

AN INVASION OF ENGLAND PLANNED

Extraordinary Speech by General Mercier in French Senate.

PRODUCED DEEP SENSATION

He Declared That French Government Must Adopt Plans for Rapid Embarkation and Debarcation of Expeditionary Corps.

PARIS, Dec. 4.—General Mercier caused a deep sensation in the senate today during the debate on the naval bill by pointing out the ease with which England could be invaded. He demanded that the government introduce into its plans for the mobilization of the army and navy methods for the rapid embarkation and debarcation of expeditionary corps.

President M. Fallières intervened, declaring that such proposals were out of order.

In the course of his extraordinary speech General Mercier said:

In view of the possibility of war with Great Britain, the use of the army is not sufficiently taken into account. The Times are not the same as they were 100 years ago. Steam, the navy, telegraph, etc., have rendered the problem of the invasion of England much easier of solution.

Moreover, England herself is no longer the same. The Transvaal has shown that the British army is not equal to the task which England expected it to perform. France, therefore, is numerically England's equal at certain points and is even her superior in instruments of destruction.

CONDITION OF THE POOR.

Fifty-seventh Annual Report of New York Aid Society.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—The fifty-seventh annual report of the New York Society for Improving the Condition of the Poor has just been issued. It shows that \$28,000 was spent by the relief department for 193,332 persons.

In the report of the board of managers President T. R. Cutting says:

"Of some 500 cases investigated, cared for, passed upon and closed during the year, the cause of distress in 941 instances is set down as lack of work; in 118 instances as illness; the other causes operating were shiftlessness in 248 cases; intemperance in 312; old age in 307; and desertion in 321."

"Too often when we assign illness, shiftlessness, intemperance and desertion as the cause we know that the tenement house (which is the real underlying evil) that herding large numbers of persons in contracted space has resulted in abnormal minds and unhealthy bodies."

NEW STEAMSHIP LINES.

Fortnightly Service Between Chile and San Francisco.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 4.—Advice has been received here to the effect that the Chilean South American Navigation Company and the British Pacific Steam Navigation Company have decided upon a joint fortnightly service to Matanzas and San Francisco.

The British Pacific Company will send the first vessel to leave from Valparaiso on December 26 next. From that date on the two companies will alternately dispatch vessels. At the present time the two companies have steamers from Valparaiso by the way of Panama to Oco, the most northern port of Guatemala.

UTAH SENATORSHIP.

Head of the Mormon Church Says That Mormons Want Colonel Trumbo Elected.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 4.—George Q. Cannon, head of the Mormon church, just before sailing for Honolulu whence he has gone for the benefit of his health, speaking of the Utah senatorship said that O. J. Sallabury and Col. Isaac Trumbo were the only prominent candidates.

He was confident there would not be a deadlock in the legislature and expressed the opinion that the influence of the Mormons would be exercised in behalf of Colonel Trumbo.

PERU REFORMERS ELECTED.

Citizens Rejoice at Prospect of a Better Municipal Administration at Lima.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—A dispatch to the Herald from Lima, Peru, says:

M. Matlock, an American who had been prominent in Peruvian affairs, is dead.

Reform candidates have been victorious in the elections. The list of successful men contains the names of the leading men of the city.

There is great rejoicing, as the new administration guarantees observance of the interest of the taxpayers and attention to the cleanliness and health of the city.

TWENTY-TWO DEAD.

Another Victim of Thanksgiving Accident at San Francisco Has Died.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 4.—Fred F. Lilly, son of a wholesale shoe dealer, of New York City, has died of injuries received in the Thanksgiving accident near the football ground, making the twenty-second victim. His father is expected to arrive here tomorrow.

OPENING OF PARLIAMENT.

German Emperor Has Placed England Under Great Obligations in Throwing Cold Water on Kruger's Mission.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—A dispatch to the Tribune from London says:

The opening of parliament was conducted with the usual quiet ceremony.

There were consultations among the Liberal members respecting the expedi-

ency of raising debate on an amendment to the address respecting the autumn dissolution of a stale register. The ministers have virtually anticipated so futile a demonstration by summoning parliament promptly for the purpose of securing the necessary financial supplies.

There are no signs that the Liberal will recall Lord Rosebery to the leadership during the short session.

The struggle over the exclusion of Mr. Healy from the Nationalist party will be fought out in Ireland not Westminster. Mr. O'Brien, as the best organizer on the Irish side, has his new leader behind him and will inevitably control the action of the Nationalist convention.

The work of consolidating the British empire grows apace. It is officially announced that a tender of \$1,000,000 has been accepted for the construction of a Pacific cable. This new wire will be pan-Britannic. Wherever it touches any land it will find itself on British soil. Thus it will not only link together Great Britain and her far-away colonies but it will also connect Australia and Canada as they have never been connected before.

In all earlier British Pacific cable schemes, Honolulu was selected as the landing place of the first section but on the annexation of the Sandwich Islands by the United States this was of course impossible as the cable was to be all British. The contingency of an American ownership of the Sandwich Islands was, however, foreseen as far back as 1858, and in order to provide against it Fanning Island was in that year incorporated in the British empire.

The cable, which is to be completed by the end of 1912, will be the longest direct wire in the world, as it will cover a distance of nearly 9000 miles in all.

The English press continues to disclaim Mr. Kruger's letter of demand from Berlin, but refrains from saying what is in every one's mouth, namely, that the German emperor owed England this act of reparation for his indiscretion five years ago in telegraphing a letter of congratulations to Pretoria after the Jameson raid. It has been one of the commonest comments among Englishmen that the expectation of European intervention inspired by that dispatch was one of the main causes of the South African war. The German emperor has made full amends, throwing a bucket of water upon Mr. Kruger's mission.

There are suspicions entertained in diplomatic circles that the French government baited Kruger with the suggestion that it would follow the lead of the German emperor if he could be induced to intervene, but there is no direct proof of this theory. What is more to the point is the obligation incurred by the foreign office here to follow Germany's lead in German affairs, when the emperor has shown himself so useful as an ally. This might be a serious obstacle to a Chinese settlement if the powers were not already divided and Germany disposed to make concessions for the sake of restoring harmony. England's obligation to the emperor for timely services during the war in South Africa are so manifest that he will be in a position to claim Shan Tung after due consideration with his ally, in accordance with the third article of the recent agreement.

The bottom of the great lace combination, which was proposed by the Nottingham manufacturers, has fallen out. The Scotch manufacturers have not been convinced that amalgamation is either necessary or expedient and an enormous company will not be formed for the buying up and controlling of the business of leading firms.

TRAVELING MEN'S CONVENTION.

Will Discuss the Railroad Mileage Book.

CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—Scores of delegates and members of the Northwestern Traveling Men's Association, residents of this state and various parts of the country, will attend the national convention of the organization to be held in this city December 27. All the Northwestern and North Central states of the Union will be represented at the gathering; also New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts.

The convention is regarded as one of great importance, many questions having come before the association during the last year to be settled.

Probably the most important topic for the delegates and travelers to discuss will be the railroad mileage book. The various associations have, it is said, proposed that an increase of from 3000 miles to 4000 miles be made before a rebate be allowed. The travelers now receive their rebate when a 2000 mile book is used and will object to the increase to 4000 miles. With the present rate of 2000 miles the traveler is paying a sum of two cents per mile after his rebate is paid. The proposed increase of mileage makes a greater amount of time elapse before the traveler is entitled to a rebate.

NEW AFRICAN DISCOVERIES.

Chicago Man Finds Strange Races and a Small Species of Elephant.

(Correspondence of Associated Press.)

LONDON, Nov. 20.—W. Stamps Cherry, who left his home in Chicago in the summer of 1905, is now on his way home to America. For four years Mr. Cherry has been living among the Congo natives. He was their companion, friend and instructor.

Briefly summed up, Mr. Cherry while traveling over 50,000 miles in the French Congo and Soudan has accomplished the following ends:

The exploration of the upper Kotto river and surrounding region. The Kotto is a large tributary of the Morbue.

The discovery of three native African peoples, the Brea, Engazaka and Lindas.

The discovery of a species of elephant, much smaller than hitherto known, which has no tusks.

NEW COLLEGE DEGREE.

Will Be Conferred on Teachers at Columbia University.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—President Low, at a meeting of the trustees of the Columbia University, announced that hereafter the degree of bachelor of science of education, which is a new degree, will be conferred on all students of the teachers' college who complete the four year course required for qualification as teachers.

The United States government was authorized to offer tuition to five Filipinos in any school except that of medicine.

NEW GERMAN AMBASSADOR.

Berlin, Dec. 4.—According to the Nord Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung, Count Friedrich Johann von Alvensleben is about to be appointed German ambassador at St. Petersburg.

ENGLISH PRESS COMMENT.

President's Message Calls For Favorable and Unfavorable Criticism.

LONDON, Dec. 4.—Comment on President McKinley's message to congress is chiefly devoted to the references to America's Chinese policy.

The Daily Graphic says:

"The policy of the United States regarding China is not heroic, but it is certainly practical, and there is ample reason to believe that it will prevail."

The Times says:

"The message makes it clear that on the vital point of insisting upon punishment for the outrages Mr. McKinley remains firm. We are glad to see that on the subject of the Chinese for Christian converts the president makes a new proposal in advance of any put forward elsewhere. In regard to the indemnity question he is in agreement with some of the best opinion in England."

The Times editorially concludes with an expression of the hope that McKinley's second term may be marked by "satisfactory settlement of all outstanding questions between Great Britain and America."

The Daily News says:

"The message contains nothing new and nothing very illuminating of matters that are old, which would be very closely scanned for its references to China. It looks as though the American formula were that the powers were to specify the culprits and the Chinese government was to specify the punishment. On such terms a speedy settlement would undoubtedly be possible, but would it be effective?"

The Standard, which agrees with the Times that if all the powers had withdrawn their legations from the trial races and his trip to Bristol was explained to be for the purpose of making arrangements with the Herreshoffs for putting her in proper shape for the season.

Mr. Punc, however, when asked about the matter, said Mr. Isell apparently held to his original intention to have no part in the defense and he did not know who would have charge of this branch of the work.

CHIMICALS EXPLODED.

Fatal Accident at Initiation of Red Men.

BEVERLY, Mass., Dec. 4.—An explosion of chemicals the use of which was for spectacular effect in the initiation rites in the Improved Order of Red Men cost the life of Past Sachem Ira T. Crockett of Lynn and severely burned W. F. Rogers of that city, both of the Winnebago tribe degree, last night.

The warriors' degree was being worked for Chickawabot tribe of this city by the degree staff of the Lynn tribe and the latter were in an ante-room robbing themselves for the work. The explosion occurred there, but the reason for it is not known. Past Sachem Crockett was in the room and was terribly lacerated in the groin and on the right leg the femoral artery was severed. Rogers was burned on the right arm and side.

A surgeon was immediately called and both men sent to the Beverly hospital. Mr. Crockett died about midnight. Mr. Rogers will recover.

RESTRAINTS THROWN OFF.

Wholesale Grocers Discontinue Their Agreement on Uniform Prices for Sugar.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—At a well attended meeting of the Wholesale Grocers Association of New York and vicinity an association which compels the leading grocery jobbers in this section of the country to be decided to throw off all restraints in regard to the purchase and sale of refined sugars at the lowest prices which would sell at such prices as they considered for the best interests of their business.

The action of the local wholesale grocers is important for the reason that New York has been one of the sections which has most steadfastly maintained the price of sugar. Their position as regards the factor plan is shown by the last annual address of President Smith in which he advocated action in the direction of securing the restoration of the factor plan by the sugar refiners and the restoration also of the affidavit system with a rebate of 20 cents per 100 pounds and the trade discount of one per cent.

The adoption of the factor plan by all manufacturers whose goods are capable of being handled in that manner.

DROWNED IN KLONDIKE.

Prominent New Jersey Man Fell From a Sled.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—A report is current at Paterson, N. J., that former Assemblyman Robert A. Carroll, of that place, lost his life recently in the Klondike region, where he went to seek his fortune during the gold fever a few years ago.

The story is that Carroll was drowned from a sled on which he was engaged as treasurer for a supply company, selling clothing and provisions. It was known that Carroll had a brother in the Klondike and went from here to join him. The description that reached here tallied with that of Carroll. None of Carroll's friends at Paterson has heard from him. Carroll went to Paterson from Baltimore twenty years ago.

PRESBYTERIAN UNION.

Prominent Speakers at the Annual Dinner in New York.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—The annual dinner of the Presbyterian Union of New York City was held last night at the Hotel Savoy. The president, Frank E. D. Stiver, was unable to be present owing to illness. In his absence the vice-president, Frank R. Ferris, presided.

The speakers were Rev. Dr. Charles A. Dickey of Philadelphia; Miss Mary E. Woolley, president of Mount Holyoke Seminary; James H. Canfield, LL.D., ex-chancellor of the University of Nebraska and ex-president of the University of Ohio.

EMBEZZLER ARRESTED.

Was Bookkeeper for a Chicago Building and Loan Association.

CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—Walter C. Glenn, wanted for embezzlement of nearly \$20,000, has been arrested at Rawlins, Wyo., and an officer armed with regular papers is on his way to bring the prisoner back to Chicago to face trial.

Walter C. Glenn was a bookkeeper for the Mechanics Building & Loan Association of this city.

CUP CHALLENGER.

May Be the Prince of Wales' New Yacht.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—Yachtsmen have been discussing with great interest the possibility of the boat building

for the Prince of Wales taking the place of the Shamrock II. as challenger for the America's cup in case the Royal Yacht Club should succeed in beating Sir Thomas in the trial race. The attention of Manager W. Butler Duncan, Jr., was called to the cable he said:

"I have not considered such a contingency and the cable relating to the challenger have been of such a speculative character I have paid no attention to them. It really makes no difference after all what boat comes over after the cup, as it cannot affect our activity in regard to the defense."

"We are going to get out the very best boat possible. No pains or expense are to be spared to make her the fastest thing afloat, and when the time comes to race we will have the knowledge that nothing has been left undone to make the defense a success."

Commodore Ledyard of the New York Yacht Club, when asked if the royal yacht would be eligible to race for the cup if it did succeed in beating Sir Thomas' craft in the trial race, said there would be no difficulty in arranging the matter.

If the yacht fulfills the dimension requirements and is chosen to represent England, very likely satisfactory arrangements could be made by the New York and Royal Ulster Yacht Clubs as the deed of gift of the America's cup allows many of the conditions to be waived when it is deemed advisable.

"Work is proceeding satisfactorily on the defender," said Manager Duncan. "Naturally I am not at liberty to give out the details of the progress, but I can say she will be ready in ample time for preliminary work."

The joint visit of Messrs. Duncan and Isell to Bristol served to revive the opinion among yachtsmen that Mr. Isell's trip to Bristol was for the purpose of making arrangements with the Herreshoffs for putting her in proper shape for the season.

Mr. Punc, however, when asked about the matter, said Mr. Isell apparently held to his original intention to have no part in the defense and he did not know who would have charge of this branch of the work.

IMPROVEMENTS AT BOSTON.

Ten-Story Warehouse and Great What Elevator to Be Built by New York Central.

BOSTON, Dec. 4.—Following the visit of New York Central Railroad officials, in the course of their tour of inspection of the Boston & Albany Railroad, came the announcement that the New York Central in the near future would expend fully \$2,500,000 in the development of its extensive harbor property here.

Various rumors to this effect were confirmed by President Bliss of Boston & Albany who stated that plans for improvements had been tentatively prepared and that as soon as the necessary arrangements for the floating of the required bonds could be made the work would begin.

While the program has not been mapped out in all the details, it is a settled fact, says Mr. Bliss, that the improvements will include the building of a new two-million-bushel grain elevator of the latest pattern, the erection of a mammoth new storage warehouse, probably of ten stories, the extension of several of the wharves and the deepening of the docks, which the foreign steamers now discharge.

WAS TRUSTED AGENT.

Death of Owen Murphy Who Had a Remarkable Experience at the Hands of the Police.

NEW YORK, Dec. 4.—Owen Murphy, who has been for half a century agent of the estate of the late Rufus Lord and a man well known in Wall street, is dead from old age at Brooklyn. Mr. Murphy was in the employ of Rufus Lord when his office was robbed in broad daylight of bonds and securities to the value of \$150,000, up to that time the heaviest robbery in the history of Wall street, and he subsequently passed through a remarkable experience at the hands of the police.

Mr. Murphy was not at the office at the time the robbery was committed, but the police under Captain Young desired to put him through the "third degree." Mr. Lord, however, positively prohibited it, saying:

"If Owen Murphy wanted to rob me he could have done so long ago and have taken more than is now missing."

GUNBOAT AS TENDER.

Will Serve as Auxiliary to Double Turreted Monitor.

BOSTON, Dec. 4.—A use has evidently been found by the navy department for the little auxiliary gunboat Peoria, the former steam pilot boat Philadelphia, which has been lying at the Charleston navy yard for many months.

Telegraphic inquiry has been received from the navy yard as to what time to be at what cost the little craft could be fitted out as a tender and auxiliary to the big double turreted monitor Amphitrite. In the latter's work as a gunner-training ship at Port Royal.

A general estimate of \$5000 and 30 days was returned as the amount and time necessary to completely fit the craft for the purpose intended.

PLAGUE IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Berlin, Dec. 4.—The quarantine office at Bremen has ordered that on account of the outbreak of plague in South Africa, ships from Cape Colony and Natal are to be subjected to special examination.

THE GREATEST OF ALL WHEAT TRADERS.

"The American, with his enormous surplus of wheat for exportation, has become, naturally, the greatest of all wheat traders. He is practically the manager and dictator of the world's wheat movement. He is eminently practical, clear-headed and far-sighted; and wherever I saw him—in Chicago, Minneapolis, New York, Duluth, Buffalo, Detroit or Toledo—he was always astonishing, he came so near to the realization of the cosmopolitan. Every morning he knows the condition of the weather in Chili and the progress of threshing in India. The United States government hangs at his elbow a map showing the rising storm in Montana, which may reduce by two per cent the crops of northern Minnesota. His special newspapers inform him as to prices in Mark-lane, London; in the produce exchange, New York; on the board of trade, Chicago; in the chamber of commerce, Minneapolis. The railroad companies quote him daily rates for shipments to Rio Janeiro, Hamburg and Hong Kong. His state government weighs his wheat as it arrives from the fields, and decides definitely as to its grade. He knows intimately how many bushels of wheat there are each morning at the great terminal elevator points the world over, how much is afloat in steamships, how much is being rushed across the continent in cars. His bank stands ready to advance him money at the lowest rates of interest to the full value of the slips of paper which record his elevator holdings. He knows the personal traits and the needs of half the races of the earth. He knows, for instance, just when the Chinaman can be persuaded to buy his cheap flour instead of rice. He knows that Germany will use his bran for making molasses cakes. He knows that the Finns will sometimes eat his wheat, though grown 4000 miles away, in preference to the flour of Russia. He knows that the Frenchman eats more bread than the Englishman, and the Englishman more than the American; and while there is wheat in the bins of Manitoba or Buffalo he will not allow the poorest baker in London to go without bread to sell. So vast are his dealings that thousands have become units to him, when he sells '10 wheat,' he means 10,000 bushels, not ten bushels. He knows just where in all the world wheat will be scarce, and prepares overnight to turn all his elevator, railroads, canals and steamship lines to satisfying the demand. He may not know a harvesting machine from a plough, this trader of wheat; but his eye is always on the thin, wavering ratio line between population and production; he is always facing world-wide starvation, and always averting it by his splendidly organized business machinery. Indeed, there is no more impressive spectacle in the whole scheme of human life than the almost frantic energy and haste of the men of the wheat pits of the railroad and steamship lines and of the mills, each fighting tooth and nail for his own personal gain, and yet serving all unconsciously the mighty world purpose of feeding the city from the surplus of the distant field."—From an article on "The World's Wheat Supply," in the November "Windsor Magazine."

TRUMPET ARCHES.

Will Be Erected in Sidney in Celebration of Establishment of New Commonwealth.

SIDNEY, N. S. W., Dec. 4.—The arrangements for the celebration of the establishment of the new commonwealth on January 1 include the erection of a number of triumphal arches along the route of the procession. Of these the American and German residents will each erect one.

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