THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

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ON THE EVE OF A BIG BATTLE

Situation at Buluwayo as it is Understood at Cape Town.

SEVERE CONFLICT MUST COME SOON

Fifteen Thousand Hostile Natives Slowly Drawing Nearer the Beleaguered Town and Relief Still a Long Ways Off.

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CAPE TOWN, April 22.—Unless all the news which reaches this place from Buluwayo is misleading, an important engagement between the British force defending that town and the Matabeles besieging it will shortly take place, or may already have occurred.

It is now known that the force of hostile natives which assembled about Buluwayo after the outbreak of the rebellion was much greater than was at first supposed. The highest estimate places the number of the besieging force at 15,000, but, although a large number of natives, said to number about 5,000 warriors, is known to have struck camp and started southward in the direction which the relief forces from Mafeking must follow, it is estimated that fully 15,000 hostiles are still in the vicinity of the beleaguered town. The natives, when they first took up positions about Buluwayo, formed a half circle northward, but gradually this formation has been contrated, and the Matabele army is now only about three miles, or within easy striking distance, on a dark night especially, of the 3,000 white people in the town, of whom only about 600 can be classed as fighting men.

WHITES HOLDING A PASS.

The southern portion of the half-circle is in mountainous country, and the main pass is held by about 700 whites. It is through this pass that the relief force and supply trains must come.

The men holding this pass have been divided into four bodies. The first, or advance guard, is occupying a position at the entrance of the most difficult turnings. The main body occupies the strongest position in the pass itself, where a Maxim gun has been planted behind a well constructed stone breastwork or fort, commanding the critical turn in the road. This force is also looked upon as being in a position to slew the gun around and defend the pass from an attack from the north. The third body, or rear guard, is holding the northern end of the pass which leads to the open ground and road to Buluwayo. The men holding the pass have provisions for about a month, but their supply of ammunition is limited, some of it having already been called in to replenish the diminishing store of the town.

Both Buluwayo and Gwelo, which is also besieged, have been practically rendered impregnable from an outward, open attack. But in both cases, especially in the case of Buluwayo, a large number of so-called friendly natives have flocked into the place under the plan of seeking the protection of the whites from the hostiles. These persons could not well be turned adrift or refused shelter. Consequently they were admitted within the lines and allowed to mix with the natives who regularly inhabit the town. The number of these "friendlies" has increased alarmingly and it is believed that fully 2,000 natives are now being fed from the common stores of Buluwayo. Thus, while it may be true that Buluwayo, thanks to its dynamite mines, barbed wire defenses, strong laager ground, the market place and half a dozen or so of rapid fire guns, is safe from an attempt to carry the place by storm, it is not safe from being reduced by starvation and it might even be captured if the "friendlies" were suddenly to rise some night and create a diversion within the lines which would enable the native impis to make a dash for the laagers.

The first of the relief corps from Mafeking is still believed to be about 150 miles distant from Buluwayo, and this body of men is really little more than an advance guard of the 500 or 600 men which the Chartered company's officials hope to throw into the besieged camp within a short time, but it is believed that serious fighting must occur before Buluwayo is relieved.

The one bright spot in this dark outlook is the fact that in the engagements which have hitherto taken place between the whites and the natives, the latter have almost invariably been beaten and with severe loss. In fact it is said that fully 1,200 Matabeles have already been killed, against which showing some 200 whites have been killed.

The rinderpest, which is delaying the advance of the relief corps and provision and ammunition trains, is also playing havoc with the cattle of the natives. The spor, or trail of a large body of natives, driving with them some 5,000 cattle, was marked at about every 100 yards by the carcass of a beast. This disease may therefore have more effect than the rifles of the whites in enabling the latter to hold the South African Lucknow, as Buluwayo is now termed, until relief reaches the little garrison.

TWO CONFLICTING STORIES.

LONDON, April 22.—The officials of the British South African Chartered company received today the following dispatch from Buluwayo, dated April 21: "The situation is most serious. There are 14,000 Matabeles within three miles and 1,150 friendly natives have arrived in town."

A dispatch to the Pall Mall Gazette from Buluwayo, published this afternoon, says: "Both Buluwayo and Gwelo are absolutely safe. The Matabeles are not disposed to attack, but are content with cutting off all bands of whites. It is believed that 300 whites, prospectors or farmers, have been murdered. In seven fights, nine whites and 1,000 Matabeles have been killed. The rebels are running short of ammunition."

MUST BE THE PARAMOUNT POWER.

Chamberlain Explains the Policy of England in South Africa.

LONDON, April 22.—Rt. Hon. Joseph Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies, made a speech at the Constitutional club tonight containing many interesting references to the political situation. He said the whole policy of Lord Rosebery, the late liberal premier, was a long record of unbroken failure. "Yet, he never loses a chance," Mr. Chamberlain said, "at sneering at his successor's efforts to preserve the peace and maintain the honor and interests of the empire."

With reference to the colonies, Mr. Chamberlain declared there were two governing factors in the situation in South Africa. The first was that England must continue to be the paramount power, and would, at all risks and costs, resist any foreign interference. The second was that, owing to the circumstance that the Dutch were likely for many years to be in the majority, it was the duty of statesmen to do their utmost to maintain the friendship between the English and Dtuch in Cape Colony. The Dutch in Cape Colony, he said, were as loyal as the French Canadians, but they sympathized with their kindred in two neighboring republics.

With reference to the anomalous situation of the Transvaal refusing the common rights of citizenship to a majority of its population, Mr. Chamberlain said that formerly the sympathies of the Dutch in South Africa, even the progressive Dutchmen of the Transvaal, were with the Unitlanders. Lately a revulsion of feeling had occurred, but he was confident that he would ere long restore the situation as it was before the invasion of the Transvaal. He intended, he asserted, to exhaust the resources of persuasion, argument and negotiation to attain that object. The Matabele rising, he pointed out, was quite a separate affair. The government was alive to its gravity, but it believed the local forces would be able to suppress it, and, therefore, did not intend, unless in an unexpected emergency, to send a large detachment of the British army to South Africa. British troops were unsuited for such warfare. Mr. Chamberlain appealed to the country to show calmness and reserve.

WEYLER IS GRIMLY CONFIDENT.

Captain General of Cuba Believes He is Slowly Crushing the Rebellion.

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HAVANA, Cuba, April 22.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—General Weyler is staking all on the present military movement. He is opposing the guerilla warfare by an almost geometric plan. I saw the captain general at the palace this afternoon. Trembling women, seeking pardon for prisoners, entered General Weyler's room one after another while I waited—mothers, sisters, wives, daughters. It was a painful scene. Cuba is shedding tears of blood today. When I entered the general's room a feeble old Cuban woman tottered out with tears in her eyes.

The grim commander spoke to me in short, sharp sentences. "The campaign is going magnificently for the Spanish army," he said, "we were never in better position. The war will soon be victoriously ended, possibly in eight or nine months at the most."

"How about Maceo?" I asked. "Will he cross the trocha?"

"No, senor, no," answered General Weyler, "Maceo will never cross the torcha, except as a prisoner. The day he attacks the trocha he will fall or be captured. It is utterly impossible for him to come eastward. I have a strong force on the whole line, and have also a large line of troops between Maceo's position i nthe northern mountains and the trocha."

"But," I said, "Jose Maceo is on the east side of the barrier. Suppose the two brothers should attack the line from different sides at different points on the same day?"

"Ah," replied General Weyler, "I have a strong force on this side, which keeps Jose Maceo's men divided into small bands and they cannot unite for such a maneuver."

"Why do you not attempt to force Maceo to a decisive battle now?"

"Maceo will not stand and fight," the general answered. "I have several independent columns which keep him moving about in the hills."

"But can you not surround him? He is apparently confined to a small district."

EXPECTS MACEO TO FLEE.

"Well," explained General Weyler, "that would simply mean chasing Maceo through the whole province. I don't propose to have my main force drawn forward from the trocha. I want the insurgents to attack the line."

"When do you look for an attempt to force your line?"

"Never," said General Weyler. "My opinion is that Maceo knows he is in a trap at last and will abandon his troops and escape from Cuba by water."

"You say the war will be brought to an end soon? How do you expect it to end?"

"As soon as the insurgents see that their cause is lose," General Weyler responded, "the small bands will begin to comein and give up their arms."

"Do you intend to proclaim a general amnesty?"

"Yes; but not now. There must be more fighting. The enemy must be severely punished in the field, and its power completely broken. Then I will offer amnesty, but not before."

The governor general's gray eyes flashed as he spoke, and his voice grew suddenly harsh.

"As I understand it," I said, "Maceo is waiting for the rains to fall so that the earthworks of the trocha will be washed down and the Spanish troops cannot stay in position."

"Let them wait," exclaimed General Weyler. "It will be as hard for them to fight in the mud as for my men. It will be harder to cross the trocha when the rains begin than now. I say again that our line cannot be broken. The Spanish force will stay in position, rain or no rain."

General Weyler laughed at the stories of secret executions. "All executions are public," he commented, "and in accordance with the sentence of the military court. We put insurgents to death only for crime. All who come in and lay down their arms are set free. You can make inquiries for yourself. You saw that old woman who left the room just now. She asked pardon for her son, who is a prisoner of war, and I granted it immediately."

HAS GOMEZ CORNERED.

In answer to my question about General Gomez, General Weyler said: "Gomez is in Santo Espirtu istdirict trying to raise a force to come to Maceo's relief. But he cannot succeed in coming westward. We have checked his movements. He can do nothing."

"Are you going to take the field in person against Maceo?"

"No, senor. I am a captain general, charged with the direction of the army. I must stay in Havana. Why should I become a mere commander of one column? The rebels would like nothing better than to have me go into the field and leave headquarters in confusion."

"Is it true that Maceo and Gomez have both sent letters to you daring you to appear personally at the head of your army?"

"There is not a word of truth in that story," answered the general.

So I left the captain general. I never saw a more confident man. General Maceo has need of all his cunning and valor now. Should General Weyler crush the flower of the rebel army in Pinar del Rio it would be a tremendous blow to the insurgent's cause. General Maceo has Bandera with him. He knows the extreme peril of his position and the importance of breaking through the trocha and uniting with the forces in the eastern province. His brother, Jose, is on this side of the trocha, doing his utmost to divert the Spanish force from its position at the barrier.

The Spanish commander of the trocha, General Arolas, is on the move along the line nights and days.

Some reports say General Maceo's men are starving, others say they have plenty of bananas and sweetpotatoes. The government claims that Maceo's whole force is exhausted and that many men are almost naked, but a person who saw Bandera's column a month ago says the men were well clothed.

Dawley and McCarthy O'Leary, two representatives of Harper's Weekly, are in prison in Matanzas. Spanish soldiers found them outside the lines. The prisoners have written here saying that it is all a mistake.

JAMES CREELMAN.

ALBERT DIAZ TO BE RELEASED.

Captain General Weyler Decides to Set Him at Liberty.

HAVANA, April 22.—Captain General Weyler, it became known this afternoon, has decided to release Rev. Albert Diaz and his brother, Alfred, from custody on condition that they will immediately leave Cuba.

A Protestant clergyman who has called upon the Diaz brothers since they have been in custody in the residence of the chief of police, Capello, was informed by the prisoners that they were treated with every consideration by Capello and his assistants. They have no complaint to make. The United States consul general, Mr. Williams, is actively engaged upon the case, and nothing will be left undone to provide for their comfort while in the hands of the police.

A dispatch from Matanzas says that two American newspaper correspondents, Messrs. Oleary and Daly, are detained by the authorities there.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—Consul General Williams has cabled Secretary Olney as follows: "Diaz is detained at police headquarters, occupying spacious, dry and well ventilated room in an upper story. Proceedings in his case are being hastened by orders from headquarters. A result is expected in a couple of days in his and Dygert's cases."

Osman Digma's Forces Demoralized.

SUAKIM, April 22.—The scouts report that a force of dervishes has arrived at Harasab from Asbat. The women of Osmand Digma's camp have been removed, owing to the fear it may be stormed by the Egyptians. Spies report that Osmand Digma's forces have dispersed to the hills. Osman Digma had over 100 killed and 100 wounded in the defeat. Osman is furious against the friendly Arabs who helped the Egyptians.

PEOPLE EAGER FOR PEACE

Spanish Public Anxious that the War in Cuba May Be Ended.

POLITICIANS PRESS FOR ITS CONTINUANCE

Jingoes and Reactionaries Goad the Government to Persistence in a Mistaken Policy, While the Inevitable Slowly Approches.

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MADRID, April 22.—(New York World Cablegram—Special Telegram.)—The report that an understanding is about to be reached between Spain and the United States in regard to Cuba is favorably received in financial and commercial circles, without stopping to inquire whether the welcome news is true or not. According to the current story, the Spanish government is to grant to Cuba very soon home rule on a much broader scale than contemplated in the bills which have so far passed the Cortes, and that this concession is to be supplemented by tariff reforms and a treaty of reciprocity to develop trade between the United States and the Spanish West Indies.

The Liberal says: "The Spanish mothers, whose 130,000 sons are about to be exposed to the deadly climate of Cuba during the rainy season; the Spanish taxpayers, who apprehend the consequences of the heavy cost of a prolonged civil war, and, indeed, the whole nation at heart, would gladly welcome the pacification of Cuba by an early, sincere concession of reforms now admitted by almost all Spanish politicians to be urgent and inevitable."

The report caused a sharp rise in all securities on the Madrid and Barcelona bourses and an improvement in rates of exchanges. In fact, it is obviously the prevalent impression that the best course for Spain to pursue is to bow to the pressure and circumstances ere it is too late, and to do with good grace what possibly may yet avert Cuban independence, as procrastination and misguided postponement of tardy concessions may lead to a conflict with America.

JINGOES NEVER SAY DIE.

On the other hand, directly the jingo papers perceived the drift of public opinion, they again started an anti-American campaign. The Herald opened fire by affecting to lament the decay of pride, patriotism and popular enthusiasm, predicting the successive loss to Spain of her colonies all over the world through foreign influence. The Imparcial follows suit, declaring that the nation will never allow its government to bow to American interference in favor of West Indian home rule. It upbraids Senor Moret for admitting the possibility of negotiations with President Cleveland, whose advances ought to be met with a clear, decisive refusal. Other jingo organs imitated the Imparcial, menacing the monarchy and its government with dire consequences if President Cleveland is not told to mind his own business.

This garconade originated in the combined efforts of the Cuban reactionary party and the military men, who want to utilize the patriotic agitation, fanned by the jingo press, to put pressure upon Premier Cano (as on the eve of the meeting of Parliament), just when everybody knows that American diplomacy will very soon have to elicit from the Spanish cabinet some precise and definite statement of its intentions.

I regret to have to say that marked hesitation is again visible in official circles, and the ministerial press seems to have instructions to say that the utmost that can be done is to carry out in part the administrative and economical reforms in Cuba and Porto Rico, but not the political reforms the insurgents submit unconditionally.

CANOVAS NOT READY TO YIELD.

Much importance is attached to an inspired article in El Diavlo, a conservative paper, stating that Premier Canovas entirely dissents from the opinion of Senor Moret, holding that the United States has no right to interfere in Cuba, and that if it tries to exert pressure in favor of Cuban autonomy all Spaniards will resist. The same paper says Premier Canovas is far from contemplating West Indian home rule, and that he has not even determined how far or when he will put into effect the bill passed last year which falls much short of autonomy, which Spaniards would never tolerate.

Singularly enough, today's Madrid papers publish minute details concerning an important autonomist and separatist agitation fast spreading among the natives of the Philipine islands in the east. Free Masons and foreigners are accused of encouraging this movement, whose prominent promoters demand representation in the Cortes, legislative assimilation with the mother country and the expulsion of the religious orders, because friars and Jesuits, more than the Spanish authorities, rule these colonies.

ARTHUR E. HOUGHTON.

BOURGEOIS PLANS A DEEP GAME.

Scheme Outlined that Seems Likely to Effectually Checkmate the Senate.

LONDON, April 22.—The Daily News correspondent at Paris says: M. Bourgeois appears to be playing a close tactical game, and he may yet disagreeably astonish the Senate. President Faure hardly knows which way to turn. A deputy tells me that M. Bourgeois has a scheme to get President Faure to resign on an agreement that he shall be re-elected. He would thus force the two chambers to meet as one at Versailles, a few articles to amend the constitution will be rushed through and M. Faure would return to the Elyse with the strongest government France has had for forty years.

The conservative and moderate republican newspapers this morning applauded the Senate for the stand it has taken against the Bourgeois ministry, saying they believe it impossible for the premier to remain in office, even should the Chamber of Deputies give him another vote of confidence.

The radical and socialist organs reproached M. Bourgeois for having "bowed before the Senate's vote," and spoke of his intended resignation as "desertion and abdication."

In some quarters the formation of a new cabinet is regarded as difficult, in view of the attitude of the radicals and socialists. According to the Matin, M. Brisson considers it quite anomalous for a cabinet to announce its intention to the Chamber before placing its resignation in the hands of the president.

It was reported this afternoon that President Faure had already accepted the resignation of the cabinet, although this could not be officially confirmed. It is not expected that the definite announcement of the acceptance of the cabinet's resignation by the president will be made until the meeting of the Chamber of Deputies, especially called for Thursday at 2 o'clock, though the regular time for its assembling was May 19. It is generally believed that President Faure will endeavor to form a cabinet of conciliation and concentration. M. Paytral, M. Meline and M. Bourgeois are mentioned as probable premiers. In the latter event, the Chamber of Deputies will pass a vote of confidence in the ministry.

According to the generally expressed opinion a new moderate ministry would not ease the situation. The socialists, it is said, are much excited and intend to employ the most violent language and by every means of intimidation prevent the working of the present constitution, in order to develop the agitation for a revision of the constitution. Any moderate premier, it is added, would be driven to daily struggles against the socialists, leading to uproarious scenes, and it is understood M. Bourgeois will not profit by the vote of confidence which may be adopted in the Chamber of Deputies tomorrow. Many of the radicals do not desire to retain M. Bourgeois as premier, merely to assert their political convictions, in view of the fact that an appeal to the electorate is in prospect.

DENVER BANK CLOSES ITS DOORS.

Failure of the American National and Run on Another.

DENVER, April 22.—The American National bank failed to open this morning. A notice was placed on the door to the effect that the directors had decided to liquidate. The step was taken on account of internal dissension. It is said all depositors will be paid in full. Zeph T. Hill is in charge of the bank on behalf of the government.

The announcement of the failure does not come as a surprise to the business men of Denver, nor indicate any lack of confidence in the general business situation.

The condition of the bank has been weak for a long time because of disagreements among the large stockholders, directors and officers.

The retirement from the directorate and the sale of the stock of several prominent and wealthy men have materially reduced the business of the bank and made it impossible to carry it on profitably under present conditions.

At the last report, made at the close of business March 6, the total deposits were $1,471,951; loans and discounts, $1,128,271; cash on hand, $232,265.

The capital stock of the bank is $500,000; surplus fund, $150,000. The assets of the bank amount to $2,245,173, and it is claimed that but little trouble will be experienced in realizing on them.

The following statement was taken from the books of the American National bank this morning: Resources, cash and exchange, $70,300; bills receivable, $1,078,600; stock and securities, $265,435; real estate, $136,590; excess on circulation, $22,000; total, $1,572,325.

Liabilities, individual deposits, $530,712; demand deposits, $28,698; time deposits, $66,297; due other banks, $97,024; borrowed money, $142,500; total, $885,231.

A comparison of this statement with that published in March shows that the bank's deposit and reserve have declined very rapidly. Over $200,000 were withdrawn Monday and Tuesday of this week, and there being only $70,000 left, the directors decided that the best thing to do was to close the bank.

Among the bank's assets are notes for $500,000, set aside for the reduction of the capital stock from $1,000,000 to $500,000, which was recently made, and one-fifth interest in the Strong mine at Cripple Creek.

The president of the bank is John R. Hanna. The directorate consists of some of the leading business men of Denver, including Fine P. Ernest, William and Moritz Barth, Mitchell Benedict and George W. Ballantine.

In consequence of the failure a run has been started on the National Bank of Commerce.

The run on the Bank of Commerce ended about noon. All demands were promptly met. At the other banks the deposits exceeded the withdrawals. President John R. Hanna of the American National bank, in a published statement over his signature, says: "The shrinkage of deposits and but comparatively few new customers to replenish the loss and the inability to collect our bills resulted in our inability to continue our business. I believe the depositors will eventually receive the entire amount due them. We have $650,000 excess of assets (exceeding our capital) over our liabilities. The stockholders also may be assessed $500,000 more, if necessary, to pay the depositors. With this surplus I cannot see any loss to them."

John R. Hanna, president, and Howard Evans, cashier of the American National bank, were arrested this evening on warrants from Justice Chapman's court, charging them with receiving deposits after the bank was known to be in a failing condition. Both were released on bonds.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—The comptroller of the currency has placed Bank Examiner Zeph T. Hill in charge of the American National bank of Denver. He is at present receiver of the German National bank at Denver.

CINCINNATI, April 22.—The piano firm of Crawford, Ebersols & Smith, located on Fifth street, near Vine, has assigned to D. D. Woodmansee. The liabilities are estimated at $800,000; assets, $1,000,000. The firm succeeded the old firm of Smith & Nixon, which was established in 1828.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., April 22.—T. C. & J. C. Miller, manufacturers of knit goods at Baldwinsville, have shut down their inworks and made a general assignment to Thomas H. Benton Crane, cashier of the First National bank of Amsterdam and Willis Wendell, also of Amsterdam. The industry was the largest in Baldwinsville and gave employment to 200 men, women, boys and girls. Members of the firm decline to give the amount of their assets and liabilities. Preferences are made for $66,000, exclusive of interest and pay of employes. The latter have not been paid for several weeks.

CHICAGO, April 22.—The Mason & Davis company, manufacturers of stoves and ranges, failed today and made John J. Whirl assignee. Assets, $73,600; liabilities, $107,000.

JOPLIN, Mo., April 22.—Owing to the depressed condition of the metal market and the light demand for spelter the Cherokee-Lanyon Spelter company, which controls a majority of the great zinc smelters of the country, will shut down twelve or fifteen furnaces this week.

RACINE, Wis., April 22.—The Hurlbut Manufacturing company made an assignment today to Edward Gillen, who gave a bond for $40,000. The failure is believed to be due to the recent fire in their factory.

STILL TALKING ON MILEAGE BOOKS.

Missouri River Adopted as a Dividing Line—Several Points Settled.

CHICAGO, April 22.—The general managers and passenger agents of the western roads were in session again today on the question of mileage tickets, and the matter is not yet settled conclusively. It has, however, been agreed that beginning May 1, 1,000-mile tickets shall be of the punch description, signature form; the same as the 2,000-mile tickets.

Mileage tickets, good in the territory west of the Missouri, are not to be honored east of the river except in specific cases, and tickets sold east of the river may not be used west of it. Auditors of the various lines are to make weekly reports to the chairman of the mileage bureau, furnishing a complete record of all 20,000 tickets sold and forwarding a copy of the signatures of all purchasers and their descriptions. All refunds are to be made through the chairman or his authorized representative. The chairman may make payments at his Chicago office or through agents at Omaha, Council Bluffs, St. Louis, Kansas City, St. Joseph, St. Paul, Minneapolis, Milwaukee and Sioux City, and at additional points if desirable.

WOMAN'S MISSIONS BOARD MEETS.

Addresses Given by Workers in the Fields of the Far East.

MILWAUKEE, April 22.—Today's session of the Woman's Presbyterian Board of Missions was opened with an address of welcome by Mrs. S. S. Williams. Mrs. Blair of Chicago responded in behalf of the board. Five minutes' synodical reports of the work in Colorado, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan and Minnesota were then listened to, and following this Mrs. Lucas of India gave a missionary address. Following the paper came the report of a few of the foreign secretaries, viz.: Mrs. Laura Angle of Japin, Miss Ellen Ward of Corea, Mrs. L. K. Stevens of China, Mrs. W. G. Craig of Siam.

Deaths of a Day.

PETERSBURG, Neb., April 22.—(Special Telegram.)—Benjamin Widaman died of paralysis this morning. He was 90 years of age. He came to Boone county in April, 1873. He leaves five children. Mrs. John Peters of Albion, W. H. Widaman of Norfolk, Mrs. Horace Wanzer of Santa Cruz, Cal., Reuben Widaman of Albion and Jacob Widaman of Petersburg, with whom he made his home.

LOWELL, Mass., April 22.—Hon. Francis Jewett, ex-mayor of this city, died suddenly of heart disease today. He was 75 years of age.

GRETNA, Neb., April 22.—(Special.)—Mrs. Catharine Schrader was found dead in her bed this morning at the home of Henry Sass, about four miles east of town. Coroner Hamilton was called, but decided that an inquest was unnecessary, death having been the result of apoplexy. The deceased was about 60 years of age, and leaves no family. The remains will be interred in the family cemetery Friday.

BRIDGE CASE IS SUBMITTED

All Sides of the Union Pacific-Rock Island-Milwaukee Contract Argued.

THURSTON PLEADS FOR ITS ABROGATION

Suggests to the Court that the Union Pacific Has No Right to Enter Trackage Arrangement with Other Roads.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—(Special Telegram.)—Two questions were presented to the supreme court today by Senator Thurston, representing the Union Pacific railroad in the Omaha bridge case. The first was whether a railroad company, chartered under the laws of the United States, could grant to one or more railroads right to participate in emoluments of a chartered government road and fully enjoy the benefits accruing from the use of such main and passing tracks. In other words, whether a rival line, having entirely separate interests, chartered under state laws, could be given power that would take away from a government road every essence of such existence. The second question depended entirely upon whether the Union Pacific, chartered to operate a line of road from Council Bluffs to Ogden, could grant to eastern lines the use of its main and passing tracks for such yearly rentals as it might succeed in obtaining, thereby diminishing its earning capacity and eventually wiping out the objects for which it was incorporated. He said he was willing to submit these two questions to the court for settlement now and for all time.

MR. PECK'S POSITION.

Mr. Peck began the morning hour with a citation as to how the Union Pacific came into existence; that it was born in the era of a great war and for the great purpose of linking the east with the west—the Atlantic with the Pacific. He commenced a legal presentation of what appeared to him main points at the bar in this case. Whether the contract, lease, or whatever the instrument might be named, which passed a consideration between the Union Pacific on one side and the Rock Island and Milwaukee on the other, was of such a character that a court of equity could enforce or terminate. He admitted that the contract, running for 999 years, although most perpetual in character, could be terminated by three years' time by his company, but could never be terminated by the Union Pacific railroad. Passing over the ground taken by his associate, Chancellor Woolworth, he showed how twenty-three lines of railroad entered Chicago; how multitudinous were the ramifications of Chicago stock yards and how the trains of many railroads are handled by one corporation. He argued that it was surplus trackage which the Union Pacific granted to the Rock Island and Milwaukee, and which the supreme court had passed upon. There was no question in his mind but that the contract was entirely within the province of those who made it.

Mr. Thurston wanted the court to cut to the roots of the contract, but wanted it to hold the whole question in statu quo until the Milwaukee and Rock Island could build a bridge across the Missouri river, as originally intended.

At 2 o'clock the case was submitted and the sugar beet case, in which General Manderson is interested, was called for argument.

MAY AID THE SETTLERS.

General Manderson and Land Commissioner Baldwin of the Burlington system had an interview today with Secretary Smith and Commissioner of the General Land Office Lamoreaux relative to suits begun in the district court of Nebraska against the settlers on Burlington lands. Statements made convinced Secretary Smith that something should be done, and he stated in his opinion the settlers should be protected in their rights. Judge Lamoreaux concurred in this and Secretary Smith stated that he would indicate to the attorney general that these suits commenced in Nebraska, for which an extension of time was obtained, should be dismissed. Judge Lamoreaux said that the good faith of the purchasers had been well established. General Manderson will address the supreme court tomorrow on the sugar bounty cases coming up from the Louisiana circuit. He took these cases before Comptroller Bowler and later to Secretary of Treasury Carlisle. It had been thought that General Manderson would not argue the case, but at the instance of Choate and Semmes of the counsel he will open for the planters tomorrow in a case in which Nebraska is largely interested.

The Fort Omaha transfer bill is in danger, and all because the War department, after repeated requests for an opinion, has recalled what had been said when effort was being made to remove the fort to the other location, as to its value. Senator Walthall has been appointed a subcommittee to pass upon the question, and he is inclined to make an adverse report, on the theory that the old reservation could be sold for a large sum of money. Efforts are being made to have him suspend his report pending expert testimony as to the value of the land, which he claims would be a donation if passed along the lines of the house bill.

BOLSTERING GLASGOW'S CLAIM.

A petition signed by nearly 200 citizens and business men of South Omaha has been received by Representative Mercer, asking that the Glasgow block be selected by the secretary of the treasury for the site on which to erect the government postoffice.

Captain George Andrews, Twenty-fifth infantry, is ordered to Columbus, O., for duty with the National Guard of that state.

Four months additional leave is granted Second Lieutenant Sawyer Blanchard, First artillery.

Lieutenant Garland N. Whistler, Fifth artillery, secures an extension of six months leave.

R. N. Seydel has been appointed postmaster at Ladora, Iowa county, Ia., and Edwin C. Clifford at Roanoke, Faulk county, S. D.

CLEVELAND HAS A NARROW ESCAPE

One of the Horses Slips and the Carriage and Harness Suffer.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—An accident to the team which President Cleveland was driving to Woodley this evening caused alarming statements as to the safety of the president to spread quickly over the city. Cleveland left the White house at 6:30 o'clock and just after crossing a car track on the city's boundary the right horse slipped and fell. The other horse, becoming frightened, plunged about and himself fell over the pole of the carriage and on top of his mate. A large crowd gathered and the frightened horses were quieted. The president had remained cool and stepped from the victoria. By cutting some of the harness, the horses were liberated. A lamp had been kicked off the carriage, but other than this the vehicle suffered no damage. The president continued to Woodley in the carriage of Mr. Gardiner Hubbard.

Filled Cheese a Matter of Finance.

WASHINGTON, April 22.—The senate committee on agriculture today agreed to report the filled cheese bill as it passed the house, with a recommendation that it be referred to the finance committee on the ground that it is a financial bill.

Kansas G. A. R. Business Finished.

BELOIT, Kan., April 22.—The state encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic practically completed its labors tonight by electing officers as follows: Department commander, W. C. Whitney; senior vice commander, Ed H. Jones; junior vice commander, D. S. Elliott. The following presidents were elected: Ladies' Aid society, May Olmstead; Sons of Veterans, G. W. Herrington; Women's Relief Corps, Julia Chase. The encampment next year will be held at Chanute and the soldiers' reunion at Topeka.

MARYLAND IS NOT FOR M'KINLEY.

Republicans Voted Down a Proposal to Instruct for the Ohio Man.

BALTIMORE, April 22.—United States Senator-elect George L. Wellington, as chairman of the state central committee, called the Maryland republican state convention to order today. Governor Lowndes and most of the republican state officials were present, but Mayor Hooper of Baltimore, also a republican, was absent. The proportion of colored delegates was small.

From the talk previous to the assembling of the convention it was apparent that there would be but little friction during the proceedings, though some of the eastern delegates declared their intention of opposing the gold plank in the platform.

In his speech calling the convention to order Mr. Wellington predicted that the sixteen electoral votes of Maryland would be cast for the republican nominees. He believed, he said, that the republicans of Maryland would declare for protection, which is part of the warp and woof of the character of William McKinley, the great statesman from Ohio. At this there was a storm of applause followed by another when the speaker mentioned the name of Reed in connection with the expression of the hope that the convention would declare for sound money.

Hon. A. Barnes of Worcester county was made temporary chairman. In a brief speech he assumed the gavel. Mr. Barnes advocated protection and a "dollar which would be a dollar the world over." Allusions to Reed and McKinley were loudly applauded.

A delegate offered a resolution instructing the delegation to use all honorable means to secure the nomination of McKinley. This was greeted with cheers and referred as was also another resolution that the preponderance of sentiment among Maryland republicans was in favor of McKinley and requesting the delegates to act accordingly. The convention then took a recess for half an hour to give the committees time to prepare their reports.

Before the reports of the committees on permanent organization and resolutions were presented, the convention listened to a speech by General Adam E. King, formerly United States consul general in Paris, France. Loud calls for "Waller" brought out the ex-consul general to Madagascar to the front of the stage. In a brief speech he congratulated the republicans of Maryland for having redeemed the state for democratic rule. The committee on permanent organization recommended that General H. M. Clabaugh be made permanent chairman and that the temporary secretary and vice presidents become part of the permanent organization. The election of delegates-at-large was taken up and George L. Wellington of Cumberland, James A. Cary and William T. Malster of Baltimore and Robert P. Graham of Salisbury were unanimously elected. Wellington Bryant of Baltimore, William E. Fletcher of Annapolis, H. M. Sinclair of Glenville, Dorchester county, and L. N. Rittenhouse of Baltimore were elected alternates. General Adam E. King and J. Cookman Boyd, both of Baltimore, were chosen presidential electors-at-large.

It was almost 5 o'clock before the report of the committee on resolutions was reached.

As soon as the report was read Hammond Urner offered as a substitute the resolution previously offered, instructing the delegates to use every honorable means to secure the nomination of McKinley at St. Louis. This evoked the greatest enthusiasm of the day, the galleries and many of the delegates joining in the applause. Mr. Urner made a stirring speech in favor of his resolutions and the applause was repeated. Sidney E. Mudd, speaker of the Maryland house of representatives, spoke in opposition to the Urner resolutions.

After further discussion a vote was taken by counties, resulting in the decisive defeat of the McKinleyites by a vote of 98 to 15, even the Frederick county delegates, who were instructed for McKinley, casting a majority of their votes against the amendment. As soon as this result was announced Douglas A. Hargett, also from Frederick county, attempted to present a resolution declaring that the emphatic preference of the convention was for McKinley for president. This was shouted down and the resolutions as presented by the committee were adopted, after which the convention adjourned sine die.

RECIPROCITY AND SOUND MONEY.

Connecticut Republicans Decline to Endorse any Favorite Son.

NEW HAVEN, April 22.—It was fully half an hour after the time appointed for the reassembling of the Connecticut republican convention when that body was ready to proceed to business.

Ex-Congressman William E. Simonds was made permanent chairman. After a brief address, the chairman called for nominations for delegates-at-large to the national republican convention, and the following were chosen: Ex-Governor Morgan Bulkley of Hartford, Hon. John I. Hutchinson of Essex, Arthur H. Brewer of Norwich and Hon. Samuel Fessenden of Stamford.

The platform opens with a declaration in favor of a protective tariff and the reciprocity plan advocated by the late James G. Blaine. Upon the currency question the convention says: "We are unalterably opposed to the issue of unsecured paper currency, either by the government or by the banks, or the free coinage of silver at any ratio, and we favor a single standard of value, and that standard gold. We believe that this policy, with a sound and stable currency upon a gold basis, will furnish revenue to meet all requirements of the government and properly support it."

In other sections the report of the platform declares for discriminating duties in favor of American bottoms; for adherence to the Monroe doctrine; for increased coast defense and a larger navy; for the exclusion of paupers, insane and criminal immigrants; and for the care of deserving soldiers and sailors of the union.

The electoral vote of Connecticut is pledged to whoever may be the nominee of the republican national convention for the presidency.

Upon the call of Chairman Simonds, the various county chairmen reported the nominations for delegates-at-large made at last night's caucuses. This set the convention ratified as follows: Hartford county, James A. Cheney of South Manchester; New London county, Thomas H. Allen of Sprague; Fairfield county, Edward A. Keele of Norwalk; Windham county, Charles E. Searles of Thomson; Litchfield county, Hubert Wilson of Salisbury; Middlesex county, John M. Douglas of Middletown; Tolland county, George Sykes of Rockville; New Haven county, Rufus W. Blake of Derby.

In less than an hour from the time the convention was called to order its business was finished and adjournment followed. Neither Reed nor McKinley were mentioned to the convention. Among the delegates, however, there was considerable enthusiasm for these two aspirants for the presidential nomination. No other candidates seemed to be thought of.

ENDORSE CLEVELAND AND SILVER.

Alabama Democrats Send Delegates to Chicago with Definite Orders.

MONTGOMERY, Ala., April 22.—The democratic state convention today adopted a platform for the free coinage of silver at 16 to 1 and instructed the delegates to Chicago to vote as a unit on that and all other questions. President Cleveland was endorsed on everything except finance, and the administration of Governor Oates was also endorsed.

The convention then nominated Joseph F. Johnston for governor and after speeches from Johnston and Clarke adjourned for dinner.

The convention elected the following delegates-at-large to the national convention: Hon. John Bankhead, Fayette county; Hon. A. H. Keiler, Colbert county; John Knox, Calhoun county; Hon. A. C. Lane, Jefferson county. Also delegates from the nine congressional districts.

Two More for McKinley.

DETROIT, April 22.—The First district republican congressional convention adopted strong McKinley resolutions and elected David E. Meginnity and Freeman B. Dickerson delegates to the national convention.

FREE SILVER DELEGATES

White Metal Wing of Nebraska's Democracy Chooses Its Chicago List.

FAITH IN FREE COINAGE PLEDGED ANEW

Platform Unequivocally Pronounces for the Bryan Dogma on Finance and Tariff and Denounces Secret Political Organizations.

Delegates at Large—
HON. W. J. BRYAN of Lancaster county.
HON. C. J. SMYTHE of Douglas county.
HON. W. H. THOMPSON of Hall county.
HON. W. D. OLDHAM of Buffalo county.
Alternates at Large—
HARRY BOYDSTON of Otoe county.
EDGAR HOWARD of Satpy county.
C. O. GILBERT of York county.
DR. KEIPER of Pierce county.

LINCOLN, April 20.—(Special.)—The free silver democratic state convention was not called to order until nearly 3 o'clock. The hour announced in the call was 2 p. m. The delay was caused by the Fourth congressional district, whose delegates occupied the hall until a late hour, electing their district delegates to