

## THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

E. ROSEWATER, Editor.

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1. Total number of copies, 10,000  
2. Number of copies sold, 8,000  
3. Number of copies not sold, 2,000  
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My commission expires December 15, 1896.

A decreased county tax rate is a card which always wins.

It will require a composite photograph for the portrait of the author of the republican national platform.

Exhibits at the exposition will bring the people and the assurance that the people will be at the exposition will bring exhibits.

Governor McKinley may now talk for publication just as often as he is of mind to talk and he may be relied on to say the right thing at the right place.

If some of our self-constituted constitutional wisecracks would read the constitution of Nebraska they might be able to discuss questions arising under it with some pretense of knowing what the facts are.

There is nothing in the state constitution to prevent third terms for any state officers except the state treasurer. At the same time neither is there anything in the fundamental law or any other law that guarantees a state officer a second term.

Chairman Hanna has had only three unsuccessful predecessors at the head of the national committee. Mr. Hanna will let those three continue to stand out as shining examples to the rule that makes the republican chairman a sure winner in advance.

The English press is far from satisfied with the greater number of the planks of the republican national platform. But then the St. Louis convention did not set out to please the British government and if it did please it in any respect it was incidental and not intentional.

For every republican who repudiates his party nominees on account of the gold standard plank there are two democrats who will vote for an honest money presidential candidate or not vote at all. The free silver bolters are making an immense racket simply in order to magnify their importance.

The senate bond investigating committee has adjourned until after congress shall have been reconvened. This must be taken as an admission that the committee has failed to strike a lead that was promising of sensational results. Had there been the slightest prospect of unearthing anything that would serve as party capital in the presidential campaign it would not have deferred its work until after the election shall have taken place.

The supreme court of Nebraska has adjourned until the fall term, but each member has undertaken to prepare during vacation the opinions in from a dozen to twenty cases. As there are three judges and three supreme court commissioners, or six in all, this means that there will be in the neighborhood of 100 cases adjudicated in the interval. The people who imagine that the bed of the supreme court judge in Nebraska is all roses are not acquainted with the real situation.

The national convention of homeopaths is announced for Omaha in 1898. Others may be expected to come thick and fast from this time on, for the fact of the Transatlantic exposition is sufficient attraction to draw them hither. A little later on the want of adequate convention halls will become more than ever apparent. Conventions already set for meeting here will engage quarters far in advance of their dates and the question will then be one of providing room for others that want to come. There is no doubt, however, that Omaha will be equal to the emergency.

While the Board of Equalization is examining into the subject of tax assessments and exemptions it is hoped the property of the Pullman Palace Car company will not be overlooked. The city has in recent years made spasmodic efforts to collect taxes of this corporation only to fail in the end. Under the constitution of the state the Pullman company is required to list its franchise to do business in Nebraska for taxation. Under the statutes the city and county clearly have authority to levy and collect a reasonable tax upon all its property. Every attempt to do so has been met with resistance upon the part of the company, and the law department of the city has temporized in the matter so long that there is little hope of relief.

## THE SILVER STATES.

The republican party will not surrender the silver states to the enemies of a sound currency without an aggressive and determined struggle. There are republican leaders in those states and thousands of republican voters who, while sincerely believing in the free coinage of silver, also think that there is something besides that to be fought for and that it would be the greatest folly to sacrifice everything else to that cause. These earnest and patriotic republicans must have all the assistance and encouragement which the party at large can give them and if this be done there is no doubt that some of these states, if not all of them, can be carried for the republican ticket.

In an interview immediately after the St. Louis convention, Senator Shoup of Idaho said in reference to the delegates from the silver states: "We have decided to go back to our homes and try, by loyal work for our national ticket, to save the west from the destruction which Senator Teller would bring upon us. Our people believe in McKinley and a protective tariff. They do not believe in gold, however, nor do the national committee men who represent them. But because the platform of our party contains one plank which does not please us, are we justified in deserting our life-long political faith? I think not."

The senator said they could not afford to desert the republican party, for that would be suicidal, because "by taking such a step we would not only undo what has already been accomplished, but cast ourselves into channels which are uncertain and unreliable. Can it be seriously doubted that when this view of the situation is properly impressed upon the minds of the intelligent republican voters of the silver states a very large majority of them will refuse to follow the destructive leadership of Teller, Dubois and the others who at St. Louis severed their connection with the party to which they are indebted for all the public honors and political power they have enjoyed?"

"Our people believe in McKinley and a protective tariff," said Senator Shoup. "This is as true of Montana and Utah as it is of Idaho. The silver production of none of these states is comparable in value to its sheep husbandry and the loss of the people of these states has been greater from free wool than from the stoppage of the free coinage of silver. Nevada and Colorado may have less concern in protection than in free silver, but this is not the case with the other silver states and therefore it is not an unreasonable hope that when their people are made to clearly see and understand the situation they will follow such judicious leaders as Senator Shoup and decline to renounce the party whose success will assure a return of national prosperity because the platform of the party contains one plank which does not please them."

The silver states present a field for aggressive and persistent work in behalf of the republican ticket and as to some of them at least there is reason to believe that the labor will not be ineffective.

## BENJAMIN H. BRISTOW.

Twenty years ago the death of Benjamin H. Bristow would have been regarded as a national bereavement, for then he was conspicuous as a republican leader who had the esteem and confidence of a large element of the party. In the interval, which he has passed in the practice of his profession in New York City, he has fallen out of general public attention, though occupying a distinguished place among the legal fraternity of the metropolis of the country, where his eminent ability received merited recognition.

A native of Kentucky, Mr. Bristow was a union man and attested his devotion to the government by entering the army and doing good service for the union cause. After the war he became prominently identified with republican politics in Kentucky and received recognition from Washington. He came into national notice in 1871, when he was appointed secretary of the treasury by President Grant, and his administration of the department, and particularly his vigorous prosecution of the whiskey ring, in which he had the earnest support of the president, caused him to be widely regarded as a most suitable man to succeed President Grant. Thus in 1876 a strong sentiment in favor of the nomination of Bristow for the presidency had been developed. Men prominent in politics and some of the most influential newspapers in the country urged his nomination. His name was presented to the convention of 1876 and he received 113 votes on the first ballot, his vote dropping off after that until the seventh ballot, when Kentucky withdrew his name and cast its entire vote for Hayes. Mr. Bristow resigned his position as secretary of the treasury and shortly afterward located in New York City and entered upon the practice of the law, having never since sought or received public office.

Benjamin H. Bristow was a man of fine ability and of sterling integrity and a citizen whose patriotism and whose services to the country entitle his name to a place of honor on the roll of distinguished Americans of the period in which he participated in public affairs. That was a period of great men and Bristow was not the least among them, by whatever standard measured.

## THE PRESIDENT AND CUBA.

Another report comes from Washington regarding the intentions of the president in relation to Cuba. It contains no definite or specific information beyond the statement that some action is likely to be taken by the administration very soon after it shall have received reports from Consul General Lee which were forwarded last Saturday. The opinion is expressed that there is no danger of interference on the part of Mr. Cleveland unless the report of the consul general shall show the situation to be extremely grave, but this is followed by the somewhat significant statement that the president has been contemplating the possible necessity of intervention.

The country will await with some solicitude the development of events following the arrival of General Lee's report on Cuban affairs, for there is no doubt that will exert a very considerable influence upon the president. If

the consul general represents the situation in Cuba to be such that American citizens and American interests there cannot be given proper protection, it is more than probable that the administration will take some decisive action that may put a severe strain upon the relations between Spain and the United States. But for the fact that Mr. Cleveland has thus far resisted the very great pressure that has been brought to bear upon him to intervene in Cuban affairs there would be reason to apprehend that he might seek to make political capital out of the matter. It is not apparent, however, that such a course now could be of any advantage to himself, except possibly as a contribution to the history of his political career that would raise it above the commonplace. The power of the president in this matter is restricted, but it is sufficient to cause no little disturbance.

## ASSESSMENT OF CORPORATE PROPERTY.

The action taken by the county commissioners in raising the assessment on the property and franchise of the water works company revives the question as to the mode of assessing franchised corporations. The constitution and the revenue laws of Nebraska contemplate such a division of the burdens of taxation as will place the property of individuals and corporations on an equality. While the statute requires all assessments to be at the actual value, custom and usage have sanctioned a system which permits of a valuation at a fraction of the true worth. If the ratio between actual and assessed valuations were uniform it would be comparatively immaterial whether the appraisal were one-fourth, one-sixth or one-tenth of the real value. The distribution of the burdens would be equitable. The only drawback of fictitious assessment of this kind would be that it would necessitate a fictitiously high tax rate and create a false impression as to the wealth of the community.

The greatest abuse in our system of taxation has been and is the discrimination against the small property owners and the owners of improved real estate generally in favor of the large owners of unimproved realty and the great franchised corporations. The flagrant disregard of the law that provides for the taxation of the franchises along with the tangible property of these corporations has afforded a just grievance to all the other taxpayers. When the county commissioners raised the assessment of the water works company to one-tenth of its selling value, they inaugurated a reform that should not have stopped with a single corporation. The water company is not the only corporation that has been escaping its due share of local taxation. We make bold to assert that the rule applied to the water company, if applied impartially to the other franchised corporations, would raise the aggregate tax valuation by several hundred thousand dollars.

The question is, Why should this not be done? Would it be unreasonable or unjust to require every one of our franchised corporations to pay as much in taxes pro rata as is paid by individual property owners on their homes and business blocks? Is it not the duty of boards of equalization so to readjust the assessments as to make taxation bear uniformly upon all?

What is to be done with the surplus grain now stored in Nebraska? The price is so low producers will not part with it. Nebraska shippers quote the Chicago price of corn and other grain less the cost of transportation and the shippers' small margin for handling. With reduced cost of transportation, the producers would get the benefit, provided the grain could be shipped via the lake route. The jobbers and wholesale merchants of Omaha and other cities are vitally concerned in this matter. If the surplus grain could be sold at a profit it would bring an immense amount of money into the state at a time when it is most needed. For thirty days farmers could find time to haul the grain to the railroad. If a reduction of rate is to be made at all, it must be announced soon. The railroads would lose nothing by such reduction. If it is not made the grain will not move at all, while the prospect of a larger crop than the state has ever harvested grows brighter every day. Let the Commercial club take up the subject with the elevator men of Duluth in an effort to get the railroads between here and the great lake port to make reductions which will move the surplus grain of Nebraska.

The Bridge and Terminal company has long stood ready to erect a grand union depot in Omaha without a dollar's cost to the citizens and taxpayers. All it asks is that railroads entering the city shall contract to use the depot when completed. The terminal company has exhibited a degree of patience that is remarkable. And now the time has come when railroads entering Omaha must fish or cut bait. They owe it to the depot company to make a positive declaration whether or not they intend to participate in the enterprise. The depot company will not beg them to come in, nor can it waste much more time. Going right to the core of the union depot subject, it is plainly apparent the railroads that have long hesitated are opposed to the principle of a free union depot which would ever be a standing invitation to prospective competitors to ruin their trains into the city. But it is to the interest of Omaha to have a free depot and it will be the everlasting detriment of Omaha if the project shall be abandoned.

Commissioner Kierstead has again raised the ever-pertinent question of local railroad taxation. Ten years ago The Bee led the discussion on proposed charter amendments which contemplated the taxation for city and county purposes of all property not strictly within the right-of-way of railroads entering Omaha. It was shown then, as is now the case, that railroads own lands outside the local right-of-way upon which buildings have been erected. Occupants have a leasehold right in the property and the railroads have for years collected rentals. This property does not pay city and county taxes, nor can it be said that it has been returned to the state board as claimed by the owners. No exposition of the

inequality of tax assessments that fail to treat of these flagrant exemptions is complete. The County Board of Equalization will have earned the gratitude of taxpayers if it places this class of property upon the tax rolls.

Omaha packers are buying stock at Kansas City and shipping it to their homes here. They can buy there at lower prices than are quoted at this market, or they would not buy in Kansas City. This is proof of the superiority of the Omaha market and of course stock raisers of this region and throughout the whole northwest will bring their stock to this market. But why cannot the stock raisers of the southwest do likewise? Simply because the railroads leading into that territory discriminate against this market in making their rate schedules. St. Louis and Kansas City claim that territory as exclusively their own and have long succeeded in shutting Omaha out of it. Thus the stockmen of the southwest and the Omaha market are worsened. We are entitled to an equal show with Kansas City and the time is not far distant when it must be accorded.

When the big men of Omaha shall have entered their subscriptions for the exposition enterprise there can be no doubt of the success of popular subscriptions in this city and state. Such success was enjoyed in aid of the Centennial exposition and later in aid of the World's fair. When the big men of Chicago were appealed to at a critical stage of Columbian exposition construction the response was immediate and generous. It will be so in Omaha, for every man, woman and child is imbued with the idea that the success of the exposition will enhance realty values, create business, afford employment to idle men and bring money into the city and state for investment. Any man is willing to invest \$10 if he is certain to realize 100 per cent on the venture.

## Proper and Expressive.

Gold-Democrat.

"As good as gold" is a phrase that can now be applied to the republican party in a literal sense.

## Cleveland and His Vetoes.

Mr. Cleveland will thunder down the ages as the president who wrote 522 veto messages, or more than five times as many as all his predecessors put together. His stubbornness was statesmanship or negation, a virtue, Mr. Cleveland would have a clear title to the most spacious niche in the temple of fame.

## Watterson Barring the Lion.

Chicago Inter Ocean.

Colonel Watterson is not ashamed to own up that he is an American citizen, even in London. He said to an interviewer of the Chronicle: "We are republicans, whereas you are monarchists. We detest your social system thoroughly. Should Americans who come over here in hot pursuit of social recognition regard with disgust, as you regard with disgust, the fact that we have a monarch? What an object lesson that will be to the Bayards and Astors and Wilsons, etc. Patriotic Americans will take off their hats to Colonel Watterson."

## McKinley's Electoral Vote.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

The Globe-Democrat figures out that eighteen states—Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Rhode Island, Vermont, Wisconsin—are sure to go republican. This will give the republicans 238 electoral votes, or fourteen excess of the number needed for a choice. It will be a majority of twenty-nine, though, over the combined opposition, for all that will be left for the democrats, populists and the rest of the republican elements will be 209 votes. The republicans, however, are reasonably sure to carry several additional states.

## Venezuela Declares for Gold.

Chicago Journal.

Close upon the gold declaration of the republican convention and as if in immediate reply to the pronouncement of the American silverites, comes the news that Venezuela has decided for the gold standard. The declaration of the republicans on the wild-cat policy that has prevailed among Spanish-American countries is one of the most significant things that have occurred in the history of money. The declarations of the southern republic are a repudiation first of the flat idea as regards a paper currency, and second the notion that there is a necessity for the continued coining of silver. The silver coin that is now in circulation will be retained, but nothing will be added to it.

## THE PLATFORM.

New York Mail and Express: Altogether the platform is one of the best of republican platforms. Major McKinley, whose career is a platform in itself.

Chicago Post: Clear-cut, courageous, unequivocal and worthy the great traditions of the republican party. The platform is strong enough to support the weight of our national institutions and honor.

Chicago Record: The platform adopted by the republican national convention is a plain-spoken document. The delegates who formulated it may return to their homes with the feeling that their work in this direction is courageous and without a sign of straddling.

Philadelphia Inquirer: The platform is staunchly republican. There is no wavering in any of its lines. From the opening to the closing sentence it asserts with a courage which challenges the admiration of its severest critics, the convictions, intentions and aspirations of the party.

Philadelphia Ledger: The platform covers entirely too many subjects, and outside of the tariff and currency planks, is exceptionally weak, and sometimes evasive. The platform is a masterpiece of compromise on the currency question, quite naturally allowed the McKinley managers to complete the platform, but it is to be regretted that they did so, for at least one-half of the declaration of principles could have been omitted to the advantage of the whole.

## Buffalo Express: Of the platform adopted at St. Louis there is this to be said: There is not an equivocal or uncertain phrase in it. Any person who reads it can tell what it means without the aid of an interpreter. No plank in it says one thing to the people of one part of the country and the opposite of that to the people of another part. It is a platform of principle, not of expediency. It is a platform of the people of the United States and it is a platform that the masses believe republican principles to be eternal and unchangeable. It is what is true to truth and boldly said. The world loves that courage which stands unflinching in the face of the highest principle. The well known courage of the republican nominee has inspired his party to draw up the battle line where he has planted the banner.

## SOME STATE HOUSE ASPIRANTS.

Dakota City Eagle (rep.): Attorney A. E. Barnes' chances of being the republican nominee for attorney general are looking up brighter every day. You can safely count Dakota county in the Barnes column.

Holdrege Citizen (rep.): The reason why P. H. Hedden is no popular candidate for known may be gathered from the fact that after fourteen years in an office in this county and four years in the state auditor's office, he has not been able to accumulate for any act of his during this long term as a public officer.

Hartington Leader (dem.): George A. Brooks of Knox county is still pushing his candidacy for governor. He is a hard and persevering worker. There are few men in the race for any state office that have met an equal amount of discouragement. He is helping him.

Wallace Tus (rep.): Some of our contemporaries are devoting considerable space to charging that the republican ticket is a "bet." While these officials are all right in every way, the fact is well known. Constant and copious praise of candidates will carry weight in the eyes of the voters, but very little at the polls smacks somewhat of fawning.

Seward Reporter (rep.): Hon. Louis H. Seward is a worthy candidate for the republican nomination for state treasurer, was in Seward last Saturday introducing himself to the people. Mr. Helmer has been in positions of honor and trust in Lancaster county, where he lived for many years, and is vouched for as a thoroughly fit man for the position he seeks.

Wood River Interest (rep.): It is a pleasure to note the steady growth of Editor Geddes' boom for auditor. The prospects are bright for his gathering in the persimmons, and they should be. In the first place, he is every way well qualified to fill the position, and in the second place is a jovial newspaper man, one in whom all the fraternity can take a pride in boosting to the clouds. Let the newspaper boys be united in their support of Geddes, and the plum is his.

Kearney Sun (rep.): L. H. Jewett of Custer county goes into the race for state treasurer with a clean record. He has lived at Broken Bow for the past twenty years, during which time he has been actively engaged in business, and the fact that he has successfully managed large interests and carried them safely through the trying ordeals of the past few years assures the people of the state that he can take charge of the state's funds and turn them over at the expiration of his term of office, every dollar secure.

Friend Standard: We notice by our exchange that Mr. L. H. Jewett of Broken Bow is a candidate for the nomination for state treasurer on the republican ticket. Mr. Jewett is ex-cashier of the First National bank of this place and a financier of undoubted ability, a man of high moral character and standing. He is also a staunch and tried republican and that party would not hesitate in placing its confidence in him, and the people of the state could rest assured that their interests would be well protected and promoted by making him their treasurer and financier.

## Dakota City Eagle.

Contingent upon the adoption of the constitutional amendment providing for the election of two additional supreme court judges, the republicans will nominate two candidates at the coming state convention. One of the gentlemen and gentleman he is in every sense of the word receiving the republican nomination for the position of judge. Judge William W. Keyser of Omaha, whom our people will remember as having occupied the district bench in this county for many years, is the ablest and most capable of the judges of the state. His fair and impartial disposition of cases and his businesslike methods made an impression on all who had business in or visited the court, and his name is a guarantee that he will do all in his power to make him the nominee and give him a rousing vote at the polls.

## THE TICKET.

New York Sun: The republicans have nominated McKinley, with unanimity not known for any successful new candidate, with the exception of Fremont, the first republican candidate, in 1856, and Grant, the first republican candidate, in 1868. McKinley was nominated for a first term on the first ballot.

Philadelphia Press: The republican national convention has registered and extended the will of the republican party. No previous standard-bearer called from peaceful career has more visibly represented the broad desire of the great body of voters. William McKinley has been elected a politician. He was wanted by the people.

Boston Advertiser: The republican party in convention assembled at St. Louis nominated for president the most popular man in the United States. That this description fits William McKinley of Ohio must be plain. It should seem, to everybody who reads the news of the day, that the people's nomination beyond the shadow of a doubt.

Buffalo Express: The nomination of William McKinley means more than the triumph of a man, more even than the triumph of the great principle for which he stands. It means the triumph of the people. Other aspirants for the presidential nomination went to different political leaders of supposed invincible power and asked for their support. McKinley placed himself in the hands of the rank and file.

Philadelphia Ledger: The republican party has nominated a candidate for president whom every believer in republican principles can support with his ballot and the confident assurance that he will be supporting a citizen of distinguished public and private worth, a man of proved ability, of proved official and personal integrity, experienced in public affairs, and of unquestionable public spirit.

Washington Post: Mr. McKinley served in congress for fourteen years, and was twice elected governor of Ohio, the last time by the largest majority ever given to any gubernatorial candidate since the days of Edwin Brough. He is held in respect and confidence by men of every party, and nobody doubts that, if elected, he will make an honest, upright and conservative chief magistrate. We congratulate the republican party.

New York Tribune: The people have won at St. Louis, William McKinley has been nominated for president of the United States because to the popular reason and imagination he represents more completely than any other citizen the great republican policy which made and kept the country prosperous. Protection of American industries was amply justified by the operation of the laws in which it was embodied, but the stupendous losses which have resulted from the victory of a party pledged to destroy it were seemingly necessary to establish an overwhelming and permanent conviction of the truth.

Philadelphia Inquirer: McKinley wins. The favorite son of a bad dozen of the states again go down before a candidate from Ohio, and for the third time in twenty years the republican standard will be carried to victory by a leader from that pushing commonwealth. His victory is complete. The brilliant Reed, the sagacious Quay, the experienced Morton and the conservative Allison all encountered the shock of his forces and succumbed before them. His leaders were not the equal in skill or experience of those already named, and his record was not more lustrous. But the idea for which he stands, but which the people repudiated four years ago, is once more regnant and nothing can stay its progress.

## Hyphenated Ideals.

Chicago Times-Herald: The expression is to 1 merely describes a relation and does not give advantage to either metal. That is to say, admitting gold to be sixteen times more valuable than silver, "does not give advantage to either metal," and then the Omaha World-Herald calls somebody else an idiot.

## LEE'S REPORT IS ON THE WAY.

Message from the Consul General at Havana to the President.

## MUCH SPECULATION AS TO ITS CONTENTS.

Washington Officials Discuss the Probable Nature of the Document in Advance of Its Receipt.

WASHINGTON, June 22.—A day or two at least must elapse before the report which Consul General Lee is said to have forwarded Saturday can reach the Department of State. It is not clear whether the report will contain any news of great importance, but it will avail itself of the services of Internal Revenue Collector Ryan as a messenger, as has been intimated might be the case. As there has been much speculation as to what has called forth this particular report from the consul general, it can be stated that aside from some brief cablegrams announcing his arrival and the receipt of instructions, nothing has yet been heard officially from the new consul general, so that a report from him in the ordinary course of the consular routine is fully due.

While it is true that consular officers under their general instructions are expected to report to the State department any events that might be of interest to our government, it cannot be learned that Consul General Lee was under special instructions to make a report upon the policy to be pursued toward Cuba, for such information respecting the military situation as he could have gathered while pent up in Havana and at a distance from the fighting line the State department would have been heard officially from the consul general, and it would carry weight in view of the military experience of the consul general. But, after all, his report will be of value in exact accordance with the facts contained in it. It is not supposed in official circles that he will attempt to shape the policy of the State department as to recognition of belligerency or of independence, which must be decided in Washington after contemplation of a field report that is open to the perception of an official stationed in Cuba. At present the State department is giving more attention to the redress of grievances of American citizens than to the other subjects of the propriety of interference in the strife between the Spaniards and the Cubans, and to this end has been pushing a vigorous correspondence with Mr. Hannis Taylor, our minister at Madrid.

The purpose of the State department is to prevent so far as possible depredations upon the property of American citizens in Cuba, and especially the recurrence of such affairs as the ill-treatment of the Dolgados, father and son, and their servants. Some nice questions of diplomacy are involved in the adjustment of these matters, as for instance in the Dolgado case is in issue the whole question of how long an American resident in Cuba can preserve his American citizenship when he has practically given up his allegiance to his native or adopted country and has concentrated all of his material interests in the hands of his American citizen. It is sufficient to engage the attention of the State department, just now it is regarded as improbable that there will be any immediate changes in the American attitude toward the general subject of relations with Spain, particularly as the prevalence of the rainy season in Cuba has operated largely to restrict military operations there.

## ANOTHER VIGOROUS POLICY FAILS.

## New Governor of British Guiana Meets a Setback.

WASHINGTON, June 22.—Word reaches officials here that Sir Augustus Hemming, the new governor general of British Guiana, is meeting with the same reverses which marked the administration of his predecessor, Sir Francis Lees, in executing the policy of Mr. Chamberlain to buy Maxim guns for the Venezuelan frontier. Sir Augustus recently had his first meeting with the high court, or legislative body of British Guiana. He had been appointed to succeed Sir Francis largely because of the defeat of Mr. Chamberlain's propositions for developing the interior, in the neighborhood of the disputed boundary along the Cuyuni river and then fortifying it. It was believed the diplomacy of Sir Augustus would be more effective in dealing with the contents. The mail just received here brings the details of his first meeting with the high court.

In an address of welcome the governor, Mr. Ingham, speaking for the court, referred incidentally to the Venezuelan question. He said his excellency had arrived at a dark time in the history of the colony, but they hoped that his excellency would soon pass and that something would appear. Sir Augustus expressed his thanks for the greeting and then proceeded to develop by submitting a plan for the development of the interior along the lines proposed by Mr. Chamberlain last fall. It was in the form of a resolution, reciting that a survey had been conducted to a point on the Essequibo coast or the lower Cuyuni river it was now expedient to extend the survey between the Kartuma and Barima rivers. The resolution authorized the expenditure of \$3,000 for the survey.

The government secretary explained that it was expected to have a railway eighteen miles long in this district. He urged its advantage to the gold fields without referring to its value and strategic value, to which Mr. Chamberlain had referred to in his previous survey. Opposition to the plan soon developed in the court, led