TWENTY-FOUR PAGES

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PAGES 1 TO 12

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WILL FIGHT IT OUT

Taylor Declines to Sign the Peace Agreement.

CASE WILL GO TO THE COURTS

Militia Has Been Sent Home, and Legislature Ordered to Reconvene at Frankfort.

FRANKFORT, Ky., Feb. 10.—"I have only this to say: After mature deliberation and conference with my friends from every section of the state, I have concluded to allow this controversy to take its due course, vigorously contesting every inch of ground and upholding the rights of the people to the uttermost. If those rights be destroyed, the responsibility for that destruction must rest with those who sit in judgment.

"It is due to say that the eminent gentlemen, my friends, who secured the propositions resulting from the Louisville conference, acted in perfect good faith, from the highest motives of patriotism, and did the very best they could.

"WILLIAM S. TAYLOR,"
"Governor of Kentucky."

The above proclamation was issued by Governor Taylor tonight, and, according to his oral statement at the time of its issuance, embodies all he desired to say concerning his position at the present time.

The decision not to sign the Louisville agreement was reached by Governor Taylor a few minutes after 1 o'clock this afternoon. For over two hours he had been in conference with fully 150 prominent republicans from all parts of the state, including county committeemen and four republican members of the legislature. The meeting was secret in the extreme, all those who came from the hall before Governor Taylor himself refusing to say anything concerning the progress of the deliberations.

Judge George Denny presided, and L. F. Petty acted as secretary. The members of the conference, with the exception of Governor Taylor, gathered in the legislative hall usually occupied by the state house of representatives. After the hall was filled, Governor Taylor entered, and was greeted with a ringing burst of cheers. The door was then closed, and the secret proceedings began.

Governor Taylor stated to the conference that there was two courses to be pursued: First, to sign the Louisville agreement; second, to withdraw the troops quietly, allow the legislature to reconvene in the capitol building in Frankfort, call off the session now being held in London and ignore the Louisville agreement entirely. Several speeches were made, and it was soon apparent that the sentiment of the gathering was strongly in favor of the second course, and this was adopted.

This action was decided upon at 1 o'clock, and the first information of the decision was given to the outside world by Governor Taylor himself. He came rapidly through the doors, unattended and looking nervous and haggard. He walked hastily toward the capitol stairway, repeating several times to the newspaper men who stood in the hall: "I don't sign," "I don't sign."

Legislature Reconvened.

From the capitol he passed to the legislative building, where he at once made up and signed the following proclamation, convening the legislature at Frankfort:

"Frankfort, Ky., Feb. 10.—The excitement recently prevailing in this city having, to some extent, subsided, and there appearing now to be no necessity for the general assembly to remain in session in London, I do hereby by this proclamation, reconvene the same in Frankfort, Ky., February 12, 1900, at 12 o'clock, noon.

"W. S. TAYLOR,
"Governor of Kentucky."

Orders were at once issued to General Collier to prepare for the departure of the troops, and in a very short time a large number of them were ready to leave. Six companies left tonight, and only a small detachment will remain by Monday morning. These will be retained only as a peace guard, and will in no way be intruded on the presence of the legislature.

Word was at once sent to the members of the republican legislature now in session at London that the next session will be in Frankfort, and a prompt reply was received to the effect that they would all leave in a body Sunday, and be in Frankfort Monday in time for business. After Governor Taylor had left the hall, a resolution embodying the sense of the meeting was adopted.

After the adjournment of the meeting it was the opinion of the republicans that the gubernatorial contest was practically over. They understood the action of today to mean and it was intended to mean that the matter should now be fought out before the courts, the issue there reached to be accepted as final. There was no intention of asking that a new vote should be taken on the Goebel-Taylor contest, but Governor Taylor stated to several prominent republicans that he would ask that any former action be ratified by a vote of both houses taken without passion.

When informed of the action of the democratic legislature at Louisville in refusing to come to Frankfort, Governor Taylor said:

"It strikes me that their attitude is somewhat inconsistent. They claim they cannot be protected at Frankfort, and there is nobody here to molest them. They objected to the presence of troops at a time when there was far greater excitement and danger than now. After things have quieted down, they refuse to return, because they say they cannot be guaranteed protection."

The action of Governor Taylor today returns the gubernatorial fight to the exact position it occupied the day following the Goebel assassination, with the additional complication that there was but one legislature and one governor in fact, whereas there are now two claimants for the position and two separate bodies, each claiming to be the lawmaking power of Kentucky.

DEMOCRATS UNDECIDED.

Will Investigate Before They Accept Taylor's Invitation.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., Feb. 10.—The collapse of the peace negotiations through Governor Taylor's rejection of the Louisville agreement, and the latter's action in calling off the London legislature and partially withdrawing the troops have left the fight over the state officers divested of many of its warlike features, but in a worse legal tangle than ever.

The receipt of the news from Frankfort this afternoon was followed immediately by a gathering of the democratic leaders at the Willard hotel. At this conference were: Senator Blackburn, Governor Beckham, General Castleman, President Carter, of the senate; Speaker Trimble, and others. At its conclusion, Governor Beckham sent to the legislature a message relating the failure of the peace negotiations, and the conditions existing at Frankfort, as seen by him, and recommending that the legislature continue its sessions in Louisville, as he could not guarantee their personal security nor protect them from unwarranted interference at Frankfort.

Acting upon this suggestion, the legislature decided to remain in Louisville for the present, and both houses adjourned to meet at the courthouse Monday at noon. It is probable a joint resolution, which was offered today, will then be adopted, calling for the appointment of a committee to investigate the conditions at Frankfort, as far as they affect the safety of the legislators. The members do not accept Governor Taylor's action in ordering away part of the troops as restoring order, under which they may return to the capital. They say they would feel safer with the militia there than with the "irresponsible armed mountaineers, who for weeks have been gathering about the state buildings," left to menace them.

The democratic legislature held two sessions today with a quorum in each house. At the first, some minor legislative business was disposed of. At the second, Governor Beckham's message was read. It follows:

"Commonwealth of Kentucky, Executive Office, Louisville, Ky., Feb. 10, 1900.—Gentlemen of the General Assembly: I desire to inform you as to the result of the attempt to settle the present unfortunate state of affairs in the commonwealth by means of an agreement adopted by a conference of representatives of both parties in this city last Monday night. We earnestly hoped that by this agreement the differences before us would be removed and thought peace and order would again be established in the state. We have been ready at all times that this matter should be settled in conformity with that agreement. But information has just reached me that the republican claimant to the office of governor has refused to sign that agreement, and consequently all negotiations in that line are now at an end. We had been led to believe that the gentleman who now controls, by armed force, the state departments at Frankfort, would abide by this agreement, and that your body would again be permitted to meet in their respective halls peaceably and unmolested; but, having been disappointed in this hope, I desire to recommend to you that you continue your sessions for the present in the city of Louisville, where every protection can be given your members from any unlawful arrest or other unwarranted interference with your proceedings. The capital buildings at Frankfort are now in possession of armed forces openly in defiance of the law, held there by those who have no legal rights to do so, and for that reason I could not guarantee to you that safety and protection which you would need if in session there.

"As the legally elected governor of the commonwealth of Kentucky, I promise to you to use every legal means in my power to restore as soon as possible order and peace at the state capital, that, as soon as you may deem it advisable, you may adjourn your meetings to that place. Asking your assistance and co-operation to bring about this result, I send this message to you as a recommendation for your action at present.

"J. C. W. BECKHAM, Governor."

The senate at once adjourned until Monday. In the house the following joint resolution was offered and went over under the rules until Monday.

"Whereas, one W. S. Taylor, who, without right or legal authority and in defiance of peace and good order, has for several days past surrounded himself and the public buildings at the seat of government at Frankfort with armed bodies of lawless, armed men and organized militia of the state and refused to permit the general assembly and court of appeals to meet at their accustomed and regular places of sitting, and has signified his purpose of ordering said militia now at the seat of government to retire from active service, without indicating that he would take any action with reference to the armed men he has gathered around him at the seat of government; now, be it therefore

"Resolved, by the general assembly, That a committee of two from the senate and three from the house be appointed, which committee is hereby authorized to investigate and report to the general assembly whether it will be possible and advisable for the legislature to resume its sittings at Frankfort and in the meantime the general assembly shall meet at Louisville."

The house then adjourned until Monday.

DEMOCRATS AT A DINNER.

Gathering for the Purpose of Adjusting Sectional Differences.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—A dinner was given tonight by the National Civic Club to democratic congressmen at the Pouch gallery, in Brooklyn, and was intended as a harmonious gathering for the purpose of adjusting sectional differences before the opening of the presidential campaign. The idea was conceived by E. M. Shepard, the president of the club, who stated that it was intended to have the democrats from various parts of the country come together in advance of the national conventions for an interchange of views. There were about 200 persons present. Mr. Shepard presided, with Congressman J. D. Richardson, of Tennessee, at his right and Congressman David A. De Armond, of Missouri, at his left. Others at the guests' table were: Congressmen James Hay, of Virginia; Congressman H. D. Clayton, of Alabama; Congressman J. J. Fitzgerald and Edmond H. Driggs, of Kings; Hon. F. E. Wilson, Henry Hentz and Andrew McLane and Augustus Van Wyck. Mr. Shepard made the opening address, followed by speeches by Richardson, Van Wyck, De Armond, Clayton, Hay and others.

California Legislature Adjourns.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Feb. 10.—The extra session of the California legislature, called by Governor Gage for the purpose of electing a United States senator to succeed Stephen M. White, and to enact certain legislation for the state, adjourned today, after the reading of a farewell letter from the governor. Nothing of importance was done at today's session.

GOVERNOR OF TUTUILA.

Commander Schroeder Will Be Appointed by Secretary Long.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—It has been practically decided by the secretary of the navy to appoint Commander Seaton Schroeder to be the first naval governor of the Samoan island of Tutuila. Commander Schroeder is at present on duty in Washington as a member of the board charged with the revision of the naval regulations. This work is about complete, so that officer will be able to leave for his new post at an early day.

Coast Lines Not Endangered.

NEW YORK, Feb. 10.—A special to the Times from Washington says:

While there are some officers of the army and navy who are disposed to regard the conditions of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty as objectionable because it takes away from the United States the military control of the proposed canal, not all of them are willing to assent to the suggestion that failure to assume military control will endanger the east or west coasts of the United States in case of war.

WAR OFFICE SILENT

No Word From Buller Since He Recrossed the Tugela.

ATTEMPTED DASH FROM LADYSMITH

General MacDonald's Operations at Koodersberg Were Successful—Wednesday's Fighting in Natal.

LONDON, Feb. 11, 4:10 A. M.—The war office still maintains silence regarding the situation at the seat of war, announcing at 11:30 last evening that no further news had been received, and none has come from other sources which would give a clew to General Buller's movements since he recrossed the Tugela, or to the present positions of the forces.

WHITE TRYING TO GET OUT.

Ladysmith Troops Attempt to Force a Passage.

BOER HEAD LAAGER, Ladysmith, Friday, February 9.—It is reported from the Upper Tugela that in yesterday's fighting, while driving the British across the river with heavy loss to them, the Boers had four men killed and eight wounded. On retaking the kopje, 22 Boers were found killed.

The alarm was given at midnight that the Ladysmith troops were trying to force a passage in the direction of the Free State laager. Heavy firing was heard, but no particulars have been received.

ADVANCE WAS IMPOSSIBLE.

Buller's Operations North of the Tugela Wednesday.

HEADQUARTERS CAMP, SPRINGFIELD, Feb. 9.—The position taken north of the Tugela river proved a difficult one to maintain. The regiments sent across as reinforcements went into the front line of trenches, but owing to the great strength of the Boers in the Brakfontein hills to the left, it was found impossible to advance without risking unnecessary loss. The Boers continued shelling the British position. Several "Long Tom" shells fell among the transport trains, and four burst at Sivaatkop, but the Boers could not get the range. The British guns posted there failed to silence the "Long Tom" or other masked guns. The Boers continued to work the Nordenfeldts on the British infantry intrenched on the hill. The fire was severe at times.

Wednesday afternoon Buller resolved not to press the advance by this route. The transport train moved back, and the infantry retired from Vaalkrantz. Wednesday night the guns on Zwartkop replied to the Boers' shelling. When they commenced to shell the transport train, the Boers got a large number of cannon into position. Their superiority of shell fire rendered the advance impossible.

ANOTHER EXPLANATION.

Trap Laid by the Boers Discovered by a Balloonist.

LONDON, Feb. 11.—A special dispatch from Springfield Bridge, under date of Friday, February 9, gives a new explanation of General Buller's retirement. According to this dispatch, a balloonist Wednesday discovered the fact that the Boers had developed extraordinary and unexpected artillery strength on Doorn kloof, to the British right, where they had managed to draw up a dozen heavy guns, some fitted with disappearing mountings, and all cunningly masked. These, but for the balloonist, would never have been discovered in time to save the British from falling into the deadly trap, as they commanded the road the British would have had to take in order to reach Ladysmith. These guns rendered the actual positions of the British untenable, and a further advance impossible, except at the cost of a terrible and useless loss of life.

MACDONALD'S MOVE A SUCCESS.

Captured and Holds the Drift at Koodersberg.

MODDER RIVER, Feb. 9, noon.—General MacDonald scored a distinct success at Koodersberg. His original orders were to hold the drift and construct a fort. The position, however, was extremely difficult, a long range of high hills running northwest and terminating close to the drift, on the north bank of the river. As it was impossible to hold the whole summit, General MacDonald constructed strong works across the center, which were held by the Seaforth Highlanders and three companies of the Black Watch. While the Highland light infantry held a small kopje on the right, the Ninth lancers patrolled toward the river, General MacDonald's plan being to repel attacks.

Things went quietly until Wednesday, when the Boers advanced along the ridge within 300 yards, mounting two mountain seven-pounders, which were invisible in the plain. They also held a smaller drift three miles to the west. On receipt of this news, General Methuen dispatched a large force of cavalry and two horse batteries under General Babington with the purpose of surrounding the Boers. In order to further this plan, General MacDonald adopted merely defensive tactics. It was not attempted to force back the Boers' right, which move might have resulted in their general retirement soon.

General Babington left Modder River at 11:30 in the morning, and arrived within two miles of Koodersberg at 10:30 P. M., too late to attempt the turning movement. The next morning it was found that the Boers had fled from the lower drift, but still remained on the hill, where they perceived Babington's movements. Early in the morning Babington vigorously shelled the retiring Boers. The whole British force is now returning to camp.

This little affair reflects great credit upon General MacDonald's tactics and proves that the Highlanders have thoroughly recovered their old form and courage.

MAKING THE BEST OF IT.

Result of Buller's Operations Causes No Keen Disappointment.

LONDON, Feb. 10.—Today's news by no means causes the acute disappointment attendent upon other failures to relieve Ladysmith. This can be attributed to three causes:

First—There is a strong belief that Buller's last attempt was only a demonstration on a large scale.

Second—The wiser citizens had warned the public not to expect the immediate relief of General White.

Third—The nation has settled down to the realization that the war will last a long time, and they are not swayed as at first by minor reverses and victories.

The second and third reasons are self-explaining. The first requires considerable elucidation in favor of the opinion held by Spencer Wilkinson, the military critic of the Morning Post, that Buller did not intend immediately rushing on to Ladysmith. There is overwhelming evidence to show that Lord Roberts ordered systematic activity on the part of all forces. On this basis Buller's move may be only a repetition of MacDonald's and French's reconnaissances.

Mr. Balfour's ambiguous statement about waiting for the completion of plans is another strong reason for believing that Buller never intended making the main advance via Vaalkrantz, but was under the orders of Roberts. The usual appeal of Bennett Burleigh, war correspondent of the London Daily Telegraph, asking the public to suspend judgment and rely on Buller, also has considerable significance.

On the other hand, Buller's speech to his troops, in which he said he hoped to be in Ladysmith within a week, tends, some people claim, to throw doubt upon the belief that he has only been demonstrating in force.

Methuen's force is rehabilitated for a vigorous attack on General Cronje, and an attempt to relieve Kimberley may be looked for, more than likely superintended by Roberts, while the Seventh division and part of French's cavalry are occupied in a turning movement east of Jacobsdal.

A dispatch from Rensberg, dated February 9, reports aggressive activity against all the British reconnoitering and says the Boers are in no sense surrounded at Colesberg, but are simply set in check by a series of camps forming a semi-circle from the east to the west. The Boers, it is added, are still in full possession of their lines of communication with the Free State and hold strong positions around Colesberg. During the morning of February 9, a bombardment with lyddite occurred at Rensberg and the Boers' Maxims and Vickers guns are believed to have been silenced. A dozen dead Boers were found on the kopjes.

Lord Roberts has addressed another letter to Kruger and Steyne, complaining of the wanton destruction of property in Natal.

An extra cabinet council was held this afternoon, in response to a summons issued yesterday evening. The council lasted over two hours. Several members of the defense committee were present, and Lord Salisbury presided. The premier held a supplementary consultation after the departure of the majority of his colleagues.

A dispatch to the London Times, from Springfield bridge, dated February 9, says:

"Our force at Vaalkrantz entrenched itself as well as possible, but, nevertheless, we continued to lose men, and no advance was made. The Boer artillery fired incessantly, and as Wednesday proceeded it was increasingly apparent that, though the infantry might make a determined assault and force their way through the center of the Boer position, it would be impossible, during the subsequent operations, to maintain the security of the lines, and evacuation was decided upon. Retirement commenced at 9 o'clock at night, the pontoon bridge being removed after General Hildyard's force had crossed this morning. The whole force retired beyond the range of the Boer guns, which continued shelling."

A dispatch, dated Spearman's camp, Wednesday, says Buller's retirement was merely temporary, owing to a determination to change tactics. The force, the dispatch adds, will soon resume operations. The casualties were mostly slight wounds.

Boers in Zululand.

DURBAN, Feb. 10.—The Boers have taken Inkandla, a Zululand magistracy. The magistrate the night previous exploded the magazine and, with his staff and police, evacuated the place and proceeded to Eshowe.

REVIEW OF THE SITUATION.

Buller's Move a Part of Roberts' General Plan.

LONDON, Feb. 10.—Spencer Wilkinson, the military expert, reviewing the South African situation for the Associated Press at midnight, says:

"Lord Roberts has now taken hold of the campaign. His strategy evidently is to act in the western theater of war with energy enough to move the center of gravity thither. General Buller's move must therefore be considered in its place in a general scheme. The idea seems to be that if General Buller cannot 'skin the bear' himself, he can hold its leg while some one else does. Accordingly, General Buller is not to risk his army, but short of that is to give the Boers as much to do in Natal as he can. Looking at General Buller's action by itself, the impression it makes recalls General McClellan, who, though cautious and knowing how to preserve his army, hardly ever displayed the initiative power to run risks or the self-reliance of a great commander. To all appearances General Buller has given up his third attempt before his attack was fully developed.

"A telegram received this evening from Lourenco Marques speaks of a sortie from Ladysmith the night of Thursday or Friday. Such an attempt of General White to cut his way out was probable, and may succeed, though the nature of modern weapons is against him, and there would be heavy loss and many stragglers would be cut off. The likelihood of General White's trying to fight his way out would explain the reticence of the war office. It would also explain the demonstration from Cheveley, of which we have heard only through a Boer telegram.

"No decided opinion on the operations of the past week can be pronounced until a connected authentic account shall have been received."

STRATHCONA HORSE.

British Columbia Volunteers Given a Hearty Send-Off.

NELSON, B. C., Feb. 10.—A big banquet was tendered to the 50 members of the Strathcona horse who left here tonight for the East. The mayor presided, and great was the enthusiasm marked. The men were accompanied to the boat by the band, and hundreds of citizens, who made the midnight hour ring with cheers and wild outbursts of music. The men have had considerable experience of life on the plains, and most of them have been in the militia service, and are expert horsemen.

REVELSTOKE, B. C., Feb. 10.—One of the largest crowds ever assembled in Revelstoke gathered at the railway station this morning. Although a very heavy storm prevailed, it did not stay the citizens of this burg from wending their way to the depot to see the "lucky ten" chosen for the Strathcona horse away and give them a hearty send-off and wish them Godspeed and a safe return from South Africa. A purse of $30 was given each volunteer as a gift from the citizens.

VICTORIA, B. C., Feb. 10.—G. P. Dearmour, G. V. N. Spencer, B. A. St. George, G. S. Fall, W. H. Norrup, H. Q. Fraser, W. S. Winkel, G. Elliott and H. C. Chailders, were today enlisted for the Strathcona horse. The men have all seen service and are expert shots and horsemen. The Vernon recruits are McCullen, Symmill, D. C. Cameron, J. W. Murray, Smith, Bolton, Brixton, Brent Strickland, Venner, Jones, Shillingfield, Ellis, Falder and Nicholson.

Daily Treasury Statement.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Today's statement of the condition of the treasury shows:

Available cash balance $256,760,054
Gold reserve 120,243,479

THE CANAL TREATY

There Is a Growing Opposition to Its Ratification.

DEMAND FOR ENTIRE CONTROL

Disposition Not to Press the Ship Subsidy Bill at This Session of Congress.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 10.—Favorable action upon the Nicaragua canal treaty does not seem as certain as when it was first presented. There seems to be developing a distinct desire that the United States shall have full control of the canal, and as the press opinions are vigorous in certain sections, the senators hesitate to indorse the treaty unless it is amended. The revivification of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty has been distasteful to many people, but the greatest opposition comes from those who insist that a canal built by United States money should be absolutely controlled by this government. The friends of the canal, who hoped to clear the way for the construction of the canal by adopting the treaty, say that opposition to the treaty is the same as always appears as soon as there seems to be any possibility of getting a bill through.

Chairman Hepburn opposes the treaty because he thinks it will interfere with the canal, and also says there is nothing in the claims of the concessionaires, who are also interposing their objection to the building of the canal by the United States. He says they are worth nothing, because the men who have got them cannot raise money to build the canal. The United States will deal directly with Nicaragua and Costa Rica, and not settle with the concessionaires. The general belief is that many of these concessionaires want a large appropriation from the United States in order that they may be able to sell out. Hepburn insists that it will cost Nicaragua and Costa Rica but very little to settle with the concessionaires, and if the United States undertakes to dicker with them the price will be high.

Subsidy Bill May Go Over.

A significant remark, credited to Senator Aldrich, indicates a disposition not to press the subsidy bill at this session of congress. He says:

"It will give rise to discussion and encounter republican opposition, which should be avoided."

Of course, Senator Aldrich is seeking an early adjournment, and knows, whatever may be his views on the merits of the bill, that a long fight over it in the midst of the campaign is not desirable for the republicans. That the bill is going over is indicated by the fact that little haste is being made in getting it reported either in the senate or house.

The American University.

A great project, or great undertaking, that has been wavering and on the verge of collapse for some time, and yet which has just enough support to keep it from sinking, is the building in this city, or in its outskirts, of an American university. Several years ago this huge undertaking was instituted by the Methodist church, the idea being to erect a large institution for the higher education of American men and women, giving them an education equal to that to be obtained in any colleges of the Old World. The church got behind the scheme, and for a time boomed it. But, like many other promoters, they aspired to too great an accomplishment, and, after a futile effort to raise the funds necessary for this institution, decided to drop the Methodist feature and make it a Protestant institution, thereby soliciting the aid of the other religious denominations. It was then that the name was changed to the American university. Up to this time, one building of the 23 contemplated has been erected, and a few others are in course of erection, but there is an end in sight. The college is magnificently located, overlooking the city, and, with a campus of 95 acres, has natural advantages possessed by few colleges. But it is the material backing that is needed. The state of Pennsylvania has finally promised to erect one large building, the largest of the group, at a total cost of $450,000. Ohio contributes another building, to cost $200,000. To Illinois has been assigned the erection of a third, and funds for all of these are to be raised by popular subscription and donations of individuals. Other states and other institutions have undertaken to raise funds necessary to erect these buildings, all to be of marble, but if there is no further incentive offered, or if the project does not have a second boom it is hard to see how it will be completed within the present generation.

To Raise the Maine.

A few weeks ago mention was made of the project to float the wreck of the battle-ship Maine by the aid of liquid air, but the manner of applying this new physical agent was not very clearly described. According to the proposal of the persons who wish to raise the Maine, they will surround the wreck with two rows of ordinary two-inch pipe, 15 inches apart, closed at the lower end, and forced down into the slime and mud as far as possible, a sort of double picket fence. Sandbags 10 feet long and 15 inches wide, with eyehooks on one end, will be strung on the pipes, and lowered in pairs and stacked on the bottom like two rows of cordwood, being only loosely filled, so that they will pack. Each pair will be connected with a double eye bar to prevent the fences spreading. This 21-foot battlement will be within a few feet of the ship, but will spread out around the ship to make the requisite room for the builders of the new hull, and to avoid scattered wreckage. When the caisson is completed and has got through settling, the remaining 15-inch space between the two rows of pipes and enormous tiers of pillow bolsters will be filled in and packed by special delivery tubes, with a composition of blue clay and water cement, which will effectually enter and close any possible crevices between the flabby sacks so heavily weighted—heavy enough, in fact, when frozen, to compare with many railroad foundations and, if thought advisable, would be increased to 30 or 50 feet in foundation width.

Applying the Liquid Air.

Pipes will then be forced down in a multitude of places in the soft mud beneath the hull and wrecked portion and filled with liquid air at 312 degrees below zero. The pipes of which the fences are composed will then be filled with liquid air, heavy timbers will be placed across on top to relieve any inward strain, movable stays will be adjusted from the sides of the ship to the caisson, and the pumps may then be applied to draw the water from the wreck, it being inclosed in a water-tight casing. It is claimed that this caisson, made by liquid air, is more easily constructed than one of piles, and when thawed out will leave no debris in the harbor. It can be constructed in one-tenth the time, and for one-quarter the price of a pile caisson, besides being safer, more novel, and a far healthier employment than spiking plank under the water of Havana harbor, that could only with the greatest difficulty be forced down far enough to prevent the mud from coming in and burying everything in a nasty, sticky ooze, instead of filthy, muddy water.

Magnitude of the Undertaking.

To build this frozen bowl to raise the Maine will require 700,000 feet of sand and 75,000 feet of clay, and to transport these to the wreck will require 41 barges 40 feet wide, 70 feet long and eight feet deep. Over 2000 barrels of cement will mingle with the clay, and upwards of 100,000 feet of pipe will convey the liquid air to the points where used. The cost of the new hull, which it is proposed to construct around the wreck in order to float it to American waters, will vary according to the amount that can be raised for the purpose. There is an idea of carrying the wreck as far as Chicago, and if that is done, which is hardly practicable, if not altogether impossible, the wreck will have to be cut in two to get it through the St. Lawrence locks. There would be no difficulty about the draft, which, when fully equipped was 21½ feet, but which, without arms and stores, will hardly be over 14 feet. If this scheme receives the sanction of congress, and the projectors ask merely for that, it may be that the Maine wreck will be exhibited at points along the Atlantic coast, but it is hardly possible that it will get so far into the interior, unless some new power is discovered which will transport huge weights overland.

FRANCE IS NOT INTERESTED

Paying Little Attention to the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty.

PARIS, Feb. 10.—The Anglo-American convention, which permits American construction of the Nicaragua canal, has not yet attracted the keen attention here which its importance warrants, considering the heavy French financial interests thereby affected. The Panama canal has been a well in which nine French peasants out of every 10, attracted by specious promises, invested some part of their savings wrung from the French soil. At the first glance, the assured neutrality of the canal seems so satisfactory to the political interests of France that the government's acquiescence appeared to be a foregone conclusion. The government is not anxious at the present moment to realize any obstacles which would estrange the two countries and turn American sympathies toward England. An official of the foreign office has authorized the Associated Press to make the following statement:

"Far from making any objections to the Hay-Pauncefote convention, France hails with the greatest satisfaction its probable ratification. Its terms coincide precisely with those of the convention signed by the powers at Constantinople in 1888, regarding the neutrality of the Suez canal. It was France that proposed those terms. Though only theoretically in effect now, they represent France's wishes. If France is satisfied with the regulation controlling a canal closely identified with her interests, she cannot but be pleased that the same terms apply to a canal in a section of the world where her interests are not involved.

"Efforts to connect Panama interests with the convention will be futile, because they are not involved, as the treaty does not select a route, but only opens the way for an American canal across the isthmus, and does not designate its position. In no way does it conflict with Panama. While individuals in France are deeply interested financially in Panama, it is a private corporation, and not a government concern. France's consent to the Hay-Pauncefote convention will be readily and willingly forthcoming."

The suggestion that France shall claim indemnity for the Panama canal interests is scouted in unimpeachable circles. Such a demand, it is pointed out, would have no legs to stand on, according to international law, as the construction of the Nicaragua canal could only be regarded in the light of a legitimate competition.

The word "alliance," as used in the Hay-Pauncefote convention, naturally has not passed unnoticed in political circles, but too great importance is not attached to it. Many politicians point out that the United States senate has not yet ratified the Hay-Pauncefote agreement, and the precarious position of the Franco-American reciprocity treaty encourages them in the opinion that the introduction of the word "alliance" may jeopardize it. However, there is no desire in French political spheres to do aught to fan the flame of any Anglo-American entente, especially at a moment when France's interest might be better served by adding to Great Britain's difficulties.

Great Britain's status in Egypt, as affected by the revolt of the native troops, is treated here as extremely serious. This news, which was first announced from Cairo January 31, has now become an important feature in the French press, and receives full confirmation. Its significance will be realized when it is explained that Egypt is a tinder-box whence a spark may set into flame the Anglo-French animosity. The hope is freely expressed in the French press that England's difficulty in overcoming the insurrection may justify the international reopening of the Egyptian question, in which France could not form a passive spectator.

The reported negotiations to replace the English garrisons in Egypt at the present juncture by Italian troops is denounced here as contrary to the international agreement. The stories of conferences between Lord Currie, the British ambassador at Rome, and Sir Edmund Monson, British ambassador at Paris, regarding this movement are obviously invention, but Sir Edmund Monson's departure to the Italian Riviera was certainly, as announced in the Associated Press dispatches, due to the pique of the English government at the bitter anti-English feeling reflected everywhere here.

Officially, Sir Edmund Monson has gone south on account of his health, but, it is pointed out, the climate on the French Riviera is just as good as that of the Italian Riviera, and if health is the only question, the British ambassador could have gone to Nice or Cannes, and also saved the $30 a day which he is now compelled to pay the British charge d'affaires, according to diplomatic regulations, during his absence from the country to which he is accredited.

The celebrated Russian nihilist, Peter Lavrosi, died in Paris this week. He came of a noble family, and was at one time a colonel in the Russian artillery.

The staff of Commissioner-General Peck, of the Paris exposition, was increased this week by the arrival of Fred J. V. Skiff, director of mines and metallurgy; Alex S. Capeheart, director of tools and printing machinery; Charles Richard Dodge, director of agriculture; Lieutenant A. C. Baker, United States navy, and Casper Crowninshield.

France Favors Reciprocity Treaty.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 10.—William M. Bunker, a San Francisco newspaper man, who is now in Paris as honorary commissioner of the local chamber of commerce, has written a letter to that body, in which he speaks of the Kasson reciprocity treaty as follows:

"The French opposition to the treaty is more apparent than real. If the Americans injuriously affected by the treaty were to leave its defeat to the French they would make a serious and probably fatal mistake."

A HEALER ARRESTED

For Practicing Medicine Without a License.

PATIENT IS DEAD AND BURIED

Bible Texts Not Regarded as a Good Defense, and He Was Held to Circuit Court.

OREGON CITY, Feb. 10.—Coroner M. C. Strickland today held an inquest over the remains of Mrs. S. B. Quint, who died at Gladstone last Thursday, and returned a verdict that Mrs. Quint, whose age was 63 years, came to her death through lack of medical attendance, and from misplaced confidence in the ability to cure disease of one A. W. Hertzka, a so-called Christian Science practitioner of Portland.

Hertzka was the chief witness. He gave his age as 22, and said he was formerly a bookkeeper in a Spokane store, and had later taken up the business of healing disease by the Christian Science plan. He admitted he had no license to practice medicine, and all through his testimony he quoted Scripture to show that Christ cured disease by faith and prayer, and averred that he was following the same method. He said that he had given Mrs. Quint no medicine whatever, and had used no means except the mind. It was brought out in the evidence that Hertzka had paid Mrs. Quint three or four visits, and had made a contract to treat her for $5 per week.

Dr. E. A. Sommer testified that the woman's death was caused by uraemic coma, which could have been brought about by heart trouble, kidney disease or other disorder. When he was called in he said it was too late to give a correct diagnosis.

After the inquest was concluded Hertzka was arrested on a warrant charging him with practicing medicine without a license. He was examined before Justice Schuebel, who held the defendant to the circuit court, fixing his bonds at $100. It was some time before Hertzka could find a surety. Mrs. George Herron came to the rescue and signed his bonds.

PRAYED FOR THE SPIRIT.

Christian Science Treatment of Woman Who Passed Away.

"Let us pray for the Spirit," said the Quints, of Gladstone, "and let the old body go."

The body went; but whether the Spirit came is another story.

The Quint family was invoking the aid of Christian Science in the case of Mrs. S. B. Quint, who was in the last stages of heart disease, and, having renounced all forms of materia medica, had put herself under the treatment of Abraham W. Hertzka, a young apostle of Christian Science, who has an office in the Auditorium building, in this city.

The Quints lived at Barlow prior to three weeks ago, and formerly were Spiritualists. Recently they became converted to the doctrine of Christian Science, but are still a little hazy regarding the distinguishing points of the great doctrines of occult power. Mrs. Quint, the woman who died, was sick, while she was a Spiritualist, and was under the treatment of various and sundry physicians. Mr. Quint, the father of the family, became sick. It is alleged that his trouble was Bright's disease. He consulted Mrs. George Herron, of Oregon City, who is a leader of Christian Science there, and while she was treating him he improved; at least, he is living yet. The whole family then became "Scientists." It is not claimed that they know a great deal of the principles enunciated by Mother Eddy, for Mrs. Herron says their faith is as blind as a bat. To be strictly candid, the Quints are not highly cultured people. But they still avar their belief in Christian Science, and think that for some reason young Hertzka did not have a fair show.

The fact remains that Mrs. Quint is dead and buried.

Mrs. George Herron said yesterday that she had cured old man Quint, and intimated that her plan of exterminating death and wiping sin, sorrow and disease off the map never failed. She said she could cure people by two plans—the absent treatment and the present treatment. Either was efficacious. In other words, she could remain at Oregon City and quash one of death's indictments at the uttermost confines of Clackamas county with as much ease and sang froid as if she was kneeling by the bedside of a sick patient. She was in novice disconcerted because the focus could not be fixed on Mrs. Quint. "There is no such thing as sin, trouble, sickness or death," said Mrs. Herron, "it is all error—all a mistake."

The suggestion was made that Mrs. Quint's death was sufficiently realistic to cause burial a hygienic necessity; but the Christian Science teacher only turned a pitying look on her interrogator and went on talking about "error" and "good."

After Hertzka had given a bond for his appearance before the circuit court of Clackamas county, he returned to Portland, and was seen last night at his boarding-house, Nineteenth and Lovejoy streets. He is not a prepossessing youth. He says he is 22 years old, but he hardly looks it. When asked about his relation to the death of Mrs. Quint, he indignantly refused to say a word.

"I have no statement to make," he said. "Was a criminal charge made against you at Oregon City?" he was asked.

"You can't worm any information out of me," replied the youth.

"Did you treat Mrs. Quint for kidney trouble first and then change your prayers for heart disease?"

"I haven't a word to say."

There is considerable feeling against the Christian Scientists at Gladstone and at Oregon City, and it is said that Hertzka may be arrested on a charge of manslaughter.

It is said that the Quints came down from Barlow in order that the woman who is now dead might have the benefit of the Christian Science treatment. Mrs. Herron accompanied her on her trip. It is not known why this leader did not treat Mrs. Quint. Mrs. Herron says she cured her own husband against his will, and that she rarely fails.

THANK-OFFERING FUND.

Methodists In This Country Propose to Raise Twenty Millions.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 10.—Regarding the intention of the Methodist Episcopal church in this country to collect $20,000,000 as a "20th-century thank-offering fund," Dr. Thomas Filben today stated that the work is progressing smoothly and that the entire sum will doubtless be collected by the end of 1901. It is expected England will raise a similar fund amounting to $10,000,000 and Canada $5,000,000. This immense sum will be used for educational, charitable and church purposes, and a convention will be held in this city next June to devise a proper method for its distribution.