

TO STOP CUBAN WAR

Spain to Be Offered a Heavy Financial Bonus.

UNITED STATES TO GO SECURITY

Secret Negotiations Said to Be in Progress Between the State Department and Insurgents.

Chicago, Feb. 7.—A special to the Tribune from Washington says: Secret negotiations are now actually in progress between the state department and the insurgents in Cuba looking to a stoppage of the war on some financial basis to be agreed upon hereafter. President McKinley has not recognized the insurgents as belligerents, and he cannot therefore treat with them openly, as he would do with a diplomatic representative of an independent nation. Direct communication has, however, been had within the last few weeks between the insurgent government and the administration here.

The insurgents have expressed perfect willingness to assume a reasonable share of the Spanish bonds issued against the Cuban revenues. The proposition has been considered with some favor, and the president and his cabinet have discussed several plans for guaranteeing the Cuban debt on the sole basis of independence.

These negotiations have gone side by side with the gradual massing of the ships of the North Atlantic squadron within striking distance of Cuba. Orders to the cruiser Montgomery to sail at once for the harbor of Matanzas have been issued, and the ship is expected to be received there quite as cordially as the Maine was in Havana. The orders to her commander contemplate a call on Consul Brice at Matanzas. Should everything be found peaceable the ship will proceed to Santiago de Cuba, but should affairs look threatening in Matanzas, another ship will quietly be slipped to the latter port, and before Captain-General Blanco knows what is happening to him American ships will be in the harbor of every important port in Cuba.

The gradual occupation of the island by a naval force is understood to be part and parcel of the negotiations with the insurgents. When they are concluded, if everything goes well, the United States will be in a position to offer Spain a heavy financial bonus for giving up the island, while at the same time the insurgents will find themselves in a position to make a junction with the United States naval forces at any one of the half dozen ports.

A cablegram has been sent by the state department to Consul Brice at Matanzas notifying him that the Montgomery is en route to that port, and directing him to make the necessary arrangements for its reception. Although it is not admitted by state department officials, the impression prevails that Consul Brice in advising the department of the recent riots occurring in Matanzas, suggested that a warship should be immediately sent there for the protection of American interests. The fact that the state department requested that the Montgomery be sent there strengthens this belief.

Stripped of His Rank.

New York, Feb. 7.—Official statements which will soon be published are to the effect that the reason that General Blanco was not successful in securing General Rabi's surrender was that General Garcia had been arrested by General Garcia and stripped of his rank because it was feared he would surrender, says the Havana correspondent of the Herald. General Rabi's brother, it is reported, had been arrested by order of General Garcia for the same reason.

Failing in securing the presentation, Spaniard here expected General Blanco to take the field and conduct a vigorous and aggressive campaign. He publicly announced that such was his intention, but for some reason his plans miscarried and now he is coming home without having struck a decisive blow.

Reports say the rebel forces under General Garcia inflicted a severe blow on the Spanish under General Linares and General Luque, killing several officers. Reports say that 85 were killed or wounded.

Volunteers are making threats again, and the authorities, in order to be fully prepared, have deemed it necessary to take precautions against a demonstration. Guards have been placed about public buildings and the American consulate.

One of the most important engagements of the present campaign in the Orient was fought on January 21 near Caiman, between the forces under General Luque and the rebels under General Garcia. The Spanish, it is reported, had 150 killed and a large number wounded. From accounts received the fight was a veritable slaughter, the Spaniards being boxed up in a ravine. General Luque sent to Cauto, where the main body of troops was stationed, for assistance, and commenced to retreat toward Holguin. He reached Holguin on January 27, and on the same evening General Linares, who had been sent to his assistance, was chased into that town by another rebel force. The rebels employed light field guns with great effect.

Washington, Feb. 7.—The senate committee on commerce today authorized the reporting of a bill in accordance with the recommendation of the treasury department, establishing a steamboat inspectors' district in Alaska.

WRECK ON THE NORTHERN.

East Bound Train Ran Into a Washout Near Pasco.

Tacoma, Wash., Feb. 8.—A special to the Ledger from Pasco, Wash., says: The overland passenger train that left Tacoma at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon was wrecked at 4 o'clock this morning at a small bridge 30 miles east of Pasco, between Hatton and Connell.

Two men who were riding on the platform of the baggage car were killed, and another, who was on the platform of the mail car, next to the tender, had his leg and one hand crushed. The mail clerk was cut slightly about the head. The men who were killed were John Leland and an unknown tramp. Leland was from St. Louis. They both had some money, but were beating their way east.

The man who was injured was one of the Klondikers who was wrecked on the Corona. He was returning home with a companion, and both were riding on the platform of the mail car. They refused to give their names.

The train was in charge of conductor Campbell and Engineer George Ladd. It was running slowly on account of a bad track. The accident occurred on a small bridge over a dry stream, which had been swollen by the recent heavy rains. The stream usually is not more than 25 feet wide. The engine passed over the bridge, but the engineer felt the structure give way beneath him and promptly applied the emergency brake. The bridge sank as the mail car left it, and the baggage car and an empty emigrant car went down with it. The engine left the track and turned partly over. The engineer and fireman stuck to their posts, and were unhurt. The mail car was thrown on its side, stripped of its trucks, and badly smashed. The car was set on fire by the lamps, but the blaze was quickly put out before much damage was done. The express and baggage cars were turned over on their sides, and smashed. The escape of the messengers and clerks was almost miraculous.

The passengers in the sleepers were awakened by the shock, but were uninjured.

TROOPS START NORTH.

The Relief Expedition Sails on the Steamer Elder.

Portland, Feb. 8.—With 371 passengers, including the first detachment of troops for the Alaska relief expedition, 56 horses, 50 dogs and 1,150 tons of freight, the steamer Elder left Alaska wharf for the far north at 10:30 o'clock last night. Though the wharf was well filled with sightseers, it was not crowded to suffocation, for many of the Elder's passengers were from outside of Portland, and had no friends here to see them off.

Some 200 tons of the Elder's freight was for the government relief expedition, 400 tons was miners' outfits, and 550 tons general freight. All the freight save a few outfits was aboard while the passengers were embarking. Everything went off smoothly, and when the gang plank was pulled in, and the big steamer swung out into the river, she was given a rousing cheer as that which followed her on her first trip northward.

Japanese Going to Klondike.

San Francisco, Feb. 8.—The Call says: Japan is going to invade the Klondike. A standing army of 5,000 able-bodied laborers are preparing to go to the gold fields, and in a month or so they will make a descent upon Dawson City. One of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamers will bring them here, but as they will not land on the soil of the United States, there will be no one to stop them, unless Great Britain takes a hand in the matter. One of the Japanese steamers that has been carrying laborers, will be used to carry the men to their destination. It is added that the Japanese will be brought over by a syndicate, and trouble on the Klondike is predicted.

Shipwrecked Crew Rescued.

New York, Feb. 8.—The Portuguese steamer Oeventum, which arrived today from Oporto, brought ten of the crew of the American bark Serene, which was wrecked December 31 at Leixoes, near Oporto, during a heavy northeast gale, as heretofore reported. The bark dragged her anchors and went ashore on the rocks. The crew landed with difficulty, saving only the clothes they wore. Captain Dalling remained with the vessel to look after the owner's interests. The Serene sailed from Philadelphia November 1 for Oporto with a cargo of case oil. She was built in Baltimore in 1867, and was owned by parties in New York, whence she hailed. She registered 522 tons.

The White Squadron.

Jacksonville, Fla., Feb. 8.—A special to the Citizen from Key West says: Ships connected with the white squadron have displayed remarkable activity during the last few hours. The cruiser Marblehead put out from port today and joined the fleet. The Nashville, which left here Thursday, fully supplied with coal and ammunition, has returned to the harbor. The torpedo boats have returned and the Cushing and Tryon are in port. The Dupont will arrive tomorrow. The supply boats during the past week have transported large quantities of provisions to the fleet.

Cow Derailed the Train.

St. Louis, Feb. 8.—A cow derailed the north-bound Texas special on the Iron Mountain 36 miles south of St. Louis, early today, resulting in the death of the engineer and fireman and slight injury to two passengers whose names are not known.

Devastation Caused by Earthquake.

Constantinople, Feb. 8.—Anatolia was visited by an earthquake yesterday which, it is reported, caused widespread devastation.

JAPANESE MAY VOTE.

Thus Their Opposition to Annexation of Hawaii Is Removed.

Washington, Feb. 7.—Japan has been removed as an element in the opposition to the consummation of the annexation of the Hawaiian islands by the United States by conclusion of an agreement with Japan. This document, which has not been generally taken into account in the consideration of means for adjusting three questions that have arisen over the status of Japanese in Hawaii, goes into effect in July, next year, and among other things, it confers upon Japanese within the territory of the United States all the rights accorded to the citizens of the most favored nation, which, of course, carries with it rights of naturalization and the rights of franchise. Presuming that annexation is effected, the Japanese in Hawaii will, in 1899, have the same rights as those in the present limits of the United States.

All that remains to be fixed is the status of the Japanese during the time that must elapse between the adoption of the annexation treaty and the beginning of the operation of the Japanese treaty in 1899. As the pending annexation treaty provides for the appointment of a commission to visit the islands and prepare such legislation as may be necessary to consummate the amalgamation of the territories, this last question can easily be adjusted, along with other details in the bill to be reported to congress.

A MURDEROUS FIT.

Terrible Deed of a Farmer Who Suddenly Became Insane.

Little Rock, Ark., Feb. 7.—Saul E. Autrey, a farmer, accompanied by his family, went early yesterday morning to visit his aged father and mother, living near Mulberry. Shortly after his arrival Autrey became engaged in a religious argument with the old folks. Suddenly he grasped an iron bar, killed his aged father, mother and his 10-year-old son, and seriously wounded his wife and three remaining children, two of whom are not expected to live. His wife and eldest daughter, although badly hurt, managed to notify the neighbors. When they reached the house they found Autrey a raving maniac, with his clothing on fire. He was overpowered after a hard struggle. The three victims of the crazy man lay on the floor, beaten and mangled almost beyond recognition. He has been chained all day, talking incoherently and swearing that witches were the cause of the trouble.

Stole Charity Passes.

Cincinnati, Feb. 7.—The railways here have discovered that they have been swindled out of thousands of dollars by bogus orders of the mayor for pauper passes. These orders were printed and bound in pads with the name of the mayor and his secretary printed on them. Instead of signing them, the city sealer stamp had been used, but through carelessness, the orders were finally given out without stamping. Recently, many pads got into the hands of scoundrels and have been sold for months by ticket brokers. The discoveries date back as far as last October. One railway tracked over \$1,000 worth of them today on its line and other lines are proceeding with investigations. Joseph and Lyman Hess were arrested on the charge of purloining charity passes from the mayor's office. Their brother, Harry, has been employed in that office. Samuel Phillips was arrested charged with selling them, on which tickets were issued at the ticket office. Other arrests will follow.

Great Cracker Combine.

Chicago, Feb. 5.—All the biscuit and cracker companies between Salt Lake on the west, Portland, Me., on the east, St. Paul on the north, and New Orleans on the south, will tomorrow morning be under one management. The name of the new corporation, which was incorporated in New Jersey, with a capital of \$25,000,000 of preferred and \$30,000,000 common stock, is the National Biscuit Company. The actual transfer of the deeds of the various plants controlled by three companies merged into the present company took place today. The company has purchased all the assets, bills receivable and operating plants of all the bakeries which were controlled by the American Biscuit Company, United States Baking Company, and the New York Biscuit Company. It also assumes all the indebtedness of these companies.

Tribesmen Routed.

Calcutta, Feb. 7.—A telegram from Parnsi says that General Mayne sighted the enemy, numbering 1,500, at 8 o'clock Monday morning, holding the entrance of the western pass leading to Turbat. He attacked them, and tried to turn their left, sending a body of infantry and dismounted cavalry to turn the flank. The action lasted two hours, and the enemy were completely routed, losing about 100 killed. The British losses were three Baluchis killed and eight wounded.

Perished on an Ice Floe.

St. John's, N. F., Feb. 5.—Eight of the 16 men who went adrift yesterday on an ice floe in Trinity bay reached land tonight, badly frosted. It is believed that the others perished.

Allied Against England.

Berlin, Feb. 7.—An article in the Novoe Vremya, of St. Petersburg, which has attracted the attention of Europe, declares that France and Germany supported Russia's determination and opposed England with reference to Taitien Wan. Lord Salisbury, it is claimed, is obliged to consult with his colleagues before the meeting of parliament as to the best way to beat a retreat if England wishes to avoid an open conflict with Russia.

HE WILL NOT RESIGN.

Senator Lindsay's Reply to the Kentucky Legislature.

Washington, Feb. 7.—Speaking in question of personal privilege in the senate, today, Lindsay commented sharply on the motives of the author and promoters of the resolution recently passed by the Kentucky legislature demanding his resignation as senator Lindsay, after defining his position on the financial question, made it clear that he was the representative of the whole people of Kentucky, and in a sense the agent of the Kentucky legislature. Above all, he was, he said, senator of the American people, and as such, would perform his duties as cast his vote in accordance with his convictions and the dictates of his conscience. No business of import, was transacted. After an executive session of three hours, the senate adjourned.

This was private bill day in the house, but, by systematic filibustering the private calendar, containing the bills reported by the committee on claims, was not reached, the whole time being consumed in passing 18 of the 24 private pension bills favorably acted upon by the house at the session last Friday night. During the consideration of one of the bills, an interesting discussion of the approaching sale of the Kansas Pacific, set for February 17, was precipitated by Fleming, with some Democratic colleagues, desired legislation to require the president to bid the full amount of the debt principal and interest. Powers, chairman of the Pacific railroad committee contended that the real purpose of the opposition was to compel the government to take the road and operate it. He said he thought the administration which had secured every dollar owing from the Union Pacific, could be trusted safely to protect the government's interest at the sale of the Kansas Pacific.

THE ORDER MODIFIED.

Prompt Action in This Country Brought Germany to Terms.

Washington, Feb. 7.—The state department has been notified, by Ambassador White, at Berlin, of the modification of the decree issued by the Prussian minister of finance, F. Miquel, prohibiting the importation of American fruit. According to the ambassador's cable today, the decree does not, as he advised yesterday, apply to dried fruit, while fresh fruit will be admitted to entry if an examination shows its condition to be satisfactory. If this modification has been made, the decree, it would appear that the prompt representations made by the United States have received an equal prompt consideration on the other side. It is certain that if the decree, as originally promulgated, had been applied to shipments of fruit in transit, as the terms indicated, the shippers would have been in the right to claim indemnity from the Prussian government for the damage sustained by them, and it would be regarded by the United States government as a matter of duty to sustain this demand for indemnity.

The state department is now obliged to await the receipt of full advices of the exact nature of the modified decree, and watch its workings.

Mr. White last evening, lodged another formal protest with Baron von Bulow, as president of the bundsrath. The United States consul at Dusseldorf telegraphed today that only dried fruits had been released, and that there were about 11,000 barrels of apples in the bonded warehouse there.

The United States embassy, during the week, has been flooded with apples from fruit merchants, dealers and shippers who have been injured by the decree, and all of them have thanked Mr. White for the vigorous measure he has adopted. It appears that Dr. Miquel and Baron von Hammerstein-Loxten issued the decree without authority of the Prussian cabinet or the bundsrath.

Kansas City Vegetarian Mission.

Kansas City, Feb. 7.—An experimental mission where the poor are to be served meals at a penny a dish and a bed for 5 cents, with a bath thrown in, has been started here under the direction of the church of the Seventh Day Adventists. One hundred and fifty cots have been placed in a large room in a building on the second floor. In the basement bathhouse have been provided, together with a room for fumigating clothes, and a laundry in which a man may wash his own clothes. The meal consists entirely of vegetables, meat being barred because of its expense and the work of cooking it, and because the management believes in vegetarianism.

Three Men Drowned.

Spokane, Feb. 7.—A Hope, Idaho, special to the Spokesman-Review reports the drowning in the Pend d'Oreille river of Carl Hagan, C. Randall and O. Hawkland. The three were in a boat, which became fouled in thin ice. R. J. Sage, who lives down the river, heard the men shouting about 9 o'clock at night, and tried to get to them, but found it impossible. The empty boat was afterwards recovered, with some letters and a Swedish Bible. The bodies have not been recovered.

Accidentally Shot Himself.

Vancouver, B. C., Feb. 7.—Richard Fraser, while out shooting near here today, accidentally shot and killed himself.

Fine Diamonds at Pretoria.

Pretoria, Feb. 5.—An inspector who paid a surprise visit recently to a diamond mine near Pretoria is convinced of a genuine discovery. He saw diamonds unearthed of a formation similar to the Kimberly diamonds.

MILLS WILL BE BUILT

To Cut Lumber for Boats Along the Lakes in Alaska.

The last obstacle has been removed in the matter of the establishment of the saw mills of the Canadian Mill Company at the lakes on the lines of routes from Wrangel, Skagway and Dyea, to Dawson and the Klondike. The scheme is one of the most interesting yet launched in connection with the increase of trade to the north, and contemplates saw mills at different points along the chain of lakes that lie in the direct path of all routes leading across the mountains from tidewater to Dawson. The principal business of the saw mills will be to cut lumber for the boats to be used by prospectors and miners going down to the gold fields. When running to full capacity the mills will be able to turn out 80 completed boats daily.

The first use that the saw mills will be put to, however, will be cutting lumber to build two stern-wheel steamers, which are to ply on the lakes. Each will be 75 feet long, 18 feet beam and will draw 18 inches of water. After the completion of the steamers the mills will be started cutting boat lumber and the daily capacity will be 40,000 feet. The mills will have electric light plants and run during the dark hours of the short days or on a night shift if necessary. The boats will be delivered at the head of Lake Bennett, and the steamers can take long strings of loaded boats and tow them a distance of 72 miles. This will be much to the advantage of those owning the boats, as the peculiar topographical conditions are such that head winds prevail during the greater part of the season when lake navigation is open. Each steamer will have a capacity of 125 passengers. The tow of the small boats will do away with the necessity of sails. Navigation opens on the lakes about April 15, and the mills are expected to cut for the steamers early in March. A general freight business by barges will be conducted on the lakes, the barges as well as the boats to be towed by the steamers.

Sale of Klondike Claims.

One of the biggest deals on record in Klondike mining properties was consummated in Seattle last week. Six claims, located on Bonanza, Sulphur, Dominion, All-Gold creeks and French gulch changed hands. The total amount involved in the transaction was between \$150,000 and \$200,000. No definite terms have been made public, both parties to the deal withholding this information.

The purchasers are E. J. McCune, of Salt Lake, Utah, and Eugene J. Short, of Spokane. They are acting for themselves and for Spokane and New York parties. Mr. McCune is a brother of A. W. McCune, the millionaire Montana and British Columbia mining man, owner of the Payne silver mine, in British Columbia. He is also associated in a number of mining properties with Marcus Daly and W. L. Hoge, well known in mining circles in Butte and Anaconda.

Chris Neebur and Carl Hunt are the sellers. Neebur is an Iowa boy, and Hunt mined for several years in the Kootenay and Oregon before going to Alaska. Neebur was four years in the Yukon country, and Hunt spent three years there. Both were in the Klondike early in the spring of 1897, before the stampede from the states. They secured a number of valuable claims on the principal gold-bearing streams in the camp. After taking out a large quantity of gold from No. 9, above discovery on Bonanza, they sold a half interest in the claim for \$20,000.

Nuggets of Klondike News.

The Alaska Mining Record has the following "nuggets" about Klondikers passing through Juneau:

Frank Swanson, who is now in Juneau, made the first slice box that was ever used in the Klondike district. This was on Gold Bottom creek. He is a young man with a clear complexion and a clear record, and is not a millionaire yet, but has a fair prospect of becoming one this year. He brought out about \$20,000 in checks.

"Nigger Jim" came out with these last Yukoners, but stayed at Skagway for a few days. He is said to be the whitest man in Dawson and hence his nickname. His real name is James Daugherty or in the aristocratic past D'Aughtre. He was in with Alex McDonald on several recent deals and brings with him in checks about \$160,000.

Sam Stanley, of Juneau, has not done so badly in the interior. He comes out with about \$10,000 in gold, and has an interest in two of the finest claims on the Eldorado.

Fred Stevens sold out the Dawson opera house just before the big fire for, it is said, \$20,000, but he did not bring all this out with him.

George Miller had sold, when he left Dawson, about 800 of his 1,000 head of sheep, and cleared about \$20,000 out of the transaction.

George Apple had the biggest chance in his life to make a fortune when candles went up to \$1 each, and then became unobtainable at any price. He made moulds for the making of tallow candles—and there was plenty of tallow, but he gave his ingenuity to the benefit of the community. Still he need not fear the grocery bill for another 20 years.

It is not true that the correspondent of the Kansas City Star managed to marry "Nigger Jim," so the San Francisco Call will have to take back the charge that she is a young and beautiful woman.

The men who were invited and aided to leave Dawson are the men who said they were fleeing from starvation. None of the men who worked while there have any kick coming. They all return with well-fed expressions and healthy wallets.

A Famine in Russia.

London, Feb. 7.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Times says a failure in the harvest has caused terrible distress among the peasantry of the interior provinces, and especially in Central and Southeastern Russia.