, and told him she had been commissioned by Mrs. Jane Elizabeth Baddin, a lodging house keeper, to demand $2,000 down and $100 a month for ten years if he did not want his intimacy with Miss Overman exposed. Mrs. Davidson said that Miss Overman had confided in her, and would testify against him, and that Mrs. Baddin knew that he had occupied a room in a lodging house with a young woman. Mrs. Davidson pointed out to him that owing to the state of public feeling almost anything that witnesses would swear to would be believed, and advised him to settle at once.

Dr. Brown was horrified at the nature of the charges brought against him and saw no means of escape. He succeeded, however, in reducing the figure to $500 down and $35 a month for five years. He paid Mrs. Davidson $500, for which she signed a receipt. After paying over the money Dr. Brown attempted to find Mrs. Baddin, but without success. Finally he met Miss Overman, who was stopping with Mrs. Davidson, and reproached her with her perfidy. She indignantly denied that she had made any charges and when confronted with Mrs. Davidson denounced the woman as infamous. Miss Overman immediately left Mrs. Davidson's house and went to the home of Dr. Brown, where she is now under the protection of his wife. Then the minister consulted with the deacons of the church, and the result is the arrest of Mrs. Davidson.

Both the minister and Miss Overman deny that there is the slightest foundation for the charges. Mrs. Davidson, when seen after her arrest, said that Dr. Brown called on her several months ago and voluntarily confessed his love for Miss Overman. He asked her advice, and she told him to sever his relations with the girl at once. Miss Overman, she says, also confessed her love for Dr. Brown, and that he had promised to pay her $35 a month. A few days after this, Mrs. Davidson says, Dr. Brown handed her $35 to give to Miss Overman, saying he had promised to pay her that amount for ten months. Some time ago a strange woman, who called herself Mrs. Baddin, called on Mrs. Davidson and said she knew of Dr. Brown's intimacy with Miss Overman, and demanded $10,000 as the price of her silence. About six weeks ago she sent for Dr. Brown and told him of Mrs. Baddin's demands.

He said: "It is all true, and more, too."

Mrs. Davidson continued: "He refused to see the woman, and asked me to handle the business for him. He said: 'You have our hearts' secrets,' and told me everything. Dr. Brown said he could not pay her $10,000, but would pay $5,000, with $500 down and the rest at the rate of $35 a month. Dr. Brown said he would leave San Francisco within three months, as he had calls from Congregational churches in Brooklyn and Philadelphia."

Next day she paid the $500 to Mrs. Baddin, who said she was going to leave town, but would return each month for the $35. Mrs. Davidson says Dr. Brown has paid $35 for Miss Overman in August, September, October, November and December. She concluded her statement by saying: "I have kept this secret for the sake of the church, for the sake of Miss Overman and Dr. Brown, but the truth must be told, and I am sorry I am obliged to divulge these things."

The Chronicle says: "Miss Overman is a tall young woman, with red hair and blue eyes. She is said to be a divorced woman. Mattie Overman is her maiden name. Some months ago she came to the Chronicle and offered a story on a prominent man for $1,000. She is not particularly good looking, but is an interesting talker. So far the police have failed to find any trace of Mrs. Baddin or the lodging house which she is said to have kept."

The First Congregational church was crowded this morning as the result of the exposure of the alleged blackmailing attempt upon Dr. Brown. The minister appeared as usual, and in his sermon referred indirectly to the attack upon his reputation. One of the deacons also spoke and corroborated Dr. Brown's statement that he had consulted with the officers of the church before causing the arrest of Mrs. Davidson. After church services a number of the congregation shook hands with Dr. Brown and expressed confidence in him.

Mrs. Davidson today tells a story that differs slightly from the one she told last night. She says now that she believes that she is the victim of a plot in which Dr. Brown and Miss Overman are the plotters. She still insists that they are guilty and her theory is that Dr. Brown, knowing that she was aware of his amour with Miss Overman and fearing exposure, boldly resolved to forestall demaging developments by accusing her of blackmail. She thinks that Dr. Brown secured the mysterious Mrs. Baddin and had her call on her with the story, and thus force her into the position of go-between. After inducing her to accept money for Mrs. Baddin and to sign a receipt, Dr. Brown now charges her with blackmail.

TACOMA, Wash., Dec. 29.—The alleged relations of Dr. Brown and Miss Mattie Overman are a complete surprise to their many friends here. Miss Overman's family declare their belief that it is a case of blackmail and say it cannot be true that her relations with Dr. Brown have been any other than proper. In proof of this they cite that she went to live with the Browns on her first visit to San Francisco, over a year ago, at the earnest solicitation of Mrs. Brown, for whom Mattie had sewed, both here and in San Francisco. While here just a year ago, Dr. Brown called at the Overmans' home and stated there that Mrs. Davidson was a pure Christian woman. Mattie had met her on her first visit to San Francisco and went to live at Mrs. Davidson's after going to San Francisco for the second time last August. Her youngest sister, Lillie, received a letter from her yesterday. It was written Tuesday and she was then at Mrs. Davidson's. Yesterday afternoon came a telegram from her reading: "Do not believe sensational newspaper stories. Letter will explain."

Mr. Overman says Mattie is studying stenography and typewriting and that he expects her home in three months. Her letter of explanation is expected tomorrow or Tuesday.

MOB TAKES A TERRIBLE REVENGE.

Faithless Wife and Her Paramour Burned to Death.

LOUISVILLE, Dec. 29.—A special to the Commercial from Lebanon, Ky., says: Within two miles of this city last night a mob burned to death a woman and killed with bullets her paramour. The burned and disfigured corpses of the victims, Mrs. Thomas West and William Devers, were found in the ruins of the woman's home today by the 14-year-old daughter of the murdered man.

Several months ago Deveres, a disleaged widower, was accused by Thomas West, a prosperous farmer, of intimacy with Mrs. West. Quarrel followed quarrel throughout the fall, until West instituted divorce proceedings and declared Deveres must die. The men met in Lebanon. West snapped his revolver, which missed fire, and Deveres killed him on the spot. On the plea of self-defense the murderer secured bail, and immediately took his two daughters and moved into West's house. The relatives of the murdered husband swore vengeance, and last night it came. Close to 10 o'clock a band of men rode up to the West homestead and demanded admittance.

"Tom West is dead; now it's your turn," the spokesman called, and Deveres and the woman awoke to find their house surrounded. Mrs. West rushed to a darkened window and began a plea for mercy. Deveres, too, asked for a hearing, but his request was answered with a shower of shots.

"We'll give you ten minutes to open up; then you burn," said the mob's leader, and his men quietly retired from the door. A hurried consultation was held inside the house, and then the little girl of Deveres was sent out to plead with the mob.

"Get out; you're liable to get shot yourself," one of the crowd said, and, thoroughly frightened, the child fled to the cabin of a negro neighbor. Mrs. West then appeared at the door and made a last appeal for mercy. It was unavailing, and in another moment the house was fired. Just before the roof fell the woman was seen to reel across the room and fall into the fireplace among the burning coals, and there she died. Deveres at the last moment made a dash for liberty, but a score of bullets stopped him half a dozen steps from the door.

This morning the little girl led her negro protector to the scene, and there the bodies, scorched beyond recognition, were found, untouched by the lynchers. There is but little doubt that the members of the mob will be captured, as they were without masks and made no attempt at secrecy.

It is not improbable that the scenes of last night will be re-enacted in the vicinity shortly, as the outrage has aroused the most intense indignation among the people of the county. Because of the fact that West's relatives had threatened vengeance, there is a strong belief that they are responsible for last night's crime. The uncertainty, however, as to just who was implicated has so far prevented further trouble. The child of Deveres, who was a witness to the tragedy, is dangerously ill as the result of the fright and exposure, but upon her recovery she may be able, it is hoped, to identify some of the lynchers. The scene of the horror was visited by crowds of curious people today and it was well toward noon before the bodies were cared for by an undertaker. No arrests have so far been made, but developments are expected tomorrow.

Justice Nave late this afternoon held an inquest upon the bodies of the victims. Several witnesses were examined, but nothing tending to incriminate any one was developed. The investigation will be continued tomorrow. Deveres formerly lived in Knoxville, Tenn.

IDENTITY NOT YET A CERTAINTY.

Ventura Suicide Supposed to Be A. G. Simon, Jr., of St. Louis.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—A special to the Tribune from St. Louis says: The H. L. Jones who committed suicide in Ventura, Cal., about a month ago is believed to be A. G. Simon, jr., son of A. G. Simon, member of the wholesale dry goods house of H. T. Simon, Gregory & Co. The body was ordered exhumed under this supposition, and is now enroute to St. Louis, and will be here on Wednesday or Thursday. Young Simon, who was 23 years old, has been in bad health for some time, suffering from indigestion. He went to California, thinking a change of climate would benefit him, and the last heard of him definitely was in a sanitarium at Santa Barbara. He remained in the institution a week and then left. When the suicide of Jones at Ventura was announced and it became evident that the man had been incorrectly identified as H. L. Jones of Chicago, the identity of the suicide became a matter of mystery. His description was generally printed in California papers, and one of the papers fell into the hands of one of the nurses of the Santa Barbara sanitarium. The description seemed to her to fit the Mr. Simon who had been in the institution, and she sent a messenger to Ventura to examine the body. This messenger identified it as Simon, whereupon the nurse wrote to the St. Louis relatives of the young man.

The young man's father is very much cast down over the affair, and still hopes a mistake has been made in the identification. He said today the young man had plenty of money, and if he needed more he could have had it for the asking. How he came to be confounded with Jones, Mr. Simon is unable to say, as his son, he said, had never been in the newspaper business.

ALMOST A MURDER FOR EACH DAY.

Interior Department Furnished the Indian Territory Record.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 29.—A special to the Journal from Washington says: W. J. Watts and Colonel Hubbard of Muldrow, I. T., will tomorrow file with the secretary of the interior a potent argument for a change in the conditions of that country. The document filed will in due time reach the various committees in congress interested in legislation for the country. The information contained, it is insisted, will be enough to disprove the many statements made by the delegates from the tribes to the effect that it is a very orderly country and that there is no need of congressional interference because of lawlessness. The document contains a partial list of murders committed in the Indian territory from the 5th of March to the last of October. In this time 186 murders have been committed and accounted for in the record and the claim is made that the list is not complete. In each case a short statement as to the murder is given. This is set forth as evidence of the need of a change in that country. This is a part of the basis for the position taken by the Dawes commission and will be used by them in justifying their recommendations for legislation that will break up tribal relations and open that country to settlement, after paying the Indians a fair and equitable amount for their lands.

Attching B. & O. Property.

MILWAUKEE, Dec. 29.—A number of suits in attachment and garnishment have been started in the state courts here against the Baltimore & Ohio by the Northern Pacific to secure a settlement of the latter's claim on Chicago terminal leases. The sheriff has not yet secured a service of the papers and the details are kept secret. It is thought whatever property is owned in Wisconsin by the Baltimore & Ohio company will be seized.

Desert Winds Damage Granges.

SANTA ANA, Cal., Dec. 29.—A heavy wind has been blowing in this valley from the desert for the past twenty-four hours. Granges have been injured considerably and some damage has been done to buildings. At Tustin the fire wall on the bank building toppled over onto the roof, breaking through and going to the second floor. The cashier of the bank narrowly escaped with his life.

Movements of Ocean Vessels, Dec. 29.

At New York—Arrived—La Normandie from Havre; Chateau la Fite, from Bordeaux; Prussia, from Hamburg.

At Southampton—Arrived—Kensington, from New York.

At Havre—Arrived—La Champagne, from New York.

HE MUST GO TO THE GALLOWS

Claude Hoover Found Guilty of Murder in the First Degree.

DETERMINED THAT HE MUST SUFFER DEATH

Prisoner Unmoved When He Heard the Verdict Yesterday Morning—Conviction Followed Quick After the Crime.

Claude H. Hoover, the slayer of Sam DuBois, will pay the penalty of his crime on the gallows.

The jury returned a verdict to this effect yesterday morning at 10:30 o'clock. The report of the jury was anticipated, as it was not generally supposed that the twelve men had much to deliberate about, and in consequence there was a crowd numbering in the neighborhood of 100 in