IN THE SECRETARY'S HANDS

HIS FINAL DECISION IN SCHLEY CASE MAY BE MADE TODAY.

Judge-Advocate Lemly and Solicitor Hanna Recommend That the Findings Be Not Reversed.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Judge-Advocate Lemly and Solicitor Hanna this afternoon submitted to Secretary Long their report on the bill of objections filed by Admiral Schley, through his counsel, to the findings of the Schley court of inquiry. The principal points are an insistence upon their contention that the first report is the unanimous report of the court of inquiry; that the court was justified in rejecting Admiral Schley's evidence by the number of witnesses who took issue with him, and that there is no sufficient reason for a reopening of the case, as requested by Admiral Schley. The report begins:

"A communication dated the 18th inst., signed by Rear-Admiral W. S. Schley and by Isador Raynor and James Parker, his counsel, objecting to the approval of the findings of the court of inquiry in the case of Rear-Admiral Schley, and asking particularly that what the signers are pleased to term the 'opinion of the majority of the court' be remitted to the court for further consideration, has been received, by the department's reference, and it is returned with the following statement:

"It is somewhat difficult to deal with this paper, on account of its general and non-specific character and sweeping though unsupported assertion of opinion by the applicant and his counsel that, in their judgment, the adverse finding of the court is not justified by the evidence. The paper might be dismissed as simply a not unexpected expression of dissatisfaction with an adverse judgment, but for the fact that it contains a number of misstatements, and particularly has woven throughout its entire structure an 'inaccurate and misleading' use of the words 'majority of the court.' The findings of fact and the opinion of the court of inquiry in the case of Admiral Schley on the more important and material points before it were not reached by a majority of the members only, but by the entire court. The points of the precept upon which all the members of the court unite appear to be incontrovertibly established by the evidence; it is not understood how any other conclusions could have been reached upon them, and they constitute the essential features of the entire matter under inquiry."

Captain Lemly and Mr. Hanna reviewed at length the conclusions of the court as to the first 10 charges of the precept, justifying the findings and declaring that, in the face of the facts, the court could not have found otherwise. The report continues:

"Upon the points above set forth, which appear to embrace substantially the important matters covered by the inquiry, the court is united and its findings are unanimous; they are sustained by the unimpeached and unimpeachable testimony of Commodore Schley's brother officers who served with and under him; by official telegrams, letters and reports, and by the logs of the several vessels of his squadron; and it would accordingly be idle to remit these matters to the same body for reconsideration upon the same evidence.

"It is not by any means intended here to say that the foregoing principal points covered by the inquiry are the only points upon which the findings of the court are in all respects or substantially unanimous, because the truth is that the court is a unit upon all points, except those as to which the Admiral expresses individual, but not in all cases contradictory, views. It does not appear that any good purpose would be served by asking the court to reconsider these."

The Judge-Advocate and his assistant deny that the court failed to consider evidence.

"It was their sworn duty," says the report, "to consider and weigh that evidence, and the applicant and his counsel have no right to say that they have disregarded it. The court had a perfect right, after weighing it, to ignore any testimony."

Relative to the contention as to who commanded the naval forces in the battle of Santiago, the report says:

"If the applicant and his counsel seriously believe, as they now state to be the case, that the matter of command on July 3 was essential to the applicant's interests, it was their plain duty not only to bring the question before the court, but to insist upon a hearing there, and other interests should have been heard. To request that the court now rule upon it is to ask that another officer's interests be passed upon, to his possible prejudice, in his absence and without a hearing—a thing intolerable, whomsoever be concerned."

"In conclusion, we are satisfied that no good purpose would be served by remitting the proceedings or any features of this inquiry to the court. A more patient, exhaustive and painstaking hearing was never given; greater consideration was never extended to any officer before a military court of inquiry; no expense was spared, no convenience or facility denied, no courtesy refused. The applicant has had his day in court, and the judgment is against him. It is accordingly recommended that the proceedings be not returned, but that the matter be concluded by the department's approval of the unanimous finding. We have the honor to be SAMUEL C. LEMLY,

"Judge-Advocate, Court of Inquiry.

"E. P. HANNA,

"Assistant to Judge-Advocate.

"The Secretary of the Navy."

The report, as appears from its text, is solely that of Judge-Advocate-General Lemly and Solicitor Hanna, and as such it was laid before Secretary Long. The Secretary said this afternoon that he would not act upon the report today. He added that he would also withhold action today on the other matters pending, connected with the issue, namely, Admiral Sampson's appeal and Admiral Schley's request to be allowed to be heard by argument on this appeal, and the findings of the court of inquiry itself. There was an intimation, however, that all of these matters would receive attention tomorrow and would be finally disposed of as far as the department is concerned.

In the event that Secretary Long approves the recommendation of Captain Lemly and Mr. Hanna, it is said upon reliable authority that suggestion will be made to the President by Admiral Schley's counsel that he appoint a board of three eminent lawyers, one to be selected by himself and one each to be selected by Admiral Schley and Admiral Sampson, this board to weigh the evidence and report to the President. It is said there are a number of precedents for such action.

ADMIRAL SAMPSON'S PROTEST.

Objects to Dewey's Addition to the Schley Verdict.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—The objection of Admiral W. T. Sampson to that portion of Admiral Dewey's report of the Schley court of inquiry, in which he says Admiral Schley was in command at the battle of Santiago and entitled to the credit for the victory, was filed with Secretary Long today. The document was brought to the Navy Department by R. S. Theall, of counsel for Admiral Sampson, and handed to the secretary. It is as follows:

"30 Broad Street, New York, Dec. 19.—Sir: As counsel for Rear-Admiral Sampson we have the honor to request that the department, for the reasons below stated, strike out or specifically disapprove that portion of Admiral Dewey's opinion filed in connection with the proceedings of the Schley court of inquiry, in which he states his view to be that Commodore Schley was in absolute command at the naval battle of Santiago.

"1. Commodore Schley was not in command at that battle.

"2. The President of the United States and the Navy Department had decided that Admiral Sampson was in command at that battle and Commodore Schley second in command.

"3. The question as to who commanded at Santiago was not referred to the court for consideration and evidence bearing on the point was excluded.

"4. Commodore Schley was not in command at that battle.

"(a) The disposition of the forces at the beginning of the battle, according to Commodore Schley's own statement, places Admiral Sampson in command.

"The Brooklyn and the Vixen were the westernmost ships of the fleet; the Indiana and Gloucester were the easternmost. The New York was nearer both of the latter than was the Brooklyn, and notably at the time when the Indiana was heavily engaged at the beginning of the action, and when the Gloucester was engaged with the Furor and Pluton. Commodore Schley says:

"'The Indiana and the Gloucester . . . were closer to your flagship' than the Brooklyn. We have, then, the case of a fleet in a regular formation, with the commander-in-chief within signal distance and closer to a large number of the ships than is the second in command. It is true that the commander-in-chief could not have reached the most distant vessel by signals, except by causing them to be repeated by an intermediate vessel—an entirely usual course—but it is equally true that the second in command could not have reached the remote vessels of the fleet (namely, the Indiana and the Gloucester), without likewise repeating signals.

"In this state of affairs the regulations of the Navy and the customs of the sea place the absolute command and the full responsibility in the senior officer.

"(b) The Brooklyn's maneuver during the action destroys any claim that Commodore Schley might have had to the command. The facts as to the loop are found by the court. The finding and opinion show that to avoid danger to his own ship he maneuvered without warning to the rest of the squadron, and in disregard of the fleet formation.

"The President of the United States and the Navy Department had decided that Admiral Sampson was in command at that battle, and Commodore Schley second in command. This fact was before the court; for the Secretary's letter to the Senate (dated February 6, 1899) states that the Spanish squadron was destroyed by our fleet under his (Sampson's) command, and the advancement of Commodore Schley was proposed in recognition of his service as next in rank at the victory of Santiago.

"5. The question as to who commanded at Santiago was not referred to the court for consideration. Evidence bearing on the point was excluded.

"(a) If Commodore Schley was in command, Admiral Sampson was not, and if the question as to which was in command was to be considered by the court, surely Admiral Sampson became an interested party, and under the precept was entitled to the hearing which was repeatedly refused him.

"(b) The language of the precept excludes the question as to who commanded at that battle. It directs the court to inquire into the conduct of Admiral Schley—not into his status, or as to whether or not he was in command, and to report its conclusions upon his conduct in connection with the events of the Santiago campaign.

"(c) The judicial officers of the court maintained this matter was outside the scope of inquiry. They expressed willingness to go into it if their view should be overruled, but were in every instance sustained by the court.

"Thus at page 157, the assistant to the Judge-Advocate said: 'One further word as to a suggestion just made as to the intention to show that Admiral Sampson was not in this battle. I wish to say that we do not understand that the question whether Admiral Sampson was or was not in the battle of Santiago is before the court. If it is, we shall be happy to investigate it. . . . Until the case takes that attitude, it is improper to spread upon the records arguments and questions which proceed upon the theory that he is in the case.'

"Counsel for the applicant withdrew the question.

"At pages 153, 490 and 1080 of the record there were similar rulings by the Judge-Advocate. In the case of all these declarations there was acquiescence on the part of the court.

"(d) The court uniformly rejected evidence as to who commanded. On all the pages herein cited from the record, the court rejected such evidence and nowhere was it admitted against objection.

"(e) The court more than once specifically ruled that this question was not before it.

"For example: At page 1586, where the question was as to the position of the commanders-in-chief and of the New York, and as to the part they took in the battle, Admiral Dewey said: 'We do not want that. We have ruled that out.' The Judge-Advocate then asked if the court had so ruled, and Admiral Dewey replied: 'We have. We have kept the New York out of it.'

"See also page 481.

"(f) The court went so far as to rule at page 1421 that Admiral Schley was not in command during the battle. The matter then before the court related to the periods during which Admiral Schley had been in absolute command, and the Judge-Advocate said:

"'Mr. Raynor, you are confining yourself to July 3, are you?'

"Mr. Raynor, in reply, acquiesced in this view and the court ruled that 'all questions . . . shall be confined to between the 19th of May and the 1st of June, relating to the organization, management and control of that squadron, when he was actually commander-in-chief.' Matters referring to his alleged command on July 3 were excluded.

"On page 1423 the court confirms this decision.

"(g) All proposed questions on this subject were either rejected by the court or withdrawn by the applicant, who finally acquiesced in the decisions of the court and gave up his efforts in this behalf, saying: 'I bow respectfully to the decision of the court, and I know exactly what it means.'

"Instances of the withdrawal of such questions and of their rejection by the court will be found in the record at pages 128, 157, 484, 485 and 1080.

"(h) The minority opinion expressed by Admiral Dewey in this matter is at variance with all the rulings of the court in this regard, and directly contradicts the letters wherein Admiral Dewey for the court defines Admiral Sampson's status.

"The Navy Department in its precept had justly provided that any person 'interested' might be given an opportunity of appearing before the court in person or by counsel and protecting his rights.

"As counsel for the applicant ignored at times the Court's rulings and spread upon the record arguments reflecting upon Admiral Sampson, we, as his counsel, three separate times, appealed to the Court, asking for protection or for permission to appear and defend Admiral Sampson's rights. Each time our request was denied and we were assured that Admiral Sampson was not involved and, finally, Admiral Dewey, acknowledging the receipt of one of our letters in which we had appealed to him on the ground of this very question as to who commanded at Santiago, said:

"'I have to state while the precept convening this court gives it authority to permit any person whom it may regard as concerned in the investigation to be present, the court considers that Admiral Sampson is not an interested party, and you are further informed that if circumstances arise which in the opinion of the court render it necessary for Admiral Sampson to be represented, due notice will be sent him.'

"Upon that promise Admiral Sampson relied. The notice came only in the form of a minority opinion by Admiral Dewey, discussing matters beyond the scope of the precept and nowhere included in the facts found by the court.

"Very respectfully,

"STAYTON & CAMPBELL,

"E. S. THEALL,

"Counsel for Rear-Admiral W. T. Sampson.

"To the Hon. Secretary of the Navy."

Sampson's Condition.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Dr. W. S. Dixon, the physician in attendance upon Rear-Admiral W. T. Sampson, today made the following statement regarding his patient's condition: "The Admiral is not in any immediate danger. He goes out for exercise every day, weather permitting. He smokes his cigar after dinner. He is not feeble, but just in impaired health. His heart action is quite vigorous. His life may be prolonged for many years, or it may be very brief, so far as any one knows."

TRAVELERS IN CHINA.

Precautions Necessary to Insure Their Safety.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Minister Conger has reported to the State Department certain correspondence between himself and the Chinese government regarding the precautions to be taken by foreigners traveling in the inland districts of China to insure their personal safety. The Board of Foreign Affairs has requested that, in accordance with treaty provisions, travelers in the interior of the country and away from the vicinity of the treaty ports should always be provided with passports. It is further desired that travelers give the local authorities notice in advance of their intention to go further, in order that the authorities of the province towards which they are traveling may be notified and suitable guard be dispatched with them to protect them from harm.

INSPECTION OF MEAT.

Unless Funds Are Available It Will Seriously Affect Exports.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Secretary Wilson today stated that discontinuance of the microscopic inspection of meats sent abroad would mean the entire suspension of exports and lose us the $20,000,000 worth of meats annually sold to Germany. The lack of funds, he explained, was due to the increased work of the past year, and two weeks' leave of absence granted each employe of the bureau outside of this city, which necessitated the employment of additional men. Secretary Wilson said he has asked Congress to make part of the appropriation for the coming year immediately available, and that he has no doubt that Congress will grant this authority, as it has done so frequently in previous years. "I have no doubt," he added, "that the microscopical inspections will proceed, notwithstanding the notice given the packing interests through the Bureau of Animal Industry."

Roosevelt's Holiday Plans.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20. — President Roosevelt has not completed his plans for the holidays. The report that he has decided to go down the Potomac River on the Dolphin for a shooting trip is incorrect. No decision has yet been reached, but Dr. Rixey and Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., who has been at school in Massachusetts, and who arrived here today for the holidays, are going down the river for a few days' shooting. It is not improbable but the President may decide to accompany them.

Captain Tilley's Assignment.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 20.—Captain Benjamin Tilley, who recently was relieved as Naval Governor of the Island of Tutuila, Samoa, and who has been on waiting orders since his acquittal of the charges lodged against him, has been ordered to duty at the Mare Island navy-yard.

Japanese to Train Chinese Army.

PEKIN, Dec. 20.—Yuan Shi Kai, the new Viceroy of Chi Li, has engaged Japanese officers to train the Chinese army. The government of Japan has offered to detail a Japanese General to reorganize the army. Yuan Shi Kai is using his influence with the Chinese officials in favor of accepting Japanese tutelage.

THE GREATEST RAILROAD.

The Canadian Pacific Railway is beyond question the greatest railway in the world. Aside from this fact there are a great many advantages connected with this great system that is of more or less interest to every one, especially the traveling public. The advantages offered by the several routes available are worth considering.

The unexcelled sleeping-car service, scenery the grandest in the world, and the courteous treatment extended by its employes, earn for it the reputation which it has so long maintained of being the "Popular Route." The scenery along the line of the Canadian Pacific Railway is beyond description, and the time card is arranged so as to pass the scenic features during the daytime. The local representatives of this line take considerable pride in explaining the advantages of the different routes offered by the only road on the American continent that has its own tracks from ocean to ocean. This company operates tourist cars and standard sleepers from the Coast to St. Paul, Toronto, Monreal and Boston, and it would be to the advantage of any one contemplating a trip to the East to investigate the inducements offered by this route. The local offices of this line are located at 142 Third street, this city.

Skin troubles, burns, eruptions and pains are irritating. Grove's Ointment cures them.

Parker's Hair Balsam is life to the hair.

THE JACKSONS CONVICTED

THEODORE SENTENCED TO 15 YEARS, ANN ODELIA TO SEVEN.

The Prisoners Produced No Witnesses, but Testified in Their Own Behalf—The Judge's Charge.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—Theodore and Laura Jackson, the latter best known in the United States by the name of Ann Odelia Diss de Bar, were found guilty by a jury in the Old Bailey today on charges of immoral practices and fraud. The Judge at once imposed sentences of 15 and seven years penal servitude upon Jackson and his reputed wife, respectively. The prisoners listened to the passing of sentence in evident astonishment, but maintained silence. As the Judge finished Jackson turned from the prisoners' dock and walked down the steps. "Swamie," as the woman head of the so-called theocratic unity has latterly called herself, smiled, bowed to the Judge and court, and followed her male companion to where officers were waiting to take them to prison.

Anticipation that a verdict would be reached today had revived interest in the trial, and the courtroom was well filled when the proceedings were resumed. The female prisoner, as usual, furnished the dramatic features of the examination of the witnesses, cross-examining them in modulated tones, and alternately whining or threatening. When the case for the prosecution was closed the defendants announced that they would not call any witnesses, but would testify in their own behalf.

Jackson was then sworn, and commenced an address, very much in the nature of a lecture, in the course of which he claimed to be bound to single life by a religious vow, and emphatically denied the testimony furnished as to his living with Daisy Adams, whose story, he said, was a tissue of falsehood. He described the female prisoner as a medium through whom he (Jackson) had communication with his "spirit wife." He referred to his estate of 960 acres of land in Florida, and dwelt at great length upon the principles of theocratic unity.

During his cross-examination Jackson was very insolent to the Solicitor-General, Sir Edward Carson. The Judge warned Jackson that he was injuring his case, whereupon the female defendant interjected approvingly: "That's right. Keep him in order." While the Solicitor-General was examining Jackson the latter casually remarked: "If Swamie is guilty, I am guilty also." Mrs. Jackson quickly rose to her feet and refused to be included with Jackson on the charge of criminal assault. When asked whether Mrs. Jackson had been imprisoned in New Orleans, Jackson refused to answer until the question was repeated to him by the female defendant. He then said she had been in jail twice.

Mrs. Jackson then testified, and during her cross-examination the name of Diss de Bar was mentioned for the first time in court. The witness admitted that she was the divorced wife of General Diss de Bar, adding that she had inherited a fortune from him. The woman also admitted that she had been married to a man named McCool, and to Ph. Messaut. She said her income from the Diss de Bar property was $14,000 yearly. She acknowledged that she had served six months in jail in New York for defrauding Luther C. Marsh, and denied that she had ever been known as Vera P. Ava.

After Mrs. Jackson had made a general denial of the crimes charged against her, the Solicitor-General announced that, as the prisoners were not defended, he would not address the jury. Jackson then began a speech to the jury. He said it was monstrous that this infamous charge had been laid at their door, especially considering that his companion had devoted her life to Christian reform. "However," he added, "I believe that absolute justice can be obtained from an English Judge and jury, which is more than I can say for America."

The female prisoner in turn addressed the jury. Drawing her classic robe around her ample form, and raising herself to her full height, she held the court spellbound for an hour. Mrs. Jackson seemed never at a loss for words. She carefully dissected all the evidence, and wound up with a powerful peroration, to the effect that she did not desire any halting, ambiguous verdict, but an unequivocal expression of justice.

Justice Bingham then summed up very strongly against the prisoners, saying it was difficult to conceive of more revolting or abominable conduct. He said that he would not be doing his duty unless he prevented the male prisoner from practicing such filthy acts under the cloak of religion for some years to come. The jury was absent less than five minutes. A deathlike silence followed the pronouncement of the word "guilty," and the Judge quickly passed sentence.

ITALY AND LYNCHINGS.

Will Not Demand Indemnity, but Will Not Refuse It When Offered.

ROME, Dec. 20.—In the Senate today Baron Fava, ex-Italian Ambassador at Washington, raised the question of lynchings in the United States, in which there had been a repetition of grave events, he said, and where the guilty persons had not been discovered. Baron Fava referred to the suggestion of the late President McKinley, after the lynching at Erwin, Miss., respecting legislation for the protection of foreigners, and alluded feelingly to the high esteem in which the late President McKinley and the late King Humbert, both victims of an assassin, were held by their respective countrymen.

Replying to Baron Fava, Signor Prinetti, Minister of Foreign Affairs, declared that neither the Italian Government nor Italian diplomats are guilty of any negligence in their efforts to secure the triumph of justice, but owing to the reticense of witnesses it has been impossible to identify the culprits, and the grand jury has declared, according to the usual formula, that the lynching in question occurred by "the will of God." This statement from Signor Prinetti caused a sensation.

Continuing, the Foreign Minister said that the Italian Government would continue to protest, in the hope of obtaining satisfaction, against a state of affairs which constitutes an offense against international treaties. The government represented what a serious thing it is, said Signor Prinetti, that the Government of the United States should declare itself unable to fulfill its engagements in conformity with the treaties. To this representation the American Government has not replied in writing, but it admitted that the Italian claims are well founded, and promised carefully to consider the question. Minister Prinetti said that he agrees with Baron Fava in his expressed opinion that an indemnity for the lives of Italians who had been lynched should not be refused, but that he considers indemnities should not be regarded as a set-off to the crimes committed. At the same time, continued the speaker, it is impossible to compel the families of the victims to renounce the indemnities spontaneously offered them. The Italian Government, continued the Foreign Minister, would ask for no indemnities as the price of the blood of its citizens, but it would not object if indemnities are given to the relatives of the deceased. The government acts upon the principle that Italy should insure her subjects abroad an effective but not arrogant protection, which is inspired by the sentiments of civilization, legality and moderation which she has hitherto exhibited in her relations with foreign states in which her sons have met with open and fruitful hospitality.

GENERAL WILLIAM J. SEWELL

THE NEW JERSEY SENATOR'S CONDITION SHOWED MUCH IMPROVEMENT LAST NIGHT.

CAMDEN, N. J., Dec. 20.—United States Senator William J. Sewell, who is lying seriously ill at his residence here, is much improved over yesterday. At 11 o'clock tonight his physicians informed the Associated Press that the Senator passed a comfortable day and is doing well tonight. He is very cheerful, and carried on a conversation during the evening with the doctors. The physicians entertain no apprehension at this time of a serious change in his condition.

THE SLUMP IN COPPER.

Outlook More Favorable to Consumers Than to Producers.

LONDON, Dec. 20. — The position of American copper greatly exercises the British market. The financial weeklies, the Statist and the Economist, both remark on the obscurity of the information vouchsafed by the Amalgamated Copper Company, but consider the present outlook to be more favorable to consumers than to producers of the metal.

The Daily Telegraph declares that before confidence can be restored the Amalgamated Company must issue a plain statement of its stocks on hand and of its present monthly output. If it is true that the Amalgamated Company has reduced its production to the extent of throwing 6000 men in Montana out of employment, says the paper, a very unpleasant situation is disclosed, and one that is likely to accelerate legislation compelling American trusts to give greater publicity to their affairs. The Telegraph hopes that this will be brought about, saying that it will be the only good thing likely to come from the American copper ring. The paper further declares that there is not the slightest chance of the Calumet and Hecla mines joining the Amalgamated Company, "while the terms offered for Rio Tintos were far too restrictive to be worth consideration."

It is announced that arrangements have been made among the leading dealers and a committee of the Metal Exchange, for the liquidation of the accounts of William Sargeant at the regular settlement period, so as to cause the minimum disturbance of the market. Sargeant's losses are pretty well spread over the whole metal market.

Kitchener Again a Hero.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Satisfaction with the progress of events in South Africa is now general, and there is a marked revival of public opinion in support of Lord Kitchener as commander-in-chief, says the Tribune's London correspondent. Only a few weeks ago the military expressed much adverse criticism of Kitchener's generalship. Now, however, he is called the organizer of victory, and the people talk of his abilities with unwavering energy. Full credit is given him for collecting all the scattered raw material in South Africa and the reinforcements daily arriving from all parts of the British Empire into a fighting machine.

Hall of Tara to Be Sold.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—The place in which the Irish Kings were crowned, the historical Hall of Tara, at Navan, County Meath, has been offered at auction, says the Dublin correspondent of the Journal and American. A wealth of legendary interest clusters about the spot, and authentic records show that the monarchs of Ireland were crowned there from 30 B. C. to 56 A. D. There were only two bidders when the place was offered at auction, and the highest bid—£230—was rejected, and it has been reserved for sale privately.

Oil Discovery in Egypt.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—The discovery of petroleum in Egypt, as announced this morning in a dispatch from Cairo, is not regarded seriously. At the London offices of the Standard Oil Company a representative of the Associated Press was informed that the existence of oil in Egypt has been known for a long time, but investigations have not led to the belief that it is to be obtained in paying quantities. The Standard Oil Company intends to take no new steps in consequence of the latest reports.

The Report was Premature.

LONDON, Dec. 20.—The cable dispatches from New York announcing that British capitalists have acquired a substantial interest in Texas oil fields and that large quantities of Texas oil will be shipped to Rouen, Havre, Middlesborough and London, are premature. Efforts are being made to organize a company to effect this, but it is not expected that it will be formed before the middle of January.

Baron Toll's Winter Quarters.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 20.—Baron Toll, the Arctic explorer, telegraphing via Yakcotsk, East Siberia, says his Winter quarters have been established on the Nerpenskaya coast, in the neighborhood of the Lena Delta, and that an observation station has been opened at Kotelnys (Kotelnitch) Island. During the Summer the expedition reached a latitude of 77:32 in the North Siberian Islands.

The Guiana Boundary.

THE HAGUE, Dec. 20.—Great Britain having fully recognized the fact that the rights of the Netherlands are in no wise affected by the arbitration of the boundary dispute between British Guiana and Venezuela, the Government has ordered the delimitation of the Dutch frontier.

Fifteen Chinese Executed.

BERLIN, Dec. 20.—It is officially announced that in consequence of the murder of a German near Pekin, August 9, 15 members of the band found guilty of the crime have been executed.

General Alger Is Better.

DETROIT, Dec. 20.—It was announced today at General R. A. Alger's residence that the General's condition was somewhat better, and that a consultation of attending physicians will be held tomorrow to determine upon the necessity of an operation.

Stops the Cough and Works off The Cold.

Laxative Bromo-Quinine Tablets cure a cold in one day. No Cure, No Pay. Price, 25 cents.

BREAKING OF GROUND

FIRST CELEBRATION IN CONNECTION WITH ST. LOUIS FAIR.

Speechmaking and Music at the Coliseum, Followed by a Banquet in the Evening.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 20.—The Governors of four Louisiana Purchase states—Minnesota, Nebraska, Arkansas and Missouri—several members of Congress, the World's Fair National Commissioners and other invited guests, among them General John C. Bates, commanding the Department of the Missouri, were present and participated in the ceremonies attending the breaking of ground today on the site of the World's Fair in Forest Park. The exercises at the site, where the thermometer registered around zero, consisted of an invocation, addresses and the breaking of ground on the site of the educational building by the officials of the exposition company, municipal authorities and invited guests. Speaking by Governor Francis, Congressman James A. Tawney, of Minnesota, and Governor Jefferson Davis, of Arkansas, and music by Rimour's band was the programme at the Coliseum, where several thousand persons were present. A banquet at the Southern Hotel in the evening completed the day's programme.

This day was selected for the important event because it is the anniversary of the formal transfer of Louisiana Territory to the United States. The day was a holiday in St. Louis and throughout Missouri, as well as in most of the purchase states, whose Governors issued proclamations asking for a general observance of it as Louisiana Purchase flag day.

At the appointed time, directors and officers of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition Company, General John C. Bates, Commander of the Department of Missouri; Major Henry K. Hunter, Fifteenth United States Cavalry, and other Army officials, Governors of states and guests assembled at the St. Louis Club. Carriages were taken and the party was driven to Forest Park, where the ceremony of breaking ground was carried out. A huge fire had been built on the structural site of the Educational Building, to soften the ground.

Arriving at the site, the party wielded the shovel in this order: President David R. Francis, Treasurer W. H. Thompson, Secretary Walter B. Stevens, General Counsel Blair, Director of Exhibits Skiff, Director of Works Taylor, Chief of the Department of Education Rogers, and the architect of the Educational Building; vice-presidents of the Exposition Company, members of the executive committee, representatives of the World's Fair National Commission, and the board of lady managers and chairman of each of the standing committees of the company. As this part of the ceremony was being carried out, Battery A, Missouri National Guard, fired a salute of 60 guns, divided into nine groups, with three-minute intervals, as follows:

Twenty-five for the 13 original states and those created from them; 14 for Louisiana Purchase states; one for Florida; one for Texas; three for the territories discovered and settled subsequent to 1846; five for the states ceded by Mexico in 1848; nine for the insular possessions; one for Alaska, and one for the District of Columbia.

At the conclusion of this part of the ceremony the party were driven downtown. Stopping at the Armory of the First Infantry, Missouri National Guard, Colonel Sinclair commanding, the party were received with military honors and escorted to the Coliseum, where the remainder of the programme was carried out.

The immense hall of the Coliseum was crowded with thousands of persons, among whom were many children, the public schools having been closed for the day. On the platform were seated officers of the world's fair, municipal officials, Congressman James A. Tawney, and World's Fair National Commissioner John M. Allen, the orators of the day, Governors of states, National Commissioners, members of the board of lady managers, General Bates and staff; Governor Van Sant, of Minnesota; Governor Savage, of Nebraska; Governor Davis, of Arkansas; Governor Dockery, of Missouri; Colonel John Oglesby, representing Governor Yates, of Illinois, who sent regrets, and members of the Illinois World's Fair Commission and other invited guests.

President D. R. Francis, of the Louisiana Purchase Exposition Company, called the Coliseum meeting to order, and Rev. Dr. Samuel J. Nicolls, of Westminster Presbyterian Church, pronounced the invocation. Hon. James A. Tawney, of Minnesota, chairman of the House committee on expositions, made the first address. He said in part:

"The importance of this exposition as a means of educating ourselves and other nations in the knowledge of those things that make us the foremost nation of the globe, cannot be overestimated. It will be important and beneficial, too, in that it will give to our social and industrial fabric a moral and an intellectual significance that is the pride of America and the envy of the world. One of its chief values, however, will be in the opportunity for strengthening and cultivating more intimate social and industrial relations between the states and between the United States and foreign countries.

"Another great object to be accomplished, one that transcends all others, is in the fact that this exposition is intended and will commemorate the first centennial of the greatest international event in our history, the one that marks the beginning of that National policy that has made us a world power, without which our present industrial and political supremacy could never have been achieved."

Congressman Tawney was followed by World's Fair Commissioner John Allen, of Mississippi, who delivered an eloquent address. A band of 60 pieces rendered a selection of patriotic music.

The citizens and corporations of St. Louis raised by private subscription $5,000,000 for the exposition, the municipality of St. Louis added $5,000,000, the State of Missouri appropriated $1,000,000, and the United States has given its indorsement and help to the extent of $5,000,000, besides appropriating $250,000 for the Government buildings. Appropriations have been made by several states, ranging from $15,000 to $250,000.

The site is in the western part of the city, the authorities having set aside more than 600 acres of Forest Park, and an adjacent area having been secured makes a total of nearly 1200 acres. Included in the fair grounds are the buildings and grounds of Washington University, valued at $3,000,000.

Minister Wu's Argument.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 20.—Minister Wu Ting Fang, responding to the toast, "Trade Relations With China," at the annual John Jay banquet given by the Kansas City Commercial Club in this city last night, argued against the Chinese exclusion law, which, he said, deprives the United States of the proportion of commercial benefits from China which the resources of this country should insure, and he asserted that our trade relations with China will never be bettered much while Chinese merchants and the better class of Chinese shall be excluded from America.

General Arthur MacArthur responded to the toast, "The United States Army." Referring to the Philippine Islands, he said: "The power that holds the Philippine archipelago will have a potential effect on Asia. It is a stepping-stone to a commanding position, and a base from where American interests can ever be protected. Their possession is necessary to National expansion."

Telegraphic Brevities.

The Doyle-Burns suit was given to the jury yesterday afternoon.

Very little is known of the number of sheep lost in the Red Desert, Wyoming.

The American Lumber Company, capital $8,000,000 was incorporated in New Jersey.

The British transport Harlech Castle has arrived at Bermuda with 300 Boer prisoners.

Herbert Squiers, secretary of the United States legation at Pekin, has arrived at New York.

The body of George Drew, foreman of the Mason mine, on Clover Mountain, has been found near the mine, frozen.

The bodies of two shepherds, partly burned, were found at Cabra Springs, N. M. They were murdered and their flocks stolen.

M. de Saint Alban, editor of The Jockey, of Paris, and contributor to the Figaro, is dead of congestion of the brain, aged 58.

The last witnesses in the trial of Alex Sullivan for conspiracy were heard at Chicago, and the arguments in the case were taken up.

Lord Francis Hope was injured while shooting in England by the accidental discharge of his gun. The charge shattered his ankle. His foot may be saved.

The infant daughter of Rev. Mr. Jaiser was fatally wounded and his son shot through the arm at Topeka while playing with a supposedly unloaded revolver.

A St. Petersburg capitalist has promised to supply 140,000 rubles for the expenses of a north polar exploring party, which will leave next year in the ship Pantelemon.

It is reported in Wall street that Charles W. Morse has acquired another bank, to add to his system of National and state banks. His latest acquisition is the Fourteenth-Street Bank.

Dr. Leyds calls the accusation against the Boers by Lord Rosebery in his speech at Chesterfield "almost ministerial recklessness." Lord Rosebery's statement that a peace emissary was flogged and murdered is declared by Leyds to be "wholly unwarrantable."

Must Be a Mistake.

DENVER, Dec. 20.—Bishop John Spalding, of the Diocese of Colorado, stated in an interview that he did not know where the story printed in local papers that Bishop Leonard, of Salt Lake, was to replace him in this diocese, originated. He has no intention of retiring from his work, but has asked for an assistant, as the growth of the diocese has been so great that the work has become burdensome.

Catarrh

Is a constitutional disease.

It originates in a scrofulous condition of the blood and depends on that condition.

It often causes headache and dizziness, impairs the taste, smell and hearing, affects the vocal organs and disturbs the stomach.

It is always radically and permanently cured by the blood-purifying, alterative and tonic action of

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This great medicine has wrought the most wonderful cures of all diseases depending on scrofula or the scrofulous habit.

HOOD'S PILLS are the best cathartic.

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TEETH EXTRACTED AND FILLED ABSOLUTELY WITHOUT PAIN by our late scientific method applied to the gums. No sleep-producing agents or cocaine.

These are the only dental parlors in Portland having PATENTED APPLIANCES and ingredients to extract, fill and apply gold crowns and porcelain crowns undetectable from natural teeth, and warranted for 10 years. WITHOUT THE LEAST PAIN. All work done by GRADUATED DENTISTS of from 12 to 20 years' experience, and each department in charge of a specialist. Give us a call, and you will find us to do exactly as we advertise. We will tell you in advance exactly what your work will cost by a FREE EXAMINATION.

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of soak and rinse with Pearline washing for every hour of hard rubbing with old-fashioned washing. You save half the time. It's easier, pleasanter, healthier work. Soaking the clothes in Pearline and water loosens the dirt so that you rinse it out with little or no rubbing. This soaking is absolutely harmless to the clothes; takes hold better, does the work more thoroughly, makes it easier to get things clean than with any soap. 629