The Weather Today.

Partly cloudy; no change in temperature; variable winds.

The Morning Times

226,239 was the TIMES' circulation for last week.

The STAR'S circulation for last week was.. 176,765

VOL. III. NO. 1,008. WASHINGTON, D. C., SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1896—SIXTEEN PAGES. THREE CENTS.

KING'S PALACE.

Useful Holiday Gifts

Nothing more useful for wife, mother, sweetheart or daughter, than a Cape or a Jacket. No time so propitious for Cloak buying as just now, when special good fortune brings you the finest makes and the latest styles at half price. A cloak maker dissolving partnership sold us his entire stock at just fifty cents on the dollar.

Great Half Price Sale of Jackets and Capes.

$8, $7, $6 and $5 Jackets and Capes,

$3.98

In this lot are elegant quality Boucle Jackets, Astrakhan Cloth Jackets, Irish Frieze Jackets, Beaver Cloth Jackets, Beaver and Chevron Cloth Capes, and Kersey Capes — some plain, some fur trimmed, some silk lined. Jackets in box or Franklin style. Capes with full sweep.

$12, $10 and $8 Jackets and Capes,

$5.98

Among these are all lined Astrakhan Cloth Jackets, Kersey Jackets, Irish Frieze, Chevron and Boucle Cloth Jackets, Salt Seal Plush Capes, Genuine Astrakhan Cloth Capes, Kersey, Beaver and Chevron Cloth Capes. Jackets in box and shield front styles, silk lined and plain or fur trimmed. Capes in all lengths, plain, jet or fur trimmed.

$20, $17 and $14 Jackets and Capes,

$8.98

Splendid lot of extra quality Persian Astrakhan Cloth Jackets, Novelty Cloth Jackets, Kersey Broadcloth Jackets, Magnificent Cloth Capes, Persian Astrakhan Cloth Capes, Jackets in box or empire styles and tight-fitting effects, all colors, plain or fur trimmed, many all silk lined, some with deep storm collars. Capes in very latest styles.

Low Prices for Other Gifts.

21c and 19c. Ladies' Embroidered Handkerchiefs, a beautiful imported sample line at

12½c

50c. and 35c. Ladies' Handkerchiefs, scalloped edges,

25c

10c. and 5c. Handkerchiefs, fancy and mourning borders,

2½c

Elegant line of Ladies' and Gentlemen's Umbrellas—good silk, fancy or natural handles, for

$1.75

$1.25 Real Kid Gloves, a fine lot in four button, two clasp and lace effects, in black, tans, reds, modes and whites,

88c

Closing Day's Cutting of Toy Prices.

$2.25 Iron Tricycles.....$1.69
$1.00 Large Express Wagons, 68c
$3.00 Large Express Wagons, $2.19
$4.00 Large Rockhounds....$2.98
$8.00 Large Combination Oak Table and Desk.....$1.98
$1.25 Large Size Trunks.....89c
$1.25 Sleds and Coasters.....95c
$1.50 Tool Chests.....$1.10
$1.39 Iron Toys, all kinds..98c
75c. Iron Toys, all kinds.....49c
$1.00 Combination Desk and Blackboard.....65c
35c. and 25c. Dolls.....17c
75c. Dolls.....48c
$1.00 Dolls.....79c
$3.00 Baby Carriages.....$2.25
$1.25 Rolls Carriages.....98c
$1.39 Uniform Sets, Police, Soldiers, Firemen, Cavalry.

King's Palace,

812-814 Seventh Street.

Branch Store, 715 Market Space.

NIENSEE IS DEAD.

Young Washingtonian's Suicidal Bullet Proved Fatal.

John Randolph Niensee of this city, who shot himself in Baltimore on Friday night, died last evening.

The young man's mother and sister, who reside at No. 1813 Ninth street, left yesterday for the Monumental city. The funeral will take place today at 2 o'clock p. m. and the burial will be in Baltimore.

Australian Wool in California

San Francisco, Dec. 19.—Large importations of Australian wool are being made here. All steamers arriving from Australia recently have had large consignments and the next steamer from Sydney has 30,000 bales among her cargo. Expected changes in the wool schedules of the tariff laws after March 4 are responsible for the large shipments.

Bluff Cost Him His Life.

Richmond, Va., Dec. 19.—News reaches here that on Thursday in Essex county Eddie Martin entered the store of Thomas E. Kay and picked a quarrel with him. After Kay had requested friends to remove Martin the latter put his hand to his pistol pocket and threatened to shoot Kay, whereupon the latter drew and fired upon Martin with fatal effect.

Voted to Continue the Strike.

Hamburg, Dec. 19.—A ballot was taken by the striking dock laborers today with a view of ascertaining the sense of the strikers upon the question of continuing the strike or resuming work. The result of the balloting was that 7,265 voted in favor of a continuance of the strike and 3,671 in favor of abandoning the struggle and going back to work.

CAUTIOUS IN EXPRESSION.

Governor Flower Thinks Time for Interference Has Not Come.

New York, Dec. 19.—The leading financiers and business men of New were, as a rule, cautious about expressing an opinion on the Cuban resolution last night. Most of them said that the information in the possession of the public in regard to the condition of affairs in Cuba was insufficient to warrant an expression. Their attitude, in the main, was indicated by former Gov. Roswell P. Flower, who said:

"I don't know what the circumstances are in Cuba, or the form of government which exists there, and I should prefer to be guided by the State Department, because I think its information must be authentic. If all the stories about butcheries are true they appeal to my sympathies just as strongly as the treatment of the Armenians in Turkey.

"I know Congress so well that it will take from now until March to pass this resolution; and when it has been passed, if the State Department has no further news from Cuba of a different character, I shall expect a veto of it from President Cleveland."

A few took strong ground against the passage of the resolution. George F. Williams, president of the Chemical National Bank, who was one of them, said:

"It seems to me that the resolution is an unwise interference with the affairs of Spain, and that the time for its adoption has not yet come. To adopt the resolution now would be forcing matters, and would do Spain an injustice. If the declaration in the resolution is carried out it will result in war. The Spanish are a fighting people, and they are not going to give up Cuba without a struggle."

Ivy Institute Business College, 8th and K. None better $25 a year, day or night.

Holiday Shoppers.

If you want to know how big your DOLLAR is—how large its PURCHASING power, bring it to US and

Measure its value

by the number and quality of suitable gifts it will purchase for the Men and Boys. Articles which EVERYBODY wants and which under the conditions of this DISSOLUTION sale are yours at a valuation which makes the purchasing power of

Your Dollar

greater than ever in the WORLD'S HISTORY. There are Suits, Overcoats, Ulsters, for Men and Boys. Hats, Shoes, Fancy Slippers, Mackintoshes, Fancy Vests, Canes and Umbrellas, Suspenders, Gloves, Mufflers, and Handkerchiefs, HUNDREDS OF OTHER USEFUL ARTICLES, which would be APPRECIATED by the recipient.

ROBINSON, CHERY & CO.,

12th and F Streets N. W.

MEN IN CHARGE OF MARCH FOURTH

Complete List of Inaugural Committees Made Public.

BALL WILL BE HELD AT THE PENSION OFFICE

Various Details of the Great Celebration Decided by the Executive Committee—Tickets Will Be Five Dollars Each—Streets to Be Illuminated With Arches of Light at All Intersections—Line of March Arranged—Cheap Fares Secured From Railroads.

The executive committee for the inauguration met last night at the Glover building and transacted a large amount of business, preparatory to that interesting event.

Gen. Dudley announced the death of Capt. Lemon, who was a member of the finance committee. Messrs. Dudley, Norris and Simon Wolf were appointed to draft resolutions on this announcement, which, with a fitting preamble, were adopted.

The subcommittees so far as passed on by the committee, were approved and adopted. They will be found below. Notice will be given of any necessary changes.

The letter from Mark Hanna which was published in the Evening Times, was read and also the appointment of Mr. Macauley as chairman of the floor committee.

The committee decided to have the ball at the Pension Office, and the request will be made for the use of the same, and for the concerts and promenade of the following day, from the Secretary of the Interior.

PRICE OF BALL TICKETS.

The price of tickets to the ball was fixed at $5 for each person.

Mr. Thompson of the committee on finance reported the guarantee of about $35,000 of the $50,000 expected and that, beginning on Monday, the names of all contributors to the fund would be published.

The committee on behalf of visitors will make a request of the various transportation companies to make the limit of tickets from February 25 to March 12, a much shorter limit having been granted by the roads.

Petitions for various privileges were referred to the appropriate committees.

Mr. Willard reported that a number of parks and reservations had already been secured for grand stand privileges.

The public comfort committee announced that it had already secured accommodations for 7,295 visitors.

The joint Trunk Line Association and the central passenger committee submitted rates for the visit. The former controls most roads west from New York and the latter, other roads from New York as far west as Peoria, Ill., and St. Louis.

SPECIAL RAILROAD RATES.

From the trunk line association there will be a rate of two cents a mile, not to exceed $8 from New York, $10 from Pittsburg, $11 from Buffalo; tickets to be sold March 1, 2, 3, 4; good to return till March 8. On the central passenger committee lines one fare for the round trip, for sale March 1, 2, 3 and 4; good to return not earlier than March 4 nor later than March 8. Open tickets without stamp or signature will be sold.

Mr. M. I. Weller, of the committee of fireworks and illuminations, proposed illuminated arches at the intersection of all streets, from First to Seventeenth, with Pennsylvania avenue. These arches are not to span the Avenue. Permission will be asked of the Commissioners, if necessary, for the stringing of the electric wires for this purpose.

Fifty thousand paper flags have been ordered for the decoration of houses.

Chairman Bell will confer with the grand marshal with the view of having the parade prolonged from the Capitol to Washington Circle, and not dismissed after the review by the President, opposite the White House.

The committee also has in view the obtaining of houses which may be then vacant for the accommodation of guests during the festivities. This may be necessary for the great throng expected.

COMMITTEE ON STREET DECORATION.

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COMMITTEE ON INVITATIONS AND TICKETS.

George Gibson, chairman; Charles E. Beach, John Cameron, William T. Collins, Clarence H. Duffey, Frank M. Evans,

Continued on Eighth Page.

CABINET RUMOR DENIED.

Sherman Not to Be Secretary of State.

Chicago, Dec. 19.—Major McKinley spent the night at Evanston and returned by rail to Chicago this morning. Before he left Evanston he had an interview with Judge W. R. Day, of Canton, who is spoken of frequently in connection with the office of Attorney General.

Archbishop Ireland called on Major McKinley at noon and had a long and pleasant chat with him. Major McKinley has no plans for the day.

Gen. Wesley Merritt and his staff called on Major McKinley shortly after 12 o'clock. The rumor by way of Washington, that Senator Sherman was to be Secretary of State, is quite without adequate foundation.

PENITENTIARY IN A BLAZE

Jefferson City Prison Burning and Some Prisoners Missing.

MEN RELEASED TO FIGHT FIRE

Convicts Are Stampeded and Many Will Probably Escape—Fire Is Believed to Have Been Started by an Inmate to Secure Freedom. Flames Not Under Control.

Jefferson City, Mo., Dec. 20.—At about 11:45 last night a fire was discovered in the State clothing department of the State penitentiary in cell building No. 2 of the penitentiary. It is not known how the fire originated, but it is supposed that one of the convicts set it on fire by placing some shavings under some of the boxes, and just as he was marching out for supper he dropped a lighted match.

At 1 o'clock this (Sunday) morning the fire was still making headway. Fifteen trusty convicts have been released from their cells for the purpose of aiding the city fire department, all of them are working hard in the hopes of being rewarded for their services by a pardon or their sentence cut down.

CONVICTS ESCAPE.

In transferring the convicts from the burning cell building into number one, two of the convicts were missed. They cannot escape, however, unless they should happen to get citizens' clothing, which is not very likely.

Nobody but persons connected with the prison and members of the press are being permitted to enter inside the big gate. The convicts that are in the cell are acting like mad men, jumping up and down, yelling loud enough to awaken the dead.

The Star Clothing Company's plant, which is located in the same building, next door to the State clothing department, is also on fire, but the Star Clothing Company will soon be under control.

STATE BUILDING DAMAGED.

The foreman of the State Department could not be seen, but Mr. George Elston, of the Star Clothing Company, estimates their loss at about $1,000, fully insured. The damage to the State department will probably be about $1,800. As the building is fireproof, the damage will only amount to about $500.

The penitentiary is located about three miles out from the city and contains about 2,500 prisoners. J. L. Rice is the warden.

LONDON COMMENT.

Papers Think Senate Action Will Amount to Nothing.

London, Dec. 19.—The afternoon papers generally comment at more or less length on the action of the Foreign Relations Committee of the United States Senate, in regard to Cuba. The tenor of the articles are that nothing will come of the matter, at least in the near future.

"The true time for issuing such a declaration, if it is best to issue it at all, is where a revolt has its organized government prepared by law for war on either element, or both, and when some act involving the open intention and the fact of war has been performed by one or both of the parties.

"Here are two facts, the one political, the other pertaining to the acts of a political body. The fact of war is either a declaration of war or some other implying it, like a proclamation of blockade, or, it may be, actual armed contest."

SEEKS DIVORCE IN OKLAHOMA.

Wealthy New Yorker Wants to Rid Himself of His Wife.

Perry, Okla., Dec. 19.—Bernard G. Meinikheim, a civil engineer of New York, has sued his wife, Lucinda C., for divorce, alleging cruelty.

They were married in 1868, and one son, Frank, a prominent New York business man, is the only child.

Meinikheim is said to be very wealthy while his wife is now a teacher in a public school in New York. It is expected that she will contest the suit.

BOUND EASTWARD.

Queen Lil to Leave San Francisco for Boston.

San Francisco, Dec. 19.—Ex-Queen Liliuokalani is expected to leave this evening for the East. She will go direct to Boston, so it is given out, and not to Canton or Washington. In Boston she will visit the relatives of her late husband.

Where she will go from Boston is unknown, but it is stated that it will probably be to Washington and later likely to England.

Steel Workers Discharged.

Pittsburg, Pa., Dec. 19.—One hundred men employed in the converting mill of the Carnegie Steel Company at Duquesne were dismissed today because of the introduction by the company of the direct process of manufacture of steel. The new process makes steel from the molten iron as it flows from the blast furnaces, thereby saving the cost of casting at the furnaces and of remelting in the converting mill.

Bituminous Miners' Strike Ended.

Terre Haute, Ind., Dec. 19.—The bituminous miners' strike came to an end this morning. The men of the four big companies in Vigo, Park and Vermillion counties, have voted to accept 55 cents. It is expected that operators elsewhere, who conceded 60 cents, will ask for a reduction. The strike has been on since May 1.

OLNEY PRAISED AND DENOUNCED

His Utterance Allays War Talk in Spain.

POPULACE IS VERY BITTER

In Spite of the Conciliatory Tone of the Government They Urge Fight—Ministry, However, Refuses to Regard This Country as an Enemy.

Madrid, Dec. 19.—The excitement in this city and elsewhere in Spain, caused by the receipt of the news of the action of the Foreign Relations Committee of the American Senate in deciding to report in favor of the independence of Cuba, was intense.

A wave of popular indignation has swept over the whole country and bitter feeling against the United States has been greatly intensified. There is no denying the fact that popular feeling is in favor of boldly defying the United States and notifying the American government that Cuba will be retained by Spain if it takes her last dollar and last man to uphold her sovereignty.

In the cafes and every public place the situation is excitedly discussed and everywhere the determination is expressed to uphold the government to the last extremity in maintaining its rights.

ALLAYED BY OLNEY.

The government itself, while deprecating the action of the committee, maintains a dignified attitude, and though some uneasiness was at first expressed, this has been allayed by the receipt of dispatches containing Secretary of State Olney's statement to the effect that no matter what action the Congress may take on the Cameron resolution, the recognition of the independence of Cuba rests entirely with the American Executive.

The action of President Cleveland and Secretary Olney has heretofore met with the high approval of the government, and the opinion is freely expressed in government circles that there is scarcely a probability that there will be any change in her attitude on the Cuban question.

WILL CONCEDE REFORM.

It is stated on good authority that Spain has notified the American government that it is willing to go far to meet the views of the United States regarding administrative reforms in the Spanish West Indies. It will, it is said, concede at an early date, autonomy to Puerto Rico on the lines laid down in the bill adopted by the Cortez last year. When the situation in Cuba warrants such action reforms will be inaugurated there that will prove satisfactory to all concerned.

Of course, the government will not for a moment consider any question involving the abandonment of the Island, and it can be emphatically stated that it would not dare to do so. The temper of the people is fairly aroused and any government, Conservative or Liberal, would be signing its own death warrant should it ever suggest the ending of the Spanish rule in Cuba.

MINISTRY IS RETICENT.

Efforts have been made to obtain authoritative statements from some of the ministers as to the situation, but they decline at present to express any views on the subject.

It can be stated, however, that in government circles no idea of war growing out of the Cuban resolution is entertained, and it is believed that the professions of friendship made by President Cleveland and Mr. Olney through Mr. Hannis Taylor, the American minister here, are thoroughly sincere.

An important factor is the Cortez, which at present is not in session. It is thought that that body might be compelled by popular clamor, were it in session, to take some action that would result in the overthrow of the government, but as it does not meet for several months, all danger from that source is eliminated.

Senor Canovas del Castillo, the prime minister, has always believed that the Cuban matter would not cause war with the United States, and he also believes that the ranting of American and Spanish jingoes will fall on deaf ears when the common sense of the people of both countries has had time to reassert itself. But he will maintain all the prerogatives of sovereignty in Cuba and will not yield to threats no matter whence the source.

Every precaution has been taken to guard against any outbreak by the people, and it is hoped that the excitement and indignation that have been aroused will subside without it being necessary to call upon the military to suppress disorders.

All the newspapers here express the most intense indignation because of the unwarranted interference of the United States with the rights of Spain.

TRIP MAY BE ABANDONED.

Difficult Task to Secure Players for Yale Consolidated Eleven.

New Haven, Conn., Dec. 19.—The leaders of the plan to take a Yale consolidated eleven to New Orleans and other points South during the Christmas recess, are conferring with a view to giving up the scheme. Manager Durant of the team said today:

"I do not know who the players are, and I care less. I was asked to manage the affair and did so under a contract, but I took no active interest in it, and never intended to go on the trip myself. I have been paid for my work. I think, however, that Capt. Sanford will have a good team."

Foster Sanford, the Cornell coach, who is to captain the team, said today that, although the Yale-Princeton-Brown and some of the Cornell players had declined to go, he had almost enough first-class men to make the trip and it had not been finally decided to abandon it yet.

For Good City Government League.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 19.—Clinton Rodgers Woodruf, secretary of the National Municipal League, announces that the next national conference for good city government will be held at Louisville, Ky., on May 5, 6 and 7. The conference will be under the auspices of the National Municipal League.

Children Played With Matches

Children playing with matches caused a blaze about 12:15 o'clock this afternoon in the house of Mary Bell, No. 109 Chew's alley northwest. An alarm of fire was turned in at Lieut. Kelly's station. The garments of the children caught fire, but were extinguished before the little ones had been burned. Damage to house, slight.

Watch for a town. Congress Heights.

Chandler Says It Is Without Reason or Precedent.

IS A DEFIANCE OF CONGRESS

Other Public Men Discuss His Statement—Views Colored by Politics. Cuba's Friends Criticise Him Most Severely—Chance of the Resolution's Passage.

Secretary Olney's statement regarding the Cuban resolution was received by members of the House without any manifestation of surprise. A few members thought that the Secretary's announcement raised a grave constitutional question, and one of the number, Mr. Pearson, of North Carolina, commented on "its tone of infallibility," which, in his judgment, was not justified by the first article of the Constitution.

Mr. Moody of Massachusetts, thought that the consideration of the abstract question which the Secretary's statement raises is likely to obscure, for a time at least, the consideration of the Cuban question. Mr. Livingstone of Georgia strongly dissented from the President's position, and thought that if he maintains it he may make himself liable to impeachment.

Generally speaking, however, the Secretary's position was regarded as clarifying the atmosphere and throwing a fresh obstacle in the path of Congress to interpose in the struggle between Spain and her colony.

ACTUATED BY VARIOUS MOTIVES.

Various considerations influence the members. The larger number think that the question should be left for the new administration to settle, while others who represent business constituencies fear that the probability of war would seriously disturb existing conditions at the very moment that manufacturers and others are anticipating a revival of better times from the adoption of a new tariff policy.

Many members who deprecate any action on the part of Congress which might be construed by Spain as an unfriendly act, would doubtless be driven by the force of the popular will at home to support the Senate resolution, and do not, for that reason, wish to be quoted.

The intimation privately given is that their influence will be quietly exerted to pigeon-hole the resolution in committee until the session is too far advanced to make its adoption advisable.

EXPRESSIONS OF MEMBERS.

Senator Chandler of New Hampshire: "This statement by Mr. Olney is the most preposterous proposition ever emitted by an enraged executive, and has no foundation whatever, either in reason or precedent. The President and Secretary are guilty of uttering the grossest defiance of Congress that can be imagined.

"No President or Secretary, with any length of time to serve before him, would have dared to assert to the world that they are the government of the United States, in spite of any enactment of Congress. This manifesto is intended to encourage Spanish sympathizers and to discourage the friends of the Cuban republic. It is intended to induce the cowardly commercial spirit of the country to demand the prolongation of the atrocities and horrors of the Cuban war, lest stocks and bonds shall fall in market price. To intimidate Congress, the President plays the rule of Andrew Jackson. The effect will be that the friends of Cuba in Congress will be more earnest to secure appropriate action."

The following are some interviews collected last evening:

Mr. Turner, Dem., Georgia: "I think the statement of the Secretary of State is not only correct in principle, but wise and reassuring at this time. Aside from the question of our duty and our treaty with Spain, and under international law, I believe the business of this country requires rest from agitation and excitement. The value even of the great staples of the country varies with the rumors of war. I sincerely hope that Congress will not take precipitate action in this matter. Whatever sympathy we may have for the patriots struggling for liberty in Cuba we have no satisfactory evidence as to the existence of a republic in Cuba."

THINKS IT IRRITATING.

Mr. McCall, Rep., Mass., said: "While I do not agree with Secretary Olney that the power to recognize the Cuban republic as an independent state rests exclusively with the executive, the question is one which can be much better dealt with by that department of the government, and it has been usual heretofore to have that department exercise jurisdiction over such questions. I think that the Senate resolution is extreme and irritating in character and is likely to do more harm than good. The only way by which the resolution can help Cuba is by involving this country in a war."

Mr. Dingley, Rep., Maine, chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means and leader of the House, said: "My judgment is that the matter should be left to the proper diplomatic officers. Ordinarily interference by the legislative branch only produces mischief."

SURPRISED AT OLNEY.

Mr. Pearson, Rep., N. C., said: "I am more surprised at the Secretary's interview than at the action of the Senate committee. It will irritate and not soothe the feeling already deeply aroused. Its tone of infallibility does not seem to be justified by the first article of the Constitution, and the power conferred on Congress.

"The power to declare war, to define and punish offenses against the laws of nations which is explicitly conferred upon Congress, includes the power to deal with such problems as this. The President is a part of the law-making power to the extent clearly defined by the Constitution."

SENATOR WARREN BETTER.

His Condition Much Improved and Great Hopes Are Entertained.

Chicago, Dec. 19.—Senator Francis E. Warren, of Wyoming, who submitted to an operation for appendicitis at the Auditorium Annex yesterday, is reported by Dr. Hammond, the attending physician, to be much improved today.

Drs. Hammond and McArthur, who performed the operation, entertain great hopes of the Senator's recovery, although they say he will be unable to to leave his room for six weeks. Senator Warren was resting easily at 11 o'clock this morning.