VARIETY OF TOPICS

House Debate on Legislative Bill Took Wide Range.

THE VOTE OCCURS TODAY

The Philippine Question, Pensions, Civil Service and Race Question Were Discussed.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The house today completed 26 of the 124 pages of the legislative, executive and judicial appropriation bill, without amendment. During the general debate, which closed at 4 o'clock, a variety of topics were touched upon. Boutell of Illinois, Miers of Indiana, and Showalter of Pennsylvania discussed the Philippine question; Grosvenor of Ohio and Gillett of Massachusetts, civil service reform; Briggs of New York, pensions, and Underwood of Alabama, his resolution to repeal the 15th amendment to the constitution. The legislative bill probably will be passed tomorrow.

The Proceedings.

After the transaction of some unimportant business the house went into committee of the whole for the consideration of the legislative appropriation bill. Touching upon the approaching presidential contest, Boutell (rep. Ill.) said silver was killed in 1896, and buried in 1898, and he did not think a single member of the minority desired it resurrected. He said it was the solemn duty of every citizen in the present stage of the Philippine insurrection to support the president.

Underwood (dem. Ala.) followed in a speech in support of the resolution to repeal the 15th amendment to the constitution. In the matter of suffrage, said Underwood, public safety should be the governing test. People morally and intellectually disqualified should not be allowed to exercise the high privilege of suffrage. The Indian and the Mongolian could not vote. Why the negro? The conditions which obtained when the 15th amendment was adopted no longer existed. No one in the South desired slavery. The experiment of giving the negroes suffrage had failed. Instead of proving a strength to the republican party, it had proved a weakness. He did not believe the negro would ever become the equal of the white man. Educational qualification would not meet the situation in the South.

Miers (dem. Ind.) argued that the Philippine question, involving as it did the traditional policy of America, should rise above party. The Philippines are either entitled to admission into the United States upon an equality with other territories, or they were entitled to freedom and independence. A colonial policy, he predicted, would disrupt the Union.

Showalter (rep. Pa.) argued that the United States had power to decide the system of government for the Philippines.

Grosvenor (rep. O.) denounced the civil service law, basing his remarks upon the statements of Hemenway (rep. Ind.), yesterday, that the departments were full of incompetents, whereas in 1883 the civil service was a model of efficiency.

"The gentleman, I believe, was one of the framers of the St. Louis platform," interrupted Richardson (dem. Tenn.). "That platform declared for an extension of the civil service law. How does he reconcile that fact with his present hostility to the law?"

"The gentleman from Ohio," replied Grosvenor, "sometimes makes a fool of himself, just as the gentleman from Tennessee does." (Laughter.)

Continuing, Grosvenor said the only way to prevent the public service from breaking down was to provide for a tenure of office act on the lines of the "Evans bill" of the last congress. He protested against the payment of millions to uphold the discredited credit.

Gillett (rep. Mass.), replying briefly to Grosvenor, pointed out that the inefficiency of the departments, according to the statements of Hemenway, was due, not to the civil service law, but because political influence was used to protect incompetents.

Miers filed the minority views in the contested election case of Pearson-Crawford.

A bill to authorize the Union Pacific Railroad Company to construct a bridge across the Monongahela, in Allegheny county, Pa., was passed, and at 5 o'clock the house adjourned.

CANAL LEGISLATION.

Possibility of the Passage of the Bill and Ratification of the Treaty.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—A special to the Herald from Washington says:

Prompt action by the senate on the Hay-Pauncefote treaty and the Nicaragua canal bill need not be expected. Nor is it fair to assume, as those who oppose both measures seem to, that delay means the defeat of either measure. On the contrary the best judgment of the conservative men in both houses, who are influential in shaping the course of legislation, is that the treaty will be ratified and the bill passed before the close of the present session.

These same men predict that the session will last well into mid-summer, because of the length of time that will be required for debate upon these and other important measures which the republican leaders are anxious to dispose of before the session closes. No progress has been made with the treaty. The subject was only incidentally mentioned at the recent republican caucus and this meeting of the republicans necessitated a short session of the foreign relations committee, which prevented consideration of the treaty by that body as had been contemplated.

The fact is, the foreign relations committee can see no reason for expediting action on the treaty, as it is realized the pressure of other business before the senate will delay the consideration of the treaty for some weeks. Despite reports to the contrary, it can be stated after a careful canvass of the committee that when the treaty is reported it will have the indorsement of all the republican members and several of the democrats. Indeed, Senator Money is the only one who has thus far expressed his intention of insisting upon an amendment providing for fortifications.

With a practically unanimous report from the committee, and with the pressure the administration will bring to bear upon those senators who are now inclined to insist upon an amendment, it is the confident belief of such men as Senators Hanna, Davis, Foraker, Morgan and Frye that the necessary two-thirds vote will be obtained to accomplish ratification.

SHIPPING SUBSIDY BILL.

Amendments Agreed to by Senate Committee on Commerce.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The shipping bill was considered at some length by the senate committee on commerce today, and a number of amendments suggested by the subcommittee were agreed to. Among them were the following: Providing for the registration of foreign-built vessels, one-half of the stock of which is owned by American citizens; limiting the amount of subsidy which shall be paid to 20 and 21-knot vessels to $2,000,000 per year; increasing the compensation to be paid 11, 12 and 13-knot vessels; shutting out from the benefits of the bill vessels which do both a coastwise and foreign carrying trade. The committee did not conclude its consideration of the bill.

Presidential Nominations.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The president today sent to the senate the nomination of James Allison, of Kansas, to be commissioner of the international exposition at Paris; also a number of army nominations, including Lieutenant-Colonel Cummings, Twenty-seventh infantry, to be colonel of that regiment.

No Extra Pay for Volunteers.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The senate committee on military affairs today decided to report adversely the bill introduced by Senator Turner giving travel pay and commutation of subsistence to officers and soldiers of the volunteer army who served in the Philippines beyond the termination of the Spanish war, and afterward were transported to the United States and mustered out in this country. The committee was informed that about $7,000,000 would be required to make the payments provided for by the bill.

Military Notes.

Of the officers selected for duty in Alaska, Captain William R. Abercrombie, Second infantry, and First Lieutenant Walter C. Babcock, Eighth cavalry, now in Washington, have been ordered to proceed without delay to Seattle, Wash., for the purpose of arranging for the continuance of the work of constructing the military road from Port Valdes to Eagle City, Alaska. Captain E. F. Glenn, Twenty-fifth infantry, one of the officers who have done the best work in Alaska, has been ordered to join his regiment in the Philippines, because of the scarcity of officers. Major James N. Allison, commissary of subsistence, has been ordered to go from Vancouver barracks to Seattle, Wash., to consult with Brigadier-General George M. Randall, commanding the department of Alaska, concerning the requirements of the troops in that department whenever necessary.

Colonel William S. McCaskey, now serving in the Philippine islands, who has been promoted to the colonelcy of the Twentieth infantry, is reported to be the youngest colonel in the army. It is said that he will have the distinction, by reason of the retirement of his seniors, of being the last officer on the active list who served throughout the civil war. He recently completed his 56th year. He has three sons in the army, all lieutenants.

Colonel John R. Lewis, United States army, retired, died in Chicago on the 8th inst., of tuberculosis of the bowels, complicated with pneumonia. He entered the First Vermont infantry in 1861 as a sergeant, and in 1864 became colonel of the Fifth Vermont infantry. He was appointed a colonel in the veteran reserve corps later in that year, and was honorably mustered out in 1867. He was with the army of the Potomac and participated in 12 battles, losing his left arm at the Wilderness, May 5, 1864. In 1865 he was brevetted a brigadier-general of volunteers for gallant service in the Wilderness. He became a major of the Forty-fourth infantry, regular service, in 1867, and was retired with the rank of colonel in 1870. He received two regular army brevets of lieutenant-colonel for gallant and meritorious services at White Oak Swamp, Va., and for gallant and meritorious services in the Wilderness. Colonel Lewis lived at West Seattle during 1898-99, and has a son, a graduate of West Point, in the regular army. Colonel Lewis was in Portland in November last, visiting his old friend, Colonel J. W. Jacobs, United States army, at Vancouver barracks.

Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas H. Barry, assistant adjutant-general, who has been adjutant-general of the department of the Pacific and the Eighth army corps at Manila for several months past, left for home last week on the transport Grant. On his arrival in Washington he will be assigned to duty in the office of the adjutant-general at the war department. Colonel Merritt Barber will succeed Colonel Barry as adjutant-general of the troops in the Philippines. Colonel Barber was stationed at Vancouver barracks, under the late General John Bibbon, United States army, in 1890.

PASSED BY SENATE.

(Continued from First Page.)

of the United States in coin of the standard fixed by the act of July 14, 1870, was laid on the table, 44 to 26.

An amendment offered by Pettus (dem. Ala.) providing that gold coins and silver dollars coined by the United States shall be a legal tender at their nominal value, was defeated, 44 to 27.

Another amendment by Pettus providing that nothing in this act should affect the legal-tender qualities of United States silver dollars was likewise defeated, 44 to 26.

Vest (dem. Mo.) offered an amendment providing for $200,000,000 of treasury bond notes should be loaned by the secretary of the treasury to any person who would deposit United States bonds as security. Vest sharply arraigned Secretary Gage for his action in relation to the National City bank of New York, saying the letter of A. B. Hepburn, vice-president of that bank, was "nothing short of an insult to the highest fiscal officer of the government." His amendment, he said, if enacted into law, would afford the citizen owner of bonds the same facilities as were afforded national banks. The amendment was defeated without division.

An amendment of McLaurin (dem. S. C.) to repeal the law on state banks was lost, 27 to 20.

Jones (dem. Ark.) then offered as a substitute for the senate bill a measure providing for the free and unlimited coinage of silver. That, too, was lost, 47 to 28, the vote being along strict party lines, except Senators Lindsay (dem. Ky.) and Caffery (dem. La.) voting with the republicans.

Nelson (rep. Minn.) offered an amendment providing for the organization of national banks with a capital of not less than $25,000 in towns whose population does not exceed 4000. Aldrich accepted the amendment, and it was adopted. The bill, as amended, was then passed, 46 to 29.

Cullom (rep. Ill.) moved that the senate take up for consideration the Hawaiian government bill, the effect of the motion, if adopted, being to make the bill the unfinished business. Chandler antagonized the motion to proceed to consider executive business. His motion was voted down and that of Cullom adopted.

After a brief executive session, the senate, at 5:25 P. M., adjourned.

Mother and Children Asphyxiated.

CHICAGO, Feb. 15. — Mrs. Jeanette Schwartz and her two children, Lulu, aged 9 years, and Henrietta, 4 months old, were found dead in bed here today, the result of asphyxiation. Mrs. Schwartz was the wife of J. T. Schwartz, a saloonkeeper. While he was serving customers in the basement, members of the family in the rear were being slowly smothered. It is supposed the jets were accidentally turned on.

Bryan in South Carolina.

COLUMBIA, S. C., Feb. 15.—William J. Bryan addressed the general assembly here today.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Feb. 15.—W. J. Bryan addressed 8000 people here tonight in the Tomson Memorial auditorium. There was a great demonstration when Colonel Bryan appeared on the stage.

The Troubles in Martinique.

PORT DE FRANCE, Martinique, Feb. 15.—Fifty soldiers arrived today and dispersed rioters at various points. No instructions have been received from the home government, and the people fear a fresh collision will occur.

Daily Treasury Statement.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Today's statement of the condition of the treasury shows:

Available cash balance	$294,667,892
Gold reserve	221,089,591

A New Champagne Record.

109,360 cases imported in 1899 of G. H. Mumm's Extra Dry, or 72,436 cases more than any other brand, is the record of this century. With an enormous stock of choicest wines, its quality cannot be excelled at any price, and its 1895 vintage now imported is finest in years.

THE SEIZURES OF FLOUR

CORRESPONDENCE IN THE MATTER SENT TO THE SENATE.

Efforts of the State Department to Secure the Release of the Alleged Contraband.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—Responding to the senate's resolution of January 17, the president today sent to the senate a report from the secretary of state, accompanying papers showing the steps that have been taken to obtain the restitution of property of American citizens seized by the military authorities of Great Britain in or near Delagoa bay. The report consists entirely of correspondence between the state department and Ambassador Choate and the British government. The fact that the flour seized has been released was published.

The correspondence begins with the report of Consul-General Stowe, located at Cape Town, made December 6, and relating to the detention of the British ship Maria, and the seizure of the British ship Mashona, and also the Beatrice, all carrying American flour and other foodstuffs for the Transvaal. These acts were brought to the notice of Ambassador Choate by Secretary Hay December 21, when the latter was instructed "to bring the matter to the attention of the British government, and to inquire as to the circumstances and legality of the seizure." He added: "If it was illegal you will request prompt action and restitution." Consul Hollis, at Lourenco Marques, was instructed at the same time "to use all proper efforts to protect the property of American shippers."

Mr. Choate's first note, dated January 1, relates to the American flour on the Mashona, and he says in this that the vessel was brought into the prize court "on the charge of trading with the enemy." January 2, Mr. Choate was instructed by Mr. Hay to the effect that he should "represent the views of this government to be that unless it can be shown that the goods were contraband, it does not regard them as subject to capture under the circumstances represented." January 4, Mr. Choate reported a conference with Lord Salisbury, who, he said, claimed that the Maria and the Mashona had been seized for violation of the neutrality law of Great Britain, the seizure being merely an incidental matter, and that Lord Salisbury knew nothing of the Beatrice.

The 7th of that month, Mr. Choate transmitted particulars concerning the attitude of the British government, saying that Lord Salisbury did not claim that any of the American goods seized were contraband, the position of the British government being "that foodstuffs with a hostile destination can be considered contraband only if they are supplies for the enemy's forces, and that it is not sufficient that they are capable of so being used." Mr. Choate reports in the communication that Lord Salisbury suggested that the British government settle the matter by taking the flour and paying for it at its price at its destination. Mr. Choate urged such sale to the British government as the simplest and easiest method of settlement. This question was still pending when the correspondence ceased.

The 17th Mr. Choate reported that the cargo of the Beatrice had been discharged at East London, and that there was no allegation against it, no seizure having been contemplated; that the cargo of the Maria was at Durban, free for its owners to take; that the Mashona was at Cape Town, but that, owing to the fact that there was no bill of lading there was much difficulty in dealing with its cargo. Incidentally, Mr. Choate states in a dispatch of the 18th, relating an interview with Lord Salisbury, that "he claims no blockade or siege of Delagoa bay, but only the right to seize real contraband of war on the high seas, which is destined for the enemy's forces." The 26th, Mr. Choate reported the conclusions of the British authorities that large quantities of the flour carried by the Beatrice were destined for the South African republic, making it necessary to land it at East London, as it was impossible to discharge this part of the cargo without discharging the remainder, allowing removal of parts of the cargo for local Portuguese consumption.

Secretary Hay took apparent exception to this proceeding, saying it was "in conflict with the assurances that foodstuffs with hostile intention are not contraband of war, unless intended as supplies for the enemy's forces, and inadmissible from the view of the United States." Replying to this point, Mr. Choate said that Lord Salisbury had disclaimed the purpose indicated.

The correspondence closes with a notice from Mr. Choate to Mr. Hay, of February 9, to the effect that the American goods on the Mashona had been placed at the disposal of the American consul-general at Cape Town.

CONGRESSMAN SULZER TALKS

Results of the Trust Conference—The Democratic Outlook.

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—Congressman William Sulzer, of New York, who has been attending the anti-trust conference, left for Washington last night. As to the work of the conference, he said:

"It has been a success. The beneficial effects of its work will be far-reaching and the results deep and lasting. So far as the trusts are concerned, it is the beginning of the end. They will either be crushed by the law, or the people will rise and control them for the good of society and the benefit of all. One or the other will happen, and that before long."

Asked as to the probable place of holding the national democratic convention, he said that he did not know where it would be held—the national committee would decide on the city at its meeting in Washington February 22.

"I favor an early convention," he said. "We should set the pace for the republicans. We have the affirmative, and we should open the case to the great jury of the American people and proceed. We can gain nothing by delay. The issues are made up by the people, and the campaign has already begun. Every one knows that we will renominate Colonel W. J. Bryan, reaffirm the Chicago platform and add strong planks against trusts, militarism and imperialism."

"How about your selection for vice-president?" he was asked.

"The convention," he replied, "will choose the best and the most available man. I do not care to discuss myself, because I am not a candidate in the sense of seeking that high office. Of course I feel complimented to have my name mentioned in connection with it, and as a good democratic soldier in the ranks, I will say I will always obey the mandates of my party."

Congressman Sulzer said that he should not relax his efforts to have an investigation of the management of Secretary Gage, and further that "New York will go democratic next fall."

FATAL STABBING.

Edward T. Colby, of Butte, Assaulted and Mortally Wounded.

BUTTE, Mont., Feb. 15.—Edward T. Colby, a well-known newspaper solicitor, at present engaged in mining, was stabbed and fatally wounded tonight by Harry W. Peters, on West Park street. Colby was engaged to be married to a sister of Peters' wife, who was living with them. Peters objected to the match, and it is claimed abused his sister-in-law on account of it. Colby met Peters tonight and asked him what he meant by his actions toward the girl. There was an exchange of epithets, and Peters drew a knife and stabbed Colby twice, once in the left side of the abdomen and once in the thigh. Colby walked to the hospital, where he collapsed. He will die. Peters gave himself up.

OUR FOREIGN COMMERCE.

Growth Largely Due to Economies of Manufacture.

The total foreign commerce of the United States, including exports of foreign merchandise, but not including the precious metals, has reached the following figures for the four last calendar years:

1899	$2,074,345,242	1897	$1,842,274,904
1898	1,890,510,714	1896	1,687,416,797

The import and export movement of silver for the four years aggregates a further sum of $353,315,277.

The excess of exports over imports during these four years has been as follows:

1899	$476,654,100	1897	$357,112,204
1898	620,581,818	1896	324,257,685
Add silver			106,538,471
Total			$1,885,144,275

The percentage of free goods in the total imports has not varied so much as might have been expected in view of the fact that the tariff was raised in the summer of 1897. The percentages of free goods in the four years have been as follows:

1896	47.4	1898	42.26
1897	50.8	1899	43.91

The value of food and animals imported has not varied greatly in the four years, except that it dropped notably in 1898. The total and the percentage of the whole which they constitute are as follows:

	Value.	Per cent.
1899	$229,971,385	28.75
1898	187,829,802	29.58
1897	220,494,113	29.70
1896	224,187,158	34.56

The sugar imports were $30,000,000 greater in 1899 than in 1898, in which year they were nearly $4,000,000 less than in 1897, and more than $18,000,000 less than in 1896.

Two general groups of imports are of interest as illustrating the expansion of our manufactures. One consists of articles in a crude condition and the other of domestic industry. As these are all in a greater or less degree the materials of manufacture, we group the two classes, and make no distinction between free and dutiable. The amount and percentages of these articles entering into domestic manufacture imported in four years are as follows:

	Value.	Per cent.
1899	$342,869,964	42.90
1898	319,383,323	41.18
1897	319,973,880	43.08
1896	248,411,544	36.44

The importation of wool in 1897 was $53,431,920, and in 1898, $11,586,586; it was almost exactly the same in 1899.

The bureau of statistics attempts to distinguish between articles of luxury and voluntary use, and other manufactured articles imported ready for consumption. We group the two:

	Value.	Per cent.
1899	$226,004,212	28.35
1898	188,751,323	29.26
1897	202,163,357	27.22
1896	198,980,854	29.20

The following are the percentages of luxury and voluntary use alone:

1899	13.45	1897	11.22
1898	12.76	1896	11.53

The exports of foreign goods have ranged from $19,000,000 to $22,000,000. The exports of domestic goods have been as follows:

1899	$1,252,903,987	1897	$1,079,883,018
1898	1,233,558,140	1896	986,830,080

Last year the four large groups of these exports, with their percentages of the whole were as follows:

	Value.	Per cent.
Agriculture	$782,105,048	62.42
Manufactures	380,787,891	30.39
Forest products	47,563,121	3.86
Mining	33,279,187	2.66

Agricultural products have constituted the following percentages of the total exports in these four years:

1899	62.42	1897	67.63
1898	69.06	1896	67.32

So much interest attaches to our rapidly growing exports of manufactured goods that we give the value of the exports as well as their percentages of the total:

	Value.	Per cent.
1899	$380,787,891	30.39
1898	307,924,994	24.96
1897	279,616,898	25.88
1896	253,681,541	25.71

Manufactured goods constitute an increasing percentage of an increasing volume of exports. When our exports of this character began to attract European attention it was cheerfully explained that we were exporting at a sacrifice because the home market was glutted, but the rising prices, due to the excellent home demand, have not prevented the rapid growth of our exports of manufactured goods, partly because of rapid advances abroad. Our processes of manufacture are also so much more economical that in many lines of production we can meet European competition in any market, though our scale of wages is much higher than those abroad.

MAKES PETTIGREW A HERO.

Communication of Thanks From Eastern Antis.

BOSTON, Feb. 15.—The following communication has been sent to Senator Pettigrew of South Dakota, signed by Thomas Wentworth Higginson, William Lloyd Garrison, Gamaliel Bradford, Morefield Storey, Erving Winslow, Winslow Warren and 11 other anti-imperialists:

"The undersigned, citizens of Massachusetts, cordially inviting the co-operation of lovers of liberty and their country in other states, desire to express to you their thanks and congratulations for your courage in the cause of free speech in the United States senate. For months the government press has groaned under the production of documents aiming to convince our people that their opponents in this war are savages, with no rights which we are bound to respect; that they are unfitted for self-government and entitled only to such as we may see fit to bestow on them; and that they must bow in abject submission before there can ever be any negotiations for peace.

"Against this you have asked for the printing, as a congressional document, of a translated paper issued by the leader of these opponents, setting forth in temperate and courteous language the history and basis of the war. This paper, if it proves nothing else, shows that he is no savage, but an accomplished master of composition and statement, and that, if his people believe it to be true, they are as much justified in accepting him as their guide and leader in resistance to us as were our ancestors in following Washington in our struggle for independence. For doing your duty, you have been stigmatized by more than one senator on the floor as a traitor, while the presiding officer, who was also a member of the president's Paris commission, looked on without a word of reproach or enforcement of parliamentary rules.

"The government has had one sufficient warning of the danger of interfering with the privacy and freedom of the mail. We congratulate you, sir, that it has fallen to your lot to protest before the country against the violation of a right which for more than a century has been one of the most precious to the English-speaking race, and we trust that on all proper occasions and by all proper methods you will insist on the maintenance of this right, and that when the people of the United States are shortly called upon by the action of our cherished institutions to exercise their sovereignty, they may have before them full materials for the formation of their judgment."

Fashionable Wedding in London.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—Lord Chesterfield and Miss Enid Wilson were married in this city this afternoon. There was a large and fashionable attendance at the ceremony.

LIFE AND DEATH STRUGGLE

SO ROSEBERY CHARACTERIZES ENGLAND'S AFRICAN WAR.

Commoners Adopted the Government's Military Scheme by an Overwhelming Majority.

LONDON, Feb. 15.—In the house of lords today the Earl of Dunraven raised a question on the government military proposals, and expressed a doubt as to whether these were sufficient.

The Earl of Rosebery said he fully recognized the gravity of the situation. He doubted whether the "paper force of 400,000 men in Great Britain," to which the secretary of state for war had referred, would stand analysis. For the volunteers, Lord Rosebery said, he had the highest respect, but by no stretch of the imagination could they be called soldiers, as it was admitted that they needed months of training annually to render them efficient.

"The auspicious news of the morning from South Africa," said Lord Rosebery, "led to the hope that there might be better news to come, but when fighting on our own territory we have been unable before to advance an inch, and if another 50,000 men should be wanted for South Africa, I do not know where they would be got. It may be said that it is unwise to lay bare the weaknesses of our country, but, depend upon it, other nations know our position as well, if not better than we ourselves. I would like to ask whether the fleet is to be strengthened or mobilized. It is not a time when we can leisurely discuss what we are going to do a fortnight or a month hence. The crisis is urgent. The danger is upon you, and at such a time you come to this house with proposals that in the month of May, when the weather permits, you will put volunteers under canvas and that then this island and empire will be safe. (Cheers.)

"The crisis in South Africa is urgent," continued Lord Rosebery, "but we must not keep our eyes upon South Africa alone. Last December the government made earnest overtures to the great powers, Germany and the United States, for an alliance, but those overtures were not received with such cordiality as to encourage the government to pursue them. It does not appear that the friendship of France would bear any great strain, and as to Russia, events have been recently witnessed in Persia which England formerly would have had something to say about, but which she now passes unnoticed.

"It becomes the government to take a large grasp of the situation and to make adequate proposals. Time is the essence of the situation. This government never realized it, but the burghers have, and the present situation in South Africa has arisen from this fact. Lord Blythswood has referred to the armies of the Northern states of the American Union in the civil war, and to the vast forces raised there within a year. Some one might reply that in the United States at that time it was a matter of life and death, and I would tell her majesty's government now it is for us a matter of life and death.

"If Great Britain were to lose South Africa, she would lose the most important base outside of the United Kingdom, and she would lose that colonial support which has been given, because the colonies have believed that they were associating themselves with a powerful empire, and thus the empire would break away from us. If this be not a life-and-death crisis, I don't know what is."

The Earl of Kimberley, the liberal leader, said he felt the danger of the situation equally with Lord Rosebery. Although he would not ascribe a direct hostile intention to Russia at the present moment, he said, he could not overlook the fact that there was a movement of troops in progress which, if not menacing, showed that possibilities of the future were not absent from the Russian mind.

The Marquis of Salisbury, the premier, in the course of his reply for the government, said:

"I cannot enter upon the springs that guide the Russian government or the course it is likely to take, nor can I discuss the health of the ameer of Afghanistan. As to whether our forces are adequate for the work in South Africa or whether it is true that the government has always been too late, and has neglected opportunities, I would gladly accept a challenge, provided the words would not go beyond this chamber. The present troubles are not due to the expansion of the empire, but to miscalculations made in 1881, and in 1884. Our forefathers were not discouraged by bad beginnings, and we should follow their example, and not be cast down. The government is convinced now, as it always has been, that the issue will be brought to a successful conclusion. I don't think any advantage is to be obtained from taking a gloomy view."

In the Commons.

In the house of commons, during the course of the reply to a question relative to the probable Boer invasion of Zululand, Secretary of State for the Colonies Chamberlain said the government had decided that if the native territory was invaded by the Boers, the natives will be encouraged and assisted in every way in defending themselves.

Chamberlain's reply confirmed the reports of the invasion of Zululand, and showed that the consequences could not fail to be serious throughout South Africa, as the alarm and unrest of the Zulus was bound to spread to the Natal natives. The colonial secretary also said that the Natal ministry had notified the home government that it could no longer be responsible for the peaceful attitude of the Zulus, as the invasion of their country was contrary to the tacit compact that the natives should not be dragged into the war.

The house, having gone into committee of supply on the supplementary war estimates, William Redmond, nationalist member for East Clare, strongly objected to adding a single man to the British army, which, he said, was now "engaged in a war which is an insult to God; a war waged by Christian England against a Christian people, who only desire to retain their own land." He declared his belief that the British reverses were due to the fact that the British cause was unjust.

John Burns, radical member for Battersea, scouted the idea that it was necessary to strengthen the British army in order to fight a country whose population was only equal to that of his own constituency.

Mr. Wyndham, parliamentary under-secretary for war, answering criticisms, said it was unnecessary to reply to Mr. Redmond's argument, because the Irishmen at the front were giving the answer with their lives.

At midnight the closure was enforced and the division taken. The house adopted the government's military scheme by a vote of 239 against 34, the minority consisting chiefly of Irish members.

The debate in the commons was on the whole rather dull and confined chiefly to the less prominent members.

GONE TO JOIN THE BOERS.

Fifty-seven Young Men Sailed From New York.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Fifty-seven men, nearly all young and stalwart sailed today on the French line steamer La Gascogne on their way to the Boer lines in South Africa. Most of them were Irish-Americans. The corps was recruited in Chicago by the United Irish Society. They marched to the French line pier, led by Major Edward T. McCrystal, of the Sixty-ninth regiment, and Patrick Egan, ex-minister to Chile. They presented a fine appearance and were frequently cheered. They carried American and Red Cross flags. The corps is in charge of Dr. J. P. McNamara, chief surgeon. His associates are Dr. Herbert H. McCauley, James J. Slattery, R. D. Long, A. F. Conroy and A. D. Alderhot. Dr. McNamara said they were going to aid the sick and wounded of the Boer army. They will go from here to some Southern European port, whence they will sail for South Africa.

THE BOERS WERE MISLED.

Roberts' Latest Move Was Entirely Unexpected.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says:

The silence at the front has been broken, and whatever occurs anywhere is of little account. General Roberts and General Kitchener, having concentrated a full army corps, with a cavalry brigade and artillery, could be trusted to find better employment for it than that of lining the railway between Orange and Modder rivers. They have done so, and their secret is out at last. General French's cavalry brigade, which has been maneuvering around Colesberg, seized on Monday the crossing of Riet river at Dekil's drift, and the Sixth and Seventh divisions are now encamped on the east bank of that river.

The Sixth division is Kelly-Kenny's, which has been reported to be co-operating with French and Gatacre for the clearance of the country south of the Orange river. His division is now officially reported on the Riet river with the Seventh division, Tucker's, which has been believed to be at Modder river. These two divisions, with French's cavalry brigade and the new infantry brigade, made up from battalions lining the railway from De Aar junction, are now co-operating with General Methuen's army in a great flanking movement on the Riet, below Kimberley. It is a concentration of British forces on a large scale in an unexpected quarter, and the whole movement has been so cleverly concealed that no military writer in London has been able to forecast the precise direction of Lord Roberts' advance.

What is more important, the Dutch themselves have apparently been misled, for they have weakened their forces in a quarter where the attack will be made and strengthened them where the British will remain on the defensive. This general flanking movement has been supported by a movement of mounted infantry from the Orange river railway crossing to Ramah. This was a strong column, described as a mounted infantry brigade and Colonel Hannay, who commanded it, had an engagement with the Boers on the hills and finally pushed his force through to its destination Tuesday, with comparatively slight losses, the casualty list amounting to 29.

This entire movement, with its concentration of nearly all the British battalions outside Natal and the slender columns left under Gatacre and Clements, has been brought about by scientific strategy under a rigorous operation of the censorship, the utility of which has been demonstrated at last. An army corps and strong auxiliary forces have been massed where the enemy are the weakest and the previous balance of forces in the military problem has been suddenly upset. This column on the Riet has a promise of potency for the relief of Kimberley and a subsequent advance upon Bloemfontein, and is so great a diversion of military resources that Ladysmith may yet be rescued.

At midnight a report from Lord Roberts described a brilliant cavalry raid by General French, with three brigades of cavalry and a strong force of horse artillery, in which three Boer laagers were captured, and a supporting movement, conducted by General Gordon, by which two laagers were taken. These dashing movements, which recall the best work of cavalry raids in the American civil war, are proofs that the British campaign has entered upon an entirely new phase. The relief of Kimberley will evidently be the first work of Lord Roberts, and a march upon Bloemfontein the sequel to it.

Boer Red Cross Well Supplied.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—From Dr. Molier, in Europe, Secretary Van Sicklen, of the Boer relief committee, has received a letter saying that the Netherlands Red Cross committee has all the money it needs at present, all the ambulances needed having been provided and furnished through the Cape Town committee. The committee, therefore, has stopped receiving money for this purpose.

A detachment of 59 nurses and surgeons, provided for by the fund raised by the Irish-American societies, will sail this morning on La Gascogne for France, whence they will take steamer for Delagoa bay.

Rosebery's Statement Discredited.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—The statement of Earl Rosebery that in December overtures were made to the United States for an alliance is not substantiated here. Officials of the administration are at a loss to understand the report, and express the opinion that some mistake has occurred. So far as the United States is concerned, they declare no offer of an alliance has been made, but they could not say anything about Germany, to which country, according to the London dispatch, overtures for an alliance were made at the same time.

FINANCIAL DISCUSSION.

Member of the Prussian Diet Denounced Balfour.

BERLIN, Feb. 15.—In the lower house of the Prussian diet today a currency discussion arose during the consideration of the estimates of the ministry of the interior.

Dr. Bartha ridiculed Herr Arendt's former prophecies that Arthur J. Balfour would bring about a silver era. Herr Arendt replied that the British ministry had broken its word. Mr. Balfour, he said, had given a succession of definite promises in parliament and then, when on the strength of these declarations France and the United States had displayed a readiness to open negotiations, both powers had experienced sharp rebuffs. "Such a breach of faith," exclaimed the speaker, "stands alone in history."

Herr Arendt added: "Bimetallism would break the power of capital. The war in South Africa has shown to what capital has led England."

Storms on French Coast.

PARIS, Feb. 15. — Advices from all French ports record wrecks and injuries to vessels. In yesterday's gale an unknown sailing vessel stranded on the reefs outside Brest, and four bodies have come ashore. A number of fishboats were lost or seriously damaged along the north coast.

The French battle-ship Admiral Du Perre broke from her moorings in Brest roads and drifted shorewards, but was held up in the nick of time by her own anchors.

Interest on Texas & Pacific Bonds.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—The directors of the Texas & Pacific Railroad Company have declared 1½ per cent net interest on the second mortgage income bonds out of the net income applicable thereto December 31, 1899, payable March 1. This is the first payment on these bonds since the company's reorganization.

Roland Reed's Condition.

NEW YORK, Feb. 15.—Roland Reed, the actor, who has for some time been a patient at St. Luke's hospital, and who yesterday submitted to a second operation, was reported today to be resting comfortably.

Tonight

Just before retiring, if your liver is sluggish, out of tune and you feel dull, billious, constipated, take a dose of

Hood's Pills

And you'll be all right in the morning.

STATEMENT OF MACRUM

WASHINGTON OFFICIALS DO NOT BELIEVE HIS ASSERTIONS.

No Complaint of His at the Action of the British Authorities Is on Record.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—While the state department officials were averse today to discussing the published statement of ex-Consul Macrum, it was authoritatively stated that a search of the records failed to show that Macrum had ever reported to the department that his official mail was being regularly tampered with by the British authorities. It was said that he did in a general way report that both the official and private mail intended for American citizens did not reach him punctually and asked that a protest be made on account of this rather arbitrary proceeding on the part of the postal authorities.

The department investigated the matter and learned that no unnecessary delay existed and does not credit the statement that any correspondence, official or otherwise, was opened, inspected and delayed by the British authorities.

Mr. Macrum stated that his vice-consul, Mr. Van Amerigen, closed up his business, took the oath of allegiance to the republic and went to the front as a burgher. The records show that when Mr. Van Amerigen applied for appointment as vice-consul at Pretoria he stated that he was born in Holland; that his legal residence was at Pretoria, and that he was a naturalized citizen of the South African Republic. This application was dated Pretoria, November 12, 1898.

WAR WITH ENGLAND.

Governor Lee, of South Dakota, Denounces the British.

CHICAGO, Feb. 15.—"War with England should be the policy of this government," said Governor Andrew D. Lee, of South Dakota. "If the facts set forth in ex-Consul Macrum's open letter issued to the American people are found to be correct.

"This action of the British authorities at Durban in tampering with mail matter addressed to Mr. Macrum is damnable," the governor continued, "and an outrage against the rights of neutral powers. If the facts as stated in that letter are true the American government instantly should call Great Britain to severe account. That may mean another war on our hands, I know, but war is preferable to national dishonor. The spectacle of an American citizen, be he in private or public life, having to sit idly by and see his mail opened by an official of a foreign power is too humiliating for my blood to stand."

Almost equally as radical comments were made by several of the leaders in the anti-trust conference, who were shown the dispatches from Washington setting forth the experiences of the ex-consul. All were emphatic in saying that the rights of citizens of neutral powers should be protected and that England should be condemned strongly for her high-handed methods.

DEMAND FOR INFORMATION.

House Resolution Relating to Macrum's Charges.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 15.—In the house today, Wheeler, democrat, of Kentucky introduced a resolution which, after reciting some charges made by Macrum, ex-consul to Pretoria, in his statement issued last night, reads:

"Resolved by the house that the secretary of state is directed to inform the house of representatives if the said Charles E. Macrum, as consul of the American government, informed the state department that his official mail had been opened and read by the British censor at Durban, and if so, what steps, if any, have been taken to obtain an explanation and apology from the British government.

"Section 2. He is further directed to inform the house of representatives what truth there is in the charge that a secret alliance exists between the republic of the United States and the empire of Great Britain."

The speaker referred the resolutions to the foreign affairs committee.

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Purely Vegetable, Mild and Reliable. CURE ALL DISORDERS OF THE STOMACH, LIVER, BOWELS.

Sick Headache, Biliousness, Indigestion, Torpid Liver, Dizzy Feeling, Dyspepsia.

One or two of Radway's Pills, taken daily by those subject to billous pains and torpidity of the Liver, will keep the system regular and secure healthy digestion.

OBSERVE

The following symptoms resulting from Disease of the Digestive Organs: Constipation, inward piles, fullness of the blood in the head, acidity of the stomach, nausea, heartburn, disgust of food, fullness or weight in the stomach, sour eructations, sinking or fluttering of the heart, choking or suffocating sensations when in a lying posture, dimness of vision, dizziness on rising suddenly, dots or webs before the sight, fever and dull pain in the head, deficiency of perspiration, yellowness of the skin and eyes, pain in the side, chest, limbs, and sudden flushes of heat, burning in the flesh.

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