

266,039 was the TIMES' circulation for last week.  
The STAR's circulation for last week was . . . 181,356

# The Evening Times

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## YELLOW JACK'S VICTIMS

### Annual Scourge in Cuba Promised to Be Very Malignant.

## ITALIAN CRUISER'S CREW

### Out of 258 Persons All Told on Board All Were Attacked Except Five, and 115 Died, Including the Captain. Reports to Marine Hospital From Agents in Cuba and Brazil.

Reports to the United States Marine Hospital service, from its agents in Cuba, indicate that the annual yellow fever scourge, which is relied upon to aid the war of independence, promises to be exceptionally malignant this year among the unaccustomed Spanish soldiers.

Dr. Cambrino, the United States sanitary inspector, announces forty deaths at Santiago de Cuba, for the week ending April 11.

He says the reports are not very encouraging in other cities. In Santa Clara, for example, several native Cubans have died from it, and the cases of two negroes, who took the fever and died, have aroused the attention of all the physicians, as it has hitherto been maintained that the colored race in Cuba enjoyed a complete immunity from this disease.

### MANY CASES IN THE TOWN.

Smallpox continues to increase, and there are twenty-five cases confined in the smallpox hospital, while there are many cases in the town of which the physicians hear nothing about, as they are treated by quacks and spiritualists, of whom there are quite a large number in the city.

Vaccination is still a moderately practiced, but there are no means of procuring vaccine, except from Havana once or twice a week.

Surgeon Gen. Wyman of the Marine Hospital Service has received a report from Dr. Coary, United States sanitary inspector at Rio de Janeiro, dated March 17, regarding the disastrous effects of yellow fever on the Italian cruiser Lombardia, lying at that port.

When the vessel was attacked, Dr. Coary writes, "little or no medical means of disinfection were applied, and the disease rapidly extended among the crew and officers, so that she was removed to Ilha Grande for sanitary reasons, where she infected the government employees on shore."

"Out of 258 persons, all told, aboard all were attacked except 5, and 115 died, including the captain."

### THE CRUISER'S SICK.

"The government sent a steamer and a special commission to the assistance of the Lombardia, but it is difficult to ascertain what was done, as there appears to be some recrimination between the parties; but now it is announced that the disease is conquered, as indeed it makes no more victims, as the pabulum is exhausted."

"It is difficult to imagine how such a case could occur nowadays, with our knowledge and means of opposing the extension of the disease. When the United States steamer Newark, in 1894, was attacked in the person of one man here he was at once landed, and the ship put to sea, and though two other cases occurred aboard, it extended no further."

"It is disheartening to realize the great difficulty in educating the people, even those who ought to know, in sanitary science and its paramount necessity."

### SIMILAR ACCIDENTS.

An accident almost identical in details with that of the Wyanoke and the Columbia occurred this month at Seattle, Wash. The coast defense vessel Monterey, lying at anchor, was struck by a Swedish merchantman, proceeding under half speed, and the merchantman was sunk.

The results of this affair and that of last night are attributed by naval officers to the thick armor in the sides of the warships, and it is likely that the circumstances will lead to a discussion among marine experts as to the value of the ram in naval warfare.

It is believed at the Navy Department that it will not be necessary to put the Columbia in dry dock for repairs. All the injuries are above the water line and can be remedied while the vessel lies in the water.

Fort Monroe, Va., April 28.—The steamer Verick, which arrived here last night, while about twenty miles off Bodys Island on Sunday struck a sunken wreck, carrying away her propeller and injuring her rudder.

Small Boy's Fatal Drink.  
Lambertville, N. J., April 28.—Thomas Reading, the two-year-old son of Alfred Reading, living on Franklin street, is lying at the point of death from the effects of swallowing a large quantity of ammonia. The little tot, in his mother's absence, while creeping around the room, found the bottle and drank almost a half pint of the liquid before he was discovered. The little fellow is suffering terrible agony and may die.

## SWEDENBORGIANS WILL MEET.

### Related Meeting Held for the Selection of Topics of Addresses.

The Swedenborgian conference will convene in this city next week. It is preceded by a number of meetings called "related sessions." These are gatherings of the ministers in council, and the first meeting of the classes of the ministers' council was held this afternoon at 2 o'clock in the National Church at Sixteenth and Corcoran streets.

The council meeting was preceded by a meeting of the chairmen of the classes, at which arrangement was made for the various subjects to be discussed at the council meetings.

At the meeting this morning there were present Rev. James Reed of Boston, Rev. Samuel Rexall of New York, Rev. Hiram T. Brown of Baltimore, Rev. Frank Sewall of Washington and Rev. H. Clinton Hay of Providence.

## STEAMER WYANOKE SUNK

### Old Dominion Liner Collides With the Cruiser Columbia.

### ALL ON BOARD WERE SAVED

### Accident Occurred While the Wyanoke Was Leaving Her Dock at Newport News—Flouted for a While and then Went to the Bottom—Damage to Cruiser Not Considerable.

Fort Monroe, Va., April 28.—The Old Dominion liner steamer Wyanoke, while leaving her dock at Newport News last night, fouled the cruiser Columbia, which was lying out in the stream taking on coal, and sank under her forefoot. The crew and passengers were all saved and taken ashore. The Columbia sustained some damage above the water line and will repair at Norfolk.

New York, April 28.—Word was received this morning at the general offices of the Old Dominion Steamship Company, Pier 26, North River, this city, of the sinking of the steamer Wyanoke, which collided with the United States cruiser Columbia near Newport News. The news of the accident was contained in the following telegram from the company's agent at Newport News:

### SUNK IN COLLISION.

"Wyanoke sunk in collision with the United States cruiser, Columbia, lying at anchor off Newport News. Passengers and crew all saved as far as known. Are taking care of passengers at Warwick. Will wire particulars later."

"M. E. CROWELL, Agent."

The company's officials said the steamer carried but few passengers, and they believed they were all saved. She had a crew of about forty men, and was commanded by one of the line's best men, Capt. N. H. Jenney.

The Wyanoke carried only a small assortment of cargo. She left Richmond last night bound for this port. She was scheduled to stop at Norfolk, Va., where she was to have taken on her principal cargo. She went to the bottom before reaching that port. She was to have sailed from Norfolk for New York at 7 o'clock this morning.

The Wyanoke sailed from New York for Norfolk, Newport News and Richmond on Saturday, April 25. She arrived at her last port of destination on April 27, and sailed en route for New York on the night of the same day.

The Wyanoke was built at Wilmington, Del., in 1870. She was a side-wheeler of 1,600 tons register, 238 feet in length, 40 feet beam and 23 feet depth. She was the oldest of the Old Dominion steamship fleet, and had been running between this city and the southern ports since the day she went into commission. Her owners looked upon her as a fine coaster.

The steamship Old Dominion will be put into commission in place of the Wyanoke, and will sail next Saturday from this port in place of the sunken vessel.

### DAMAGE TO THE COLUMBIA.

The following official report of the disaster was received by telegraph at the Navy Department at 10 a. m.:

"Fort Monroe, April 28.—Capt. Sands reports Old Dominion steamer Wyanoke last night fouled the Columbia, anchored at Newport News, and sank under her forefoot. Passengers all saved. Several of the crew were injured, being attended by the Columbia's surgeons."

"The damages sustained by the Columbia consist of one hole two feet in diameter on the port side, ten feet above the water line; a heavy indentation two feet above the water line on the same side, and an indentation of one plate on the starboard side opposite the hole, opening a seam for about six feet; the temporary loss of one anchor and forty-five fathoms of chain. Shall take her to Norfolk navy yard as soon as the requirements of paragraph 400 of the Navy Regulations are complied with."

## DISTRICT IN CONGRESS

### Senator McMillan's Letter About the Highway Act.

## EXPLAINS HIS POSITION

### No Intention of Nullifying It, But People Interested Are Expected to Donate Land for the Streets—The Bill of Patriotism—Married Women's Rights—Other Local Measures.

The position of Congress in regard to the highway act and street extension in general is indicated by a letter just written by Chairman McMillan, of the Senate District Committee.

It is in reply to a letter from Assistant District Attorney H. Armes, who counsel for a number of property owners directly interested in the extension of streets. It takes almost precisely the ground which The Times has outlined as what Congress is disposed to do.

It gives no hope to speculators of carrying out the gigantic scheme by which they had planned to have bonds issued by which the people would be obliged to pay for streets in the country and enrich the land speculators.

Mr. Armes says that since the decision of the court in the condemnation proceedings in the Denison & Leighton subdivision a large number of property owners have been asking whether Congress is going to carry out the plan of the highway act or not.

### MR. ARMES' SUGGESTION.

The plan in itself, he says, is not necessarily harmful, but the doubt whether it will be executed has already resulted in serious loss and distress.

For Congress to refuse to provide the necessary money to carry out the plan would be to repudiate it. If that is to be the ultimate result the sooner it is done the better. The expense, delay, and uncertainty incident to litigation are of no avail to the parties interested, if, after all, Congress is to repudiate the entire proposition when confronted with the question of the cost of streets and improvements.

Mr. Armes then adds a final proposition, which may be the last hope of immediate execution of the highway act. He says as the actual extension will occupy many years, there is no need of immediate heavy expense.

There need only be authority to issue \$500,000 bonds annually to pay for the streets, and the government, he says, would impose no immediate burden, and it would at the same time avoid all semblance of confiscation at speculative schemes. If this is deemed sufficient, it would leave the plans for extensions open to such alteration, modification, or limitation as experience may suggest.

In closing he says if Congress is going to repudiate the law it should do so promptly by specific enactment.

### SENATOR McMILLAN'S REPLY.

Mr. McMillan's answer is as follows: "Dear Sir: Replying to your letter of April 27, I would say that the appropriation to carry out the provisions of the highway act came from the Committee on Appropriations and not from the Committee on the District of Columbia, except in so far as amendments proposing new legislation may be referred to this committee."

"There is no intention, in so far as I know, of nullifying in any way the highway act. However, it was not the intention of those who prepared the bill, or of Congress when the act was passed, that there would be any very large expenditure needed except to straighten out and extend streets through a comparatively small belt of land lying just beyond the boundaries of the city."

"The lands occupied for agricultural purposes and those held for speculative purposes are to be subdivided, and the streets are to be laid out in accordance with plans prepared under the provisions of the act. It is not expected that Congress will make appropriations to pay for the streets thus created, but those people who are particularly interested in having the streets opened in order that they may sell their property are expected to be willing to donate the land necessary for streets and alleys."

"Of course, when the opening of a street or avenue would take all or a greater part of the land held by any individual, so that the damages would be out of proportion to the benefits he would receive, the question of compensation would come in, but it is expected that, as a rule, the law will be self-acting, and that the property owners beyond the city of Washington will find it for their advantage to donate the streets and avenues, just as the original proprietors of the land within the city found it to their advantage to give, not only the streets and avenues, but every other lot to the national government. Yours truly, "JAMES McMILLAN."

### IN FAVOR OF WOMEN.

Mr. Curtis of Iowa has introduced in the House a bill to amend the laws of the District as to married women, to make parents the natural guardians of their minor children, and for other purposes.

Mr. Richardson has introduced in the House a bill to provide for the construction in this city of a building to be known as the Hall of Patriotism.

The bill provides that "there be established in the city of Washington a public building, to be known as the Hall of Patriotism, in which shall be placed from time to time such contributions from individuals of articles relating to the past or present history of the country, or donations from States of battle flags, mementoes, relics, or statues of its distinguished citizens, or such articles of historical value as Congress may from time to time direct."

Mr. Babcock has introduced in the House a bill in relation to taxes and tax sales in the District.

Mr. McMillan introduced in the Senate today, by request, a bill, S. 2965, to amend the law to restrict the ownership of real estate in the Territories to American citizens. It strikes out the words "in the District of Columbia" wherever they occur, and relieves the District entirely of the operation of the law.

The special subway committee of the House District Committee this afternoon at 2 o'clock gave a hearing on the pending subway and conduit bill.

President Bryan of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company and others interested were present.

Mr. Burrows in the Senate today introduced a bill, S. 2972, "To authorize and direct the auditor for the Postoffice Department to credit Commissioner Ross's account, as postmaster here, with \$223,611, paid by him for various incidents." It was referred to the Committee on Postoffice and Postroads.

Congress Heights office 631 Pa. ave. n.w.

## ACTION IN THE HOUSE.

### Vote on the Passage of the Pension Bill.

The first business in order in the House today was the vote on the passage of the pension bill, which was taken by yeas and nays, at the demand of Mr. Crowther.

It resulted, yeas, 187; nays, 54. The Republicans and Populists supported the bill. Six Democrats, however, voted for the bill—Cummings and Walsh of New York, Layton and Sorg of Ohio, Fitzgerald of Massachusetts and Downing of Illinois.

Mr. Mahany offered a resolution calling upon the President to direct the Secretary of State to interpose in behalf of John Hays Hammond, who is on trial in South Africa for complicity in the recent troubles in that country, and asked unanimous consent for immediate consideration.

Mr. McCreary suggested, in view of the importance of the matter, that the resolution should first be acted upon by the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The case of John N. Quackenbush then came under the order made last week for its consideration today.

### SPITZER IS NOT GUILTY.

Jury Acquitted Him of the Charge of Embezzlement.

The Spitzer case went into the hands of the jury at the close of the noon recess today and at 1:35 o'clock the jurors returned a verdict of not guilty.

Neither Spitzer's attorney nor the members of his family, who sat beside him all the morning, were in the courtroom when the verdict was returned.

He was released from custody and departed for home.

## IT IS WAR TO THE KNIFE

### No Compromise Between Illinois Republican Factions.

### Battle Between the Machine and the McKinleyites to Be Fought Out on the Floor of the Convention.

Springfield, Ill., April 28.—When the representatives of the warring factions retired after midnight it was with the impression that a compromise had been effected that would avert the threatened strife in the State convention this morning.

The compromise discussed provides that the McKinleyites would consent to the temporary and permanent chairman favored by the State central committee, and also to the nomination for governor as the first order of business, on the understanding that the convention would then proceed to the selection of delegates at large and to the debate and voting on resolutions or no instructions. This was mutually agreeable to both sides in the conference.

Bright and early this morning, however, there were indications of rebellion on the part of the various McKinley leaders who declined to consent to the compromise, and when their position was sustained by associates who arrived on the early morning train from Chicago, the agreement was speedily torn to atoms and the war was on again. Thereupon the "machine" element gave it out flat-footed that no future overtures would be made or entertained, but that the issue must be disposed of on the floor of the convention.

Senator Cullom was at his headquarters this morning before half of the visitors were out of bed, and committees were at the trains to greet the arriving county delegates in his direction. The senator long since gave up the hope of being able to secure instructions in his own behalf, but he is working industriously with the delegates that are on the fence to convince them that an unpolluted delegation-at-large should be sent to St. Louis.

### New Spanish Consular Officers.

The President has recognized a number of new Spanish consular officers. For some time past Spain has been strengthening her consular service in this country, and now every place likely to be the headquarters for insurgent bands is filled. Those recognized are Juan Vasquez y Lopez Amor, vice consul at Tampa; Juan Puig, vice consul at Philadelphia; Rafael Lopez Lasso, consul at Savannah; Rafael Seco, vice consul at Key West, and Narciso Perez Quinto, consul at New Orleans.

### Saloons Kept Fine \$50.

In the police court this afternoon Thomas J. Tyrrell, who keeps a saloon on K street, near Thirty-second street, Georgetown, was fined \$50 for keeping his bar open on Sunday. He paid \$20, and was given one month's time in which to pay the remaining \$30.

### Murderers Placed on Trial.

Samuel Patterson and William Hooks, both colored, were placed on trial for the murder of William Dade, January 3, last, in Judge Cole's court this afternoon. The prisoners are defended by Samuel D. Trait, Thomas L. Jones and John M. Langston.

### Cloudburst in Iowa.

Dubuque, Ia., April 28.—A cloudburst at Raymond, east of Waterloo, at 2 o'clock this morning, washed out the track and derailed the Illinois Central fast limited train for Chicago. Two coaches were overturned and several passengers injured, none, however, dangerously.

### Another Folley Runner Convicted.

James Watson, an old colored policy runner, was convicted by a police court jury, and sentenced by Judge Miller to three months in jail, without fine, today.

### A Marvelous Value.

\$20 finely custom-made suits for only \$6 is the greatest value in clothing ever offered in Washington. Misfit Clothing Parlor, 407 Seventh street.

### Turks Repulsed by Cretans.

Athens, April 28.—Advices received here from the island of Crete say that the Cretan reform committees have repulsed the Turkish troops at Selin, killing twenty of them.

### Col. Ludlow Questioned.

Col. William Ludlow, chairman of the board of engineers' officers, which last summer investigated the Nicaragua Canal project, detailed to the House Commerce Committee this morning the nature of the observations made by them while in Central America, the circumstances surrounding their work, and the conclusions reached as to the cost and practicability of a canal.

### WEDNESDAY'S BENNING ENTRIES

Horses and Official Weights in the Events Tomorrow. (Special to The Times.)

Benning Race Track, D. C., April 28.—Entries for Wednesday, April 29, 1896: First race—Handicap. Six furlongs. Hanwell, 108; The Swain, 107; Tinge, 106; Allen L., 102; Hurlingham, 99, and Silk, 97.

Second race—Four and one-half furlongs; selling. Russler, 110; Bragalone, 98; La Vivandiere, Stanahaus, 95.

Third race—Capitol stakes; three years; mile. Shakspeare II, 127; Premier, 112; Septour, Volley, Intermission, 107.

Fourth race—Handicap, mile. Dutch Skater, 116; Brisk, 99; Emotional, 96; Lord, 90.

Fifth race—Steeplechase, two and one-half miles. Biwasee, 161; Gold Bell, Emperor Otto, 152; Lafayette, 151; May Hooman, 149; Helias, 144; Flushing, 142.

## NAVAL BILL UP AGAIN

### Senators Resume Their Brisk Discussion of It.

## RETIRED OFFICERS SCORED

### Mr. Tillman Describes the Character of Those Who Take High Places Under Corporations—Senators Gorman, Gray, Call and Sewell Speak on the Defensive.

In the Senate today a bill was passed extending the time within which the Union Railway Company may construct a bridge across the Monongahela River.

Consideration of the naval appropriation bill was then resumed, the pending amendment being one offered by Mr. Chandler, prohibiting the employment of officers on the retired or active list of the navy by corporations or persons furnishing materials to the government.

A further amendment was offered, providing that in setting on the Secretary of the Navy shall make separate contracts for armor and armor plate, they shall be at a price not exceeding \$350 per ton of 2,240 pounds, and if unable to make contracts within that limit, action is to be delayed and the offers are to the next session of Congress.

### DEBATE AGAIN TAKEN UP.

The discussion upon the amendment prohibiting retired naval officers from taking employment with persons or corporations having contracts with the government was continued. The only opposition to it yesterday was made by Mr. Gray, but today that side of the question was also taken by Senators Gorman, Call, Sewell and Hawley.

The amendment was advocated by Mr. Chandler, who denounced the system aimed at in the amendment as a vicious one.

Mr. Chandler said that he and the other members of the Naval Committee had refrained from setting on the Secretary of the Navy, but that it was a great evil.

The naval service was being honeycombed, he said, by the desire of naval officers to learn enough of machinery matters to be able to obtain private employment at a large compensation, when, either by leave of absence on the active list or by getting themselves put on the retired list, they employed the public service and go into the employment of large contractors. This, he said, was doing infinite mischief to the navy.

Mr. Gray remarked that that did not touch the case of the two officers alluded to—employed in the Carnegie and Bethlehem concerns—who had been compelled to go out of the public service.

"That does not touch the principle," Mr. Chandler said, "so long as naval officers are receiving pay from the government they shall not go into the employment of high wages, of concerns that are doing business with the government to the amount of millions of dollars."

### TILLMAN PITCHED IN.

Mr. Tillman denounced the immorality, dishonesty or dishonesty of the system against which the Naval Committee was contending.

Mr. Hawley said, from personal information, that one of the officers in question had been treated very cruelly and unjustly.

"I am ready," Mr. Tillman said, "to vote to restore that officer to the active list, but he should not serve the enemy of the government."

Mr. George advocated the amendment and argued that it should go into effect immediately instead of after the 30th of June, 1898.

### KRUGERTO CHAMBERLAIN.

Confirms the Latter's Statements in the Commons.

London, April 28.—The full text of the reply of President Kruger of the Transvaal republic to the invitation sent to him by Colonial Secretary Chamberlain to visit London and discuss Transvaal matters is published today.

The letter confirms the statements made by Mr. Chamberlain in the House of Commons yesterday, as well as the statements of the Times, in regard to the character of the reply, though it denies the so-called admitted grievances of Uitlanders. But, with a view of promoting friendly relations, he says President Kruger is willing to postpone the question of revision of the London convention of 1884.

## COMODORE FOLGER'S DEFENSE.

### Explanation of His Connection With the Harvey Company Made Public.

The Senate Committee on Naval Affairs this morning made public the testimony recently taken by it in secret session on the subject of armor plate, the prices paid therefor and the ownership of patented processes of manufacture, under the resolution of Senator Chandler of December 31, last.

The charges made against Commodore William M. Folger, chief of the Ordnance Bureau of the Navy Department, that he was interested in the Harvey Company were answered by that official, who, in a long statement, explained his position in the matter and denied that everything was not just as it should be.

## COCKING SULLEN AS EVER

### Confined in Baltimore Jail and Refusing to Talk.

## NO FEARS OF A LYNCHING

### State's Attorney Posey Says Charles County Lockup Is Unsafe and Unsanitary—Blood Spots to Be Submitted to Experts at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Baltimore, Md., April 28.—Joseph Cocking, the alleged murderer of his wife and sister-in-law, Miss Daisy Miller, sits in his cell in the city jail here taciturn and sullen as from the moment he was taken into custody at Hill Top, in Charles county. He says he will retain ex-Speaker Sidney E. Mudd as his attorney. Speaking of the possibility of Cocking being lynched had he remained in Charles county, State's Attorney Posey said:

"It is a mistake to suppose that I feared Cocking to Baltimore because I feared he would be lynched. The people were and are very angry, but the law-abiding elements had the upper hand in Charles county and were determined that the law should take its course, satisfied that justice would be done."

### REASONS FOR HIS REMOVAL.

"There were three reasons which impelled me to bring him here. In the first place, the jail of Charles county is unfit to keep a prisoner in. It is unsafe and the sanitary conditions are unendurable. Again, it would have been a heavy expense to the county to keep extra guards at the jail."

"We know that he will be safe in the jail until the time for his trial arrives, and all the county will have to do is to pay for his board here, which will amount to less than it would have cost us in Charles county."

Mr. Posey brought along with him blood spots, which will be submitted to experts at the Johns Hopkins hospital for examination. Mr. Posey left for his home in Charles county shortly after the commitment of Cocking.

"After my interview with Cocking," said Marshal Frey, "during which I was closeted with him for some time, I feel sure that he is the murderer of his wife and his sister-in-law."

"He impresses me as being conscious, now that the story he told of the murder was not one that would 'hold water,' and he is regretting with all his heart the slip which it is too late. This is natural, as he must know that he is in a pretty tight box."

### WEAK AND NERVOUS.

"Cocking killed these two women as sure as the sun is to rise tomorrow. He was weak and nervous when we were talking to him and came very near collapsing. I tried to make him tell what he really knew about the matter, but all the reply we got was, 'I want a lawyer.'"

"As for the motive for the crime, several theories have been suggested and some of them may be correct. State's Attorney Posey gave me a minute description of the positions of the two bodies when they were found, and this convinces me that both of the women were asleep when they were killed."

"From what I can understand, State's Attorney Posey has positive information from the physicians who made the post-mortem examination of the bodies, which would prevent any reflection being cast upon Miss Miller, Cocking's sister-in-law. This would do away with the theory that Mrs. Cocking was the murderer of her sister, and consequently trouble with her husband had anything to do with the murders."

### GOT IT IN THE NECK.

Would Be Robber Hit There With a Bullet and Fatally Wounded.

Johnson City, Tenn., April 28.—John Crouch, an ex-convict, was shot by a railroad depot at Pine Flats last night wearing a mask and, pointing a pistol at J. R. Wolfe, the agent, told him to hold up his hands. Wolfe rose to his feet and as he did so Crouch fired at close range, tearing Wolfe's collar off and burning his face. Wolfe got his pistol and returned the shot, the bullet entering Crouch's neck, producing a fatal wound. Crouch is a member of one of the best families in this city.

### Col. Ludlow Questioned.

Col. William Ludlow, chairman of the board of engineers' officers, which last summer investigated the Nicaragua Canal project, detailed to the House Commerce Committee this morning the nature of the observations made by them while in Central America, the circumstances surrounding their work, and the conclusions reached as to the cost and practicability of a canal.

## FIVE TO DIE FOR TREASON

### Guilty of Conspiring Against the Transvaal Republic.

## JOHN HAYS HAMMOND ON

### Cecil Rhodes' Brother Among the Number—Chamberlain States That He Has Cabled President Kruger Expressing Confidence That He Will Commute Sentence.

Pretoria, April 28.—Five of the leaders of the National Reform Committee, who pleaded guilty of high treason yesterday, including John Hays Hammond, the American mining engineer, were condemned to death at this forenoon's sitting of the court.

Col. Francis Rhodes, brother of Cecil Rhodes, ex-premier of the Cape Colony; Lionel Phillips, George Farrar and Charles Leonard, are the four leaders who, with Hammond, were sentenced to death.

Phillips, Rhodes and Farrar pleaded guilty of high treason on Friday last, and Hammond, who was ill, and not in court that day, made a similar plea.

"This effort to mitigate the severity of their sentence, but it turns out that it did not."

### DEPLORED JAMESON'S MISTAKE.

Counsel for the defense yesterday read a statement to the court signed by Hammond, Phillips, Farrar and Col. Rhodes, admitting that they had asked Dr. Jameson to go to Johannesburg, but deploring his mistake in entering the Transvaal and attacking the government, when there was no urgent need for his presence. They maintained that their action throughout was not hostile to the government.

The statement also enumerated the grievances of the Uitlanders, and elaborated reasons to prove that the actions of the committee were not hostile to the republic.

Regarding Dr. Jameson's raid, the statement declared that when the committee learned certain facts, it sent, on December 27, two messengers, Mr. J. Henry by rail, and Capt. Holden across country, to forbid Dr. Jameson to move.

London, April 28.—In the House of Commons today Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, secretary of state for the colonies said: "I have received a private telegram, the accuracy of which I have no doubt, saying that five of the leaders of the so-called national reform committee at Johannesburg had been condemned to death. I thereupon called to Sir Charles Bullen, who is in Cape Town instructions to communicate the following to President Kruger:

### FEEL CERTAIN OF COMMUTATION.

"The government has just learned that the sentence of death has been imposed upon the chief leaders of the reform committee. The government has no doubt that your