RUSHED A BRITISH CAMP

DEWET SURPRISED STRONG FORCE IN ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

Kitchener Reports That the Casualties May Be Heavy—Troops in Pursuit of the Boers.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—The following dispatch has been received from Lord Kitchener, dated Johannesburg:

"General Rundle reports that on the night of December 24 Colonel Firman's camp at Zeefontein, consisting of three companies of yeomanry and two guns, was successfully rushed by a strong commando under Dewet. It is feared the casualties were heavy. Two regiments of light horse are pursuing the Boers."

Boer resistance has always been very strong in that part of the Orange River Colony. A great quadrangle of blockhouses is being built there, the points of which are Vreinigneu, Volksrust, Harrismith and Kroonstadt. At the southeast corner of this quadrangle is an open space from Bethlehem to Lindley, where the square of blockhouses is still incomplete, and here Dewet made his attack. Colonel Firman's force probably amounted to 400 men, and the disaster, especially the loss of the guns, the possession of which may enable Dewet successfully to attack the blockhouses, creates a disturbing impression.

FISHERIES CONGRESS.

Pacific Coast Interests Will Be Represented.

ST. PETERSBURG, Dec. 11.—It is understood that private pisciculturists of the Pacific Coast of the United States will participate in the fisheries exhibition and congress which will be opened here March 17, 1902. The congress will last five days. Owing to the somewhat short notice given of the exhibition, the United States could not participate officially. The programme of the congress will include papers and discussions on the scientific value of salt and fresh-water fish culture, oyster culture, legislation, methods and statistics, the condition of life among fishermen, amateur fishermen and other allied topics. The proceedings preferably will be conducted in French, and papers read in other languages will be printed in the form of a resume in that language. Persons desiring to become members and to read papers are invited to address the organizing committee of the International Fisheries Congress, B. Konnushennaya, St. Petersburg. The membership fee, which also entitles holders to a copy of the report of the proceedings, is 5 rubles.

A Siberian newspaper says that American capitalists have offered the government 25,000,000 rubles for a 50-year lease of a large strip of land in the Kirghiz Steppes, which are rich in copper, coal and silver. The territory, 200 by 6770 versts in extent, lies between Pavlodar and Lake Bakish. Senator Clark, of Montana, has previously been referred to as having been in negotiation with the private interests for a large piece of land in the same province, Semipatatinsk.

The Czar has conferred the Order of St. Anne, third class, on his dentist, Dr. Woolson, who is an American.

THE ZIONIST CONGRESS.

One Thousand Delegates Attended the Opening Session at Basle.

BASLE, Switzerland, Dec. 26.—The Zionist Congress opened here today under the presidency of Dr. Theodore Herzl, of Vienna, the founder of the Zionist movement in Palestine. The congress is attended by over 1000 delegates, representing every important country of the world, with the exception of Australia. In the course of his opening address, President Herzl referred to his audience with the Sultan last May, in which the Sultan expressed his sympathy with the Zionist movement; said he considered the Jews to be desirable colonists and declared himself their friend. Dr. Herzl said that he had absolute confidence in the national colonization movement and believed this could succeed where efforts toward charitable colonization have failed.

New Town Hall for Amsterdam.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Queen Wilhelmina is again considering her project of restoring to the City of Amsterdam the royal palace on the Dam, says a dispatch from The Hague to the Journal and American. This palace, which has some times been described as the eighth wonder of the world, was built some 300 years ago, and until the beginning of the 19th century was the headquarters of the municipality of Amsterdam, Louis Bonaparte, however, when King of Holland, established his residence there and it has ever since remained the Amsterdam abode of the sovereign of the Netherlands. Learning that the city was about to be asked to provide at a large cost a new town hall, the existing Hotel Deville being no longer adequate for the requirements of the municipal administration, she announced her intention of restoring the fine palace on the Dam to the use for which it was originally intended.

Waking Up England.

LONDON, Dec. 26.—As a Christmas attraction the Daily News has been attempting to obtain the views of prominent men on the best way of "waking up England," in view of the American and German commercial competition. The paper has consulted Sir Thomas Sutherland, Kenrick B. Murray, secretary of the London Chamber of Commerce, and others, only to discover the greatest divergence in the views of the persons questioned as to whether any real necessity exists for "waking up England."

Tornado at Naples.

ROME, Dec. 26.—A tornado swept over Naples today, causing considerable damage. A woman was killed and 36 persons were injured. Many buildings in the surrounding country were demolished and a considerable amount of railroad property was destroyed.

The tornado and the subsequent floods caused the loss of several lives. A cemetery at Naples was washed away.

Japanese Cabinet Trouble Arranged.

YOKOHAMA, Dec. 26.—The Cabinet differences have been arranged, owing largely, it is understood, to the telegraphic intervention of Marquis Ito. The budget has been withdrawn for the purpose of redrafting. It is believed, however, that the government's financial programme will pass the Diet.

Pontifical Mission to Coronation.

ROME, Dec. 26.—It has been decided to send a pontifical mission to the coronation of King Edward. This mission will be organized on lines similar to the one which attended the Victorian jubilee. The head of the mission has not yet been chosen.

Spanish Gold Payment Bill.

MADRID, Dec. 26.—The Chamber of Deputies adjourned without having adopted the bill for the payment of customs duties on grain, coal oil, petroleum, dried fish and other specified products in gold.

Russo-Italian Treaty Signed.

ROME, Dec. 27.—The draft of a treaty of commerce between Italy and Russia has been signed at St. Petersburg. It will require ratification by the Italian Chamber of Deputies.

Tercentenary at Gotha.

GOTHA, Dec. 26.—The tercentenary of the birthday of Duke Ernest the Pious, is being observed with great ceremony. Emperor William, replying to an address by Prince Ernest of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, Regent of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, declared that the great aim of his life had been the union of evangelical churches in Germany.

King Will Open Parliament.

LONDON, Dec. 27.—It has been definitely learned that King Edward will personally open Parliament.

MYSTERIOUS ROBBERY.

Chain Stolen Somewhere Between Washington and New York.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—A mysterious robbery of a diamond chain valued at $3500, of which either the Adams Express Company, or Shaw & Berry, a local jewelry firm, which shipped it to New York, are probably the victims, occurred some time between Sunday afternoon and this forenoon. The jewelry was dispatched from here to Joseph Frankel & Sons, 68 Nassau street, New York. When delivered there was no evidence that the seal had been tampered with, and the package was not opened in New York until today, when the chain was found missing. The package was made up by the local firm under the personal supervision of the proprietors, and duly registered. Detectives here and in New York are working on the case. It is supposed that the package was opened by some one acquainted with its contents, the chain removed and the package then restored to its original appearance.

Fight in a Church.

PIKETON, O., Dec. 26.—Six men were fatally wounded in a general fight at a small country church at Pike Postoffice last night and a panic took place among the worshipers. A series of religious meetings was in progress at the church and the building was filled when Charles and Orrin Day appeared slightly intoxicated and announced that they had "come to clean out the Legge," a family with which the Days had had frequent quarrels. A general fight resulted in the church and around it. Women and children sought safety from revolvers and knives by jumping out of the windows. Only the minister, Mr. Rowe, remained. At the close six men lay fatally hurt, Charles and Orrin Day, Wesley Legg, Joseph Williams, John Currant and Lebanon Williams.

Dead Body Found in a Steeple.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 26.—The decomposed body of a man was found in the steeple of Mount Zion A. M. E. Church, on the Gate City car line, about three miles from this city, by two hunters this afternoon. Owing to the condition of the body the Coroner cannot say whether it is that of a white man or a negro. The dead man was well dressed, and by his side was a large knife. The body lay on three blankets, and it is a mystery how it got into the steeple, as the only entrance is an 18-inch hole in the belfry. The hunters had gone in the church to get out of the rain, and detected the body by the odor.

Race War in Alabama.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Dec. 26.—In a general fight between white men and negroes at Childersburg yesterday afternoon a white man and his son were killed, while a white boy and one negro were wounded. With great difficulty a general outbreak was prevented. The negroes are now in jail at Talladaga. The dead are: J. Bird and Reuben B., his son, aged 15 years.

The wounded are: Tom Holley, a negro, probably fatally; George Bird, white, shot in the legs.

Charge Against Devery Dismissed.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Justice Holbrook handed down an order in the Court of Special Sessions today dismissing the charges brought against Deputy Police Commissioner Devery. The charges were made at the instance of a discharged patrolman named O'Neill, who alleged that Devery had refused to hear witnesses summoned by O'Neill when he was called upon to answer a complaint that he (O'Neill) had drawn a revolver without cause in making a daylight arrest.

The Texas Assassination.

PARIS, Tex., Dec. 26.—The people of this city and surrounding country are still greatly excited over the assassination of Rev. J. N. McClinton, a preacher and farmer near Deport. It is said that Rev. Mr. McClinton's dying statement implicated two persons, one of whom, Howard McGill, a farmer, has been arrested.

Three Italians Murdered.

MILLINOEKCT, Me., Dec. 26.—The finding of three bodies in the ruins of a cabin in the Italian settlement here has led the authorities to begin an investigation. It is reported that revolver shots were heard in the cabin before the fire broke out, and that one of the bodies found had a wound in the head. The other two were badly burned.

Georgia Planter Shot to Death.

COLUMBUS, Ga., Dec. 26.—Joseph Fincher, a prominent merchant and planter, was shot to death Wednesday night near Crawford, Ala., 12 miles west of here. Uriah Porter, a neighbor, is charged with the killing. It is said Porter and Fincher were not on good terms, and that Porter had openly threatened to kill Fincher.

CREED REVISION.

Work Thus Far Done Is Altogether Tentative.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Dec. 26.—The Presbyterian creed revision committee has issued the following statement through its secretary, Rev. Dr. Henry Roberts:

"For the information of the church I am authorized to say that the committee on creedal revision met at Washington, December 4, and remained in session until December 14. The work accomplished at the meeting consists of a brief statement of the reformed faith in untechnical terms, and also a declaratory statement. The statement of the reformed faith is contained in 16 articles, and the declaratory statement covers section 3, chapter 10; section 3, chapter 25; section 6 of the confession of faith, as specified in the Assembly's instructions to the committee, and also additional statements as to the 'Gospel' and the 'Holy Spirit.'

"The work thus far done is altogether tentative, is not for publication and is to be considered at another meeting of the committee to be held in Philadelphia, February 5, 1902. The committee also appointed a subcommittee of five, consisting of F. W. C. Humphrey, Drs. McKibbon, Fisher, Nicols and Moffatt, to prepare a tentative revision of the confession of faith of the several points contained in the instructions of the committee above named, the same to be considered at the February meeting along with the declaratory statement."

It is generally understood by the Presbyterian ministers in this city that the plan of the committee is to report the declaratory statement to the next General Assembly and sidetrack the revision movement until the Assembly of 1903. The new creed men on the committee are aggressive and believe the plan of campaign will best promote their desires and give relief at once to the church.

Christmas Giving in New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—According to the daily papers, never before in the history of the holiday festivities has Christmas giving been so universal in this city and vicinity. It is estimated that large business houses and corporations alone distributed over $1,000,000 among their employes. Other accounts tell how John D. Rockefeller gave the trainmen on the railroads on which he traveled on Christmas and Christmas eve $10 gold pieces, and it is also said that Miss Helen Gould sent a bag of gold coins to be distributed among the employes upon her estates up the Hudson River.

It has been decided that colored men shall be eligible for enlistment in the Cuban artillery. Plans have been made for a company to consist entirely of negroes.

COST OF COLOMBIAN WAR

FIFTY THOUSAND OF HER CITIZENS GAVE UP THEIR LIVES.

Two Hundred and Fifty Millions in Money Have Been Spent in Suppressing the Rebellion.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—Mail advices received at the Colombian Legation speak of the disturbed financial condition of the country resulting from the strain of the rebellion. Paper money has depreciated so that $45 in paper money is equivalent to only $1 in gold. Mr. Heran, the charge at the legation, said tonight:

"The rebellion is now practically over. There are only scattered marauding bands left, numbering probably not much more than 300 men. These are in the Isthmus of Panama and the State of Toulama, but they are being wiped out rapidly. The rebellion broke out in October, 1899, and has cost the country the lives of 50,000 able men, the sinews of her population, and $250,000,000 in money, and has left the country in a state of exhaustion."

Colombia Is in Readiness.

COLON, Dec. 26.—Newspapers just received here from coast towns in Colombia and Venezuela have much to say about the status of the Venezuela-Colombian imbroglio. The gist of these various newspaper articles is that each republic is still accusing the other of permitting the mustering of arms, troops, ammunition, etc., and the actual invasion of the other's territory, in alleged violation of laws governing the relations of friendly nations. These newspapers contain no news of a declaration of war by either Colombia or Venezuela. They set forth that the policy of Colombia is one of readiness to meet any emergency; hence she will make continued efforts to increase the number of her troops now on the Venezuelan frontier. The Colombian gunboat General Pinzon, with 700 troops on board, has left here for Rio Hacha. In the interior of Colombia there has been no recent serious fighting.

France Also Will Have a Claim.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Another complication has arisen between France and Venezuela, says the Port of Spain (Trinidad) correspondent of the Herald. This new grievance arises from the seizure of the properties of Senor Manuel Amalos, an alleged leader of the new Venezuelan revolution and a man of wealth. Senor Amalos leased part of his property to M. Secrestat, of Bordeaux, for two years, under the Venezuelan code, which permits such a transaction to be effected without the necessity of registering the documents. By the seizure of the leased properties President Castro has deprived M. Secrestat of their revenue and use.

The French Government has notified President Castro of the infringement of M. Secrestat's rights. France has made a complete investigation of the matter, and it is claimed that the demand, even under the Venezuelan law, is well founded.

Germany Will Act Vigorously.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—According to the Port of Spain (Trinidad) correspondent of the Herald, Germany intends to act vigorously against President Castro's government for the latter's failure to pay the interest on the debt owing the German bankers during the last three years. A naval demonstration, it is alleged, would have taken place by this time had it not been that the German cruiser Vienta needed repairs and had to go to the United States for an overhauling.

Indiana at Curacao.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The battleship Indiana has arrived at Willemstadt, Island of Curacao. There have been reports that there was yellow fever at Curacao, and, as the Navy Department does not wish to subject the crew of the Indiana to any danger, inquiry was instituted by the officials here to learn whether the disease was prevalent there. If there is any danger, the Indiana will not remain there.

THE ARGENTINE-CHILEAN DISPUTE

State Department Informed of the Signing of the Protocol.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The State Department has been informed by United States Minister Wilson, at Santiago de Chile, that the differences between Argentina and Chile may be regarded as settled through the signing yesterday of a protocol providing for the submission of the boundary line and the Ultima Esperanza territory dispute to the decision of the King of Great Britain. This announcement has given great satisfaction to the officials here, who have gone to the lengths of official practice in their efforts to avert a war between the two most suspicious of the South American Republics.

The Argentine Minister, Dr. Garcia Merou, received a dispatch from the Minister of Foreign Affairs at Buenos Ayres announcing the satisfactory termination of the trouble, and giving the basis of settlement. The dispatch is as follows:

"The pending incidents with Chile have been settled by agreement directly with the government of that country, and in a satisfactory form. Chile gives explanation of the opening of roads through the disputed territory, and both governments agree to withdraw the police forces which they have maintained in the territory in controversy, situated near the Inlet of Ultima Esperanza. ALCORTA,

"Minister, Foreign Affairs."

Dr. Garcia Merou expressed himself as highly gratified with the disappearance of the war cloud and pointed out that the terms of settlement showed that Argentina's earnest desire to maintain peace had led her to make considerable sacrifice. By both forces withdrawing their police from that locality the government ownership of the Ultima Esperanza territory becomes a question for arbitration.

Chileans Are Satisfied.

SANTIAGO DE CHILE, Dec. 26, via Galveston.—The text of the protocol establishing a modus vivendi between Chile and Argentina will be given to the public here and at Buenos Ayres tomorrow. Public feeling is satisfied, and all is perfectly tranquil.

Exit Maclay.

METHODIST CONSTITUTION.

Approved by the Necessary Three-Quarter Vote.

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—Announcement was made here today that the new constitution of the Methodist Episcopal church, which was adopted at the last general conference of that denomination, held at the Auditorium, in 1900, and referred to the various conferences throughout the country, has finally been approved by the three-quarter vote required. The vote is as follows: Ayes, 8968; nays, 2231. The element which opposed the new organic law of the church, because it provided for the admission of women as delegates to the general conference, made war on the constitution all along, but met with defeat. One hundred and twenty-one annual conferences voted on the question, a total of 10,709 ballots being cast by delegates. The principal changes provided for in the new constitution are: It gives women the right to sit as delegates in the general conference; it gives laymen's electoral meetings authority to vote on constitutional questions; it changes the vote necessary in the general conference to amend the constitution from three-fourths to two-thirds.

Telegraphic Brevities.

Hattiesburg, Miss., was practically destroyed by fire. Loss, about $50,000.

Colonel Thomas P. Ochiltree is recovering from an attack of pneumonia at New York.

The Government will break up a band of smugglers at Lacosta Island, off the Florida coast.

The Colby House, at New Lothrop, Mich., was burned, and John McCartney, a farmer, was cremated.

Burglars blew open the safe in the flouring mill of H. A. Branz & Son, at New Douglas, Ill., and secured $1500.

Four boys who went skating on LaHavre River, at Bridgewater, N. S., broke through the ice and were drowned.

Charles J. Burke, who inherited one fortune, made another as a haberdasher in Philadelphia and lost both in stocks, is dead at New York.

Mrs. Eugene Mills and her daughter, Hulda, of Okemos, Mich., were struck by a train while driving across the track, and instantly killed.

Mrs. F. W. Porter, mother of R. W. Porter, a member of the Baldwin-Zeigler expedition, died of heart disease in an elevated train at Chicago.

A. J. Ayers, a messenger of the Union Bank, of Brooklyn, who disappeared recently with $20,000 of the bank's money, was arrested in Montreal.

Simon Owens, aged 102, was burned to a crisp in his cabin in Guthrie, O. T. He was born a slave on General Andrew Jackson's plantation.

John Pipkin, a planter and merchant, shot and killed his brother-in-law, John Manus, near Forest City, Ark. Manus had shot into Pipkin's store, wounding Pipkin and his son slightly.

A deed transferring the Pope Bicycle Works to the American Cycle Manufacturing Company was filed at Hartford. Revenue stamps indicating a consideration of about $300,000 were attached.

Tod Sloan will be seen in the saddle again on the Metropolitan turf next Spring. The English Jockey Club will restore him, with the stipulation that he is to ride no more in England.

Caused Two Accidents.

CINCINNATI, O., Dec. 26.—Unable to see the flagman's signal on account of the fog, the engineer of the southbound Chicago express on the Cincinnati, Hamilton & Dayton road was unable to stop his train at Hartwell today until it had struck a freight crossing the track and demolished three freight cars. Four passengers and two trainmen were injured, none fatally. The wrecking train on the way to Hartwell met with an accident, killing Pat McCoy and fatally injuring William Nipper and Louis Ten Brink.

A Cure for Lumbago.

W. C. Williamson, of Amherst, Va., says: "For more than a year I suffered from lumbago. I finally tried Chamberlain's Pain Balm, and it gave me entire relief, which all other remedies had failed to do." Sold by all druggists.

DISMISSAL OF MACLAY

NOT IN VIOLATION OF CIVIL SERVICE LAW.

According to the Notification by John R. Proctor, President of the Commission.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—The Civil Service Commission today notified Edgar S. Maclay, the historian recently employed in the Brooklyn Navy-Yard, that his removal from his position at that point was not in violation of the civil service act. This notification is contained in a letter written to Mr. Maclay by President Proctor, of the commission, and is in reply to an inquiry from him. Mr. Maclay's letter is as follows:

"Office of the General Storekeeper, Navy-Yard, New York, Dec. 24, '01.

"Hon. John R. Proctor, President Civil Service Commission—Sir: On December 23, yesterday, I received the following communication of the Secretary of the Navy:

"'I am directed by the President to ask Edgar S. Maclay, special laborer, General Storekeeper's office, Navy-Yard, New York, to send in his resignation. John D. Long, Secretary.'

"This communication was addressed to the commandant at this navy-yard, and was duly forwarded to me. I desire to get an authoritative opinion from the Civil Service Commission on the following points:

"1. Has the President of the United States any authority, under the laws governing civil service, to demand the resignation of a civil service employe in the classified list?

"2. Has the President the power of authority to cause the dismissal of any civil service employe without preferring charges in writing and giving said employe an opportunity in which to make a defense? Very respectfully yours,

"EDGAR S. MACLAY."

To this the Commission replied as follows:

"December 26, 1901.

"Mr. Edgar S. Maclay, Navy-Yard, New York—Sir: The Commission is in receipt of your letter of December 24. In response to your questions, you are informed that it is contrary to the practice of the Commission to undertake to answer hypothetical questions. Your separation from the service, according to the facts in your case, as they appeared in the public press, was made upon the order of the Secretary of the Navy, in whom the power of removal rests. The demand for your resignation, followed by your removal, upon the direction of the President through the Secretary of the Navy, was not in violation of the civil service act and rules, in view of the well-known facts in your case.

"The object of the rule requiring notice and a hearing was to prevent political removals or removals on secret charges. No issue of this kind is involved in your case. Very respectfully,

"JOHN R. PROCTOR,
"President."

President Proctor, of the Civil Service Commission, also gave out the following statement bearing upon the case:

"The Commission has always held as shown in its thirteenth report, January 1, 1897:

"The civil service act did not intend that incompetent persons should be retained in office. The authority of removal and its exercise for proper reasons are necessary for the discipline and the efficiency of the public service. The power of removal is not affected by the law or the rules, further than that they provide that removals shall not be made for political or religious reasons.

"The rule of the President, July 27, 1897, requiring that a person should only be removed for just cause and upon reasons in writing and after an opportunity for making answer, was for the purpose of preventing political or religious removals or removals upon secret charges, but was in no way intended to curtail the power of removal for just cause. Under this rule the reasons for a removal are to be a matter of record, but it does not impair in the slightest degree the prompt exercise of the power of discipline.

"In discussing this rule in the 14th report of the Commission, December 31, 1897, it is stated that 'if the reasons are sufficient the officer will not hesitate to make the removal.'

"It cannot be asserted that Maclay's removal was for political or religious reasons or upon secret charges, as the reasons for the department's action are well known, both to Maclay and to the public."

Maclay Will Not Give Up.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Edgar Stanton Maclay, who refused to resign as special laborer in the office of general storekeeper of the navy-yard, was summarily discharged today. Maclay went to the navy-yard as usual, prepared to resume his duties. Pay Director Putnam went to Maclay's desk, read him the telegram from Washington yesterday, and told him that he was dismissed. Maclay left the yard immediately. He said he would return at the usual time tomorrow prepared to go to work.

Miles Resumes His Duties.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—General Miles resumed his duties in command of the Army at his office in the War Department today. It is said that he has decided to accept the situation with the best possible grace, and will say or do nothing to continue the controversy. So far as known, the incident will cause no decided change in his pre-arranged plans, official or social, for the future.

ALL FOR ARBITRATION.

Substantial Agreement Reached by the Pan-American Congress.

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 26.—A substantial agreement on the subject of arbitration was practically reached today by the several delegations to the Pan-American Congress. Contrary to what had been anticipated, it is almost sure that the agreement is unanimous, including even Argentina, which country it was thought would refuse to sign any but a compulsory scheme of arbitration. The basis of agreement is simply The Hague convention. All the nations represented at the conference at Mexico City will become parties to The Hague convention. They might join it independently, but as the United States and Mexico are already members of The Hague convention, it has been concluded that they shall have the honor of introducing the other nations. In addition, the nations to the conference other than the United States, Chile, Colombo, Ecuador, Nicaragua and perhaps one or two others, will sign among themselves a scheme of compulsory arbitration, but still accepting The Hague tribunal and The Hague procedure. This compulsory plan, however, will have effect only among the signatroy nations, and will not have the official sanction of the Pan-American conference. A sentiment is growing up in favor of fixing January 5 as the definite date for the closing of the conference.

John Barrett Denies It.

FREEPORT, Ill., Dec. 26.—Regarding the statement of El Tempo, a Mexican newspaper, that John Barrett, delegate of the United States to the Pan-American Congress, had returned to Washington because the Latin countries did not show docility in accepting the leadership of the United States, Mr. Barrett, who has just arrived here from Mexico, said today:

"Such a report is too ridiculous to require specific denial. It is an example of the methods of the anti-American element of the Latin press to discredit the conference, or it is one of those foolish stories about American politics that sometimes originate, nobody knows how, in foreign capitals. I have returned to the United States by express permission of Secretary Hay to attend to certain personal business matters requiring attention, and I can add that the Pan-American conference, even if it does not accomplish all that could be desired, will undoubtedly have promoted the friendly relations existing between the United States and her sister republics."

Hanna's Reminiscences of McKinley.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—In a copyrighted article in the National Magazine, United States Senator Mark Hanna, of Ohio, writes at length concerning the late President William McKinley. In conclusion, the writer gives the following personal reminiscences:

"I know of nothing in American history that can compare with the splendid climax and ending of this noble life. One of the sweetest consolations that come to me is the memory that on Tuesday preceding his death he asked to see a newspaper and when he was told 'not today,' he said:

"'Is Mark here?'

"'Yes, Mr. President,' was the response, and in that one sweet last remembrance was a rich reward for the years of devotion which it had always been my pleasure to give him.

"There was nothing in the expression of his face or manner denoting exultation over his victory when it was announced that he was elected President. He seemed to fully realize the sacred responsibilities placed upon him and the quiet dignity and self-possession which marked the man then and in days after were just what his personal friends expected of him.

"The first day I greeted him after he was inaugurated at the White House, in the course of conversation I inadvertently called him 'Major' and 'Governor,' and when I stopped to correct myself he would say: 'Each one is fitting; I'm not particular which.'"

Portland Should be Cautious.

Spokane Spokesman-Review.

In planning for the Lewis and Clark Exposition, Portland will do well to consider the words of wisdom in the message of th eGovernor of Virginia recommending a celebration to commemorate the 300th anniversary of the founding of the James River Colony. He urges the Legislature to "avoid the rocks and shoals that have been disastrous to other exhibitions," and advises strongly against extravagance in grounds and buildings. He says that all expositions are more or less alike, and that the public has had enough of gorgeous displays. What Virginia wants is a practical presentation of what the state wants the world to see.

Portland should follow this advice unless it wishes to add another to the long list of expositions that have been financial failures. Too much money has been expended in buildings and displays and too little in exhibits, for showing off which expositions are really projected. Beginning with New Orleans and Atlanta, when the outlay for grounds and buildings was small compared with that for some of the later affairs, the losses have been heavy. Buffalo was a fine spectacle, but the treasurer's reports show that it entailed a heavy deficit. It is also predicted that Charleston will be unable to make ends meet when the time for accounting arrives.

Portland can make its Exposition an artistic and financial success without going to the extravagance that has distinguished the efforts of other cities. It should not aim too high in making its landscape, architectural or electrical plans. It may secure artistic beauty and natural effects without throwing money away, and that will give it all the more to show in a fitting manner what progress has been made in the great country visited by the two explorers of a hundred years ago.

Death of "Steeple Joe."

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—"Steeple Joe" Lawler, the original steeple-climber, is dead. Lawler was 49 years of age, and during his time as a "steeple jack" probably ascended more steeples and tutored more pupils in his dangerous trade than any other man in the country. Lawler was originally a member of the fire department, and it was in the training he received as a fireman that he developed his ability as a steeple-climber. While a member of a ladder company he made a record of ascending over 182 feet in a trifle over two minutes.

Young Edison's Yacht Wrecked.

NORFOLK, Va., Dec. 26.—It was reported from Beaufort, S. C., today that the gasoline yacht Onaniche, in which the two sons of Thomas A. Edison, the inventor, and the wife of one of them, with several friends, recently passed through Norfolk, en route to Florida waters, had been wrecked on Cedar Island, near Beaufort. No particulars came with the report.

WOODARD, CLARKE & CO.

Just Received—Full Carload

Toilet Paper

We anticipate our annual sale and place this entire shipment on sale this morning at prices which will interest everyone.

	Special Sale Price. Per Dozen.
"NERO"—six-ounce rolls, regular each 3c	29c
"ONEIDA"—eight-ounce rolls, regular each 4c	38c
"SANITAS"—nine-ounce rolls, regular each 5c	46c
"OUR FAIR"—eleven-ounce rolls, regular each 7c	59c
"400"—1000-sheet rolls, regular each 9c	67c
"MULTNOMAH"—1000-sheet roll, regular each 10c	72c
"WOODLARK"—1000-sheet roll, regular each 10c	84c
"MT. HOOD"—sixteen-ounce roll, regular each 10c	87c
"ORIENT"—1500 sheets extra fine white tissue, regular each 15c	$1.32
"SUFFOLK"—2000 sheets, regular 20c	$1.89
"PILOT"—500 sheets, square packages, regular each 5c	40c
"BLUE BELLS"—800 sheets, square packages, regular each 9c	55c
"KLONDIKE"—1000 sheets, square packages, regular each 10c	89c
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