SECRETARY ELKINS.

A Republican Business Man.

HIS RECORD ANALYZED.

How He and Blaine Stood Together on the Notorious Jewett Claim—His Connection With the Star Route Case.

[New York Post.]

There can be no question that Stephen B. Elkins, whom the President has nominated for Secretary of War, is one of the most representative Republicans of his time. We doubt if there could be found in the country today a man who typifies more perfectly than he does the principles and tendencies of the latter-day Republican politician. He is, as one of the Republican boys of this city described himself to be last night, "a Republican from the crown of his head to the soles of his feet." For more than 20 years he has been devoting all his energies to the cultivation of Republicanism as he understands it, that is, has

"STEVE" ELKINS.

been making his politics and his business work together for the good of Stephen B. Elkins. The skill with which he has directed those energies is shown by the grand results. He is today a very rich man and about to be a member of the Cabinet. The different steps by which he has reached those goals are so full of instruction that we shall trace them in their order as briefly and dispassionately as possible.

He began his political business career in New Mexico when, in 1867, he became a member of the Legislature of that Territory. Two years later President Andrew Johnson appointed him district attorney of the Territory, and he held the office till 1873, when he was elected a delegate from New Mexico to Congress. He served two terms in this capacity, becoming during his service greatly interested in mining ventures, all of which had special Congressional grants, or Territorial court decisions, or some other political complication which enhanced their value to Mr. Elkins and other stockholders. One of his most famous ventures at this time was the Maxwell land grant, a Mexican boundary claim with a bill behind it. Mr. Elkins worked so zealously for this bill that it was passed, and the grant was afterwards sold to a Dutch syndicate for several million dollars. Prolonged litigation and ugly charges of irregular conduct followed the sale, but it was said that Mr. Elkins had severed his connection with the business before the scandals appeared.

In 1872 Mr. Elkins may be said to have entered upon his career as a national business Republican by becoming a member of the National Republican committee, a position which he has held continuously ever since. He had about the same time become the warm personal friend and admirer of James G. Blaine. When the Star-route investigation began in 1881, after Garfield's inauguration, it was charged but not proved that Mr. Elkins, in his capacity as a territorial Republican business man, had been connected more or less intimately with some of the objectionable contracts. Stephen W. Dorsey, another Republican business man, was shown to have been connected very closely with them, and in a statement which he made in 1884 Mr. Dorsey said:

"S. B. Elkins, United Bank building, New York, has probably a larger knowledge than any other person of all the star-route matters and the moneys paid. George E. Spencer demanded of the late J. W. Bosler and myself $12,000 to pay Mr. Elkins for the purpose o avoiding indictment and prosecution, and I replied that I would not pay a penny, and never did."

In 1884 Mr. Elkins took a most active part both in the nomination of Mr. Blaine for the presidency and in the campaign for his election. After Mr. Cleveland entered upon the presidency and Mr. Bayard had become secretary of state, there was found in the state department a claim against Brazil for $50,000,000, made by one Jewett for an alleged discovery of guano beds in Brazil. Mr. Evarts, as secretary of state, twice rejected the claim. The accompanying correspondence showed that Jewett had retained Mr. Elkins as counsel, and that Mr. Blaine, while Garfield's secretary of state, on August 8, 1881, had written to Mr. Osborne, the United States minister in Brazil, reversing Mr. Evarts' decisions and instructions in regard to the claims; and that Mr. Blaine had written also to Mr. Jewett saying that he had reopened the claim "at the request of Stephen B. Elkins, Esq., your attorney." In his letter to Mr. Osborne, Mr. Blaine said: I am not sufficiently informed as to the law of Brazil to know how far its formal requirements as to the mere question of right and title would nullify this action by its government, but I do know that in justice and equity a responsibility has been incurred which cannot be escaped."

While the reopened claim was being thus pressed by Secretary Blaine and Mr. Elkins, President Garfield was lingering between life and death. After his death, Mr. Blaine was succeeded in office by Mr. Frelinghuysen. Nothing was done with the claim during the latter's term. When Mr. Bayard had considered it carefully, he said of it: "Such a claim, so stated, shocks the moral sense, and cannot be held to be within the domain of reason or justice. It would be an act of international unfriendliness for the United States to lend itself in any way or to any degree in urging, much less enforcing, such a demand upon a country with whom we are, or design to remain, on terms of amity. I, therefore, return the protest as enclosed by you, and decline to transmit it to the United States Minister at Brazil, or to instruct him to present it officilly or otherwise.

While the Berhing sea negotiations with Great Britain were in progress a few months ago it was discovered that Mr. Elkins, as a member of the North America Commercial company, had great financial interests at stake in preventing a settlement, and it was only with the greatest difficulty and after long delay that his interests were compeled to give way. It was intimated at the time that the president's son and other republican business men were interested with Mr. Elkins in this enterprise, and our Washington correspondent hints in his dispatches today that the president's son has been "let into" several other of the good things which Mr. Elkins has control of, and that this kindness to the son has had some influence in securing the appointment.

We have touched upon only the chief incidents in a busy career of this eminent republican business man, but enough has been given to show what his claims to the position are, and to foreshadow with sufficient clearness the kind of a secretary of war he will make.

His Vessel Confiscated and His Crew Made Prisoners, But No Trial Granted—Said to Have Been in Russian Waters.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 28.—Captain Alexander McLean, late commander of the American sealer, James H. Lewis, has arrived from Siberia and is quartered at Angel island. He brings with him a fragment of the American flag which was cut down from the masthead of an American vessel by sailors of the Russian cutter "Alert." Captain McLean tells this story.

We were twenty-five miles off Copper island, when, August 2, the Russian cutter bore down on us and without any parley, seized the James Hamilton Lewis, and placed a prize crew on board. The American flag was floating at the masthead, and as the halyards were jammed and cut, it was no easy matter to get it down. Several attempts were made, but they were unsuccessful. A young Russian sailor at last succeeded in climbing to the mast-head. He was unable to pull the flag down, so he cut and tore off all he could of it.

I regarded this action as an insult to the American government, and said so, but the Russians on board seemed bound to get the colors down, and the crew of the Lewis, being prisoners, were unable to prevent it. We were supposed to be on our way to Vladivostock to stand trial for being found fitted out for sealing in Russian waters. Soon as the American flag was torn from the masthead, the Russian colors were run up.

The portion of the American flag brought to the deck was torn into small pieces, which were thrown overboard. The remaining ragged piece at the mast still flew to the breeze and remained there until the schooner was formally confiscated at Vladivostock, where the name James Hamilton Lewis was obliterated and a Russian name substituted. We were never tried by any Russian court, but were kept as government prisoners at Vladivostock for over two months. We were free to roam about the place, but could not leave Siberia without the necessary permission.

I made a formal protest to the Russian office against the confiscation of our schooner, but it was without avail. At last they got tired feeding us and gave us permission to get out of the country, which we did in short order. As soon as we reached Nagasaki, I made a formal complaint to the United States consul there. I will take the matter before the authorities at Washington and will begin action for damages against the Russian government.

He Announced His Intention of Killing George W. Childs.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Dec. 28—A crank who gave his name as J. Bonapartal entered the private office of G. W. Childs in the Ledger building Saturday afternoon and told the clerk at the door that he must see the publisher. When asked to state the nature of his business the man said simply: "I intend to kill him."

The clerk intercepted the fellow, whereupon he drew a murderous looking knife. Several other clerks hurried in at this moment and the man made his escape. The occurrence was reported to police headquarters, and late in the afternoon they arrested the man at the Red Lion hotel and took him to the city hall, where an examination satisfied the doctors that the man was insane. He was sent to the hospital.

A Thief Steals the Trousers of a Passenger on a Sleeping Car.

GENEVA, Ohio, Dec. 28.—An exciting chase took place here recently. While the vestibuled sleeper, No. 12, eastbound, was sidetracked awaiting the clearing of a freight wreck at King's Valley, a passenger awoke and saw a thief running from the car with his trousers, which contained $350 in cash. He pursued the thief to Main's store-room where the culprit dropped the garments, which were regained without loss. The gentleman cooly wrapped his coat about him and marched back to the car, with the crowd applauding heartily.

Being Reinforced by Deserters From the Mexican Army.

BROWNSVILLE, Tex., Dec. 28—It is reported that a party of armed men are encamped near Tampaquez, on a ranch on the dividing line of Cameron and Hildaego counties. They are under the command of Francesco Aredandos, a deserter from the Mexican army, and it is supposed they intend joining the Garzia outlaws.

Alamo, the Mexican, who committed two murders on Padre island, Texas, and who was arrested by the Mexican authorities, and was being held pending the issuance of extradition papers, escaped with five others from the Matamoras jail last night and crossed the river to Texas to join Aredandos' band. Garzia's men are reported hiding in a chapparral.

All the Employes of the San Antonio Decide to Go Out.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Dec. 28—At five o'clock tomorrow morning all the employes of the San Antonio & Arkansas Passenger Railway Company operating department, will strike, tying up the entire system of 600 miles of road. The trouble dates back to the discharge of Conductor O'Brien by Superintendent Sands for an alleged violation of orders. The men are acting under instructions from the chairman of labor federation board.

Dangerously Wounded.

RENO, Nev., Dec. 28.—A man named Ben Pierce shot Patsy Hamilton, an employe of the Nevada & California railroad, in the Russ house last night. The wound is said to be of a very dangerous character, it being about an inch below the heart. The shooting is said to have been without provocation. Pierce is in jail.

Secretary Foster Recovering.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 28—Secretary Foster went for a short drive today. He stated that he is so much improved in health that he will attend a meeting of the cabinet tomorrow.

Fully Half a Dozen Wives Have Already Turned Up—Easier to Marry Rich Women than it Was to Work for a Living.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 28—The report received by telegraph that John Anderson was arrested in Albany, N. Y., is of great interest to many people in St. Louis, where the man cut a wide swath as a matrimonial adventurer. He came to St. Louis something like three weeks ago and put up at a small but aristocratic hotel on Washington avenue. He seemed to have plenty of money, and lived high. He said he was a wealthy ranchowner of California, and wanted a middle-aged lady of means to join her fortune with his.

He received many answers, and came to an understanding with a Mrs. Purcell, who owned a small store and something like $2000 in cash. While he was negotiating with her a widow from Girard, Kas., accompanied by a young man, put in his appearance. It has since been developed that Anderson had been to Girard, met this woman, persuaded her to sell some coal lands and join him here. He had told her to bring a stout young man with her to act as superintendent of his ranch.

He met the pair and domiciled them at a cheap hotel. Then he wanted her to let him have the money she got for the land, but she refused. He then got the young man to give him $60 and saying he would go and get the marriage license and then buy the railroad tickets for the party, he departed. He went straight to the station, and with Mrs. Purcell, left for Cleveland, Ohio. The Kansas widow returned to her home very much disgusted. When he reached Cleveland Anderson robbed Mrs. Purcell, whom he had married, and leaving her destitute, disappeared. It was for this crime that he was arrested in Albany.

He also fooled three other women. One of these, a young girl 16 years old, is supposed to be an accomplice; another about 18 years old, eloped to Chicago with him several months ago. These two are apparently anxious to keep their experience secret, and, as far as known, they do not say that he married them.

The third, however, is a middle-aged woman, whom the police call "the mystery." She has told the chief of police her name and who she is, but otherwise her identity is a secret. She says Anderson married her over a year ago, and she will put him in the penitentiary for bigamy if possible. She says he is an American, although he claims to be a Hollander. She says he is an educated man and possesses some property, but frequently gets into a tight place financially and then his game is invariably to get into the good graces of some foolish woman and get her money. She says she has been on his trail for six months and will follow him to the end of the earth to see him punished.

They Carried Out their Orders Explicitly and Are Indignant Over Stories Written by Some of the Newspaper Correspondents.

FORT MEADE, S. D., Dec. 26—In a recent issue of a New York newspaper there appeared an article headed, "Sitting Bull's Death," which purported to be an interview with Conrad Disstler. Lieutenant Slocum, of the Eighth cavalry, who was present at the time Sitting Bull was killed, now makes the following statement in regard to the affair:

Sitting Bull, from his village on Grande river, had sent a note of defiance to Agent McLaughlin at Fort Yates, and as a token of hostility to the whites he had broken his peace pipe and had sent the shattered stem to his agent. He had gathered about him some 350 fanatical Indians, all imbued with the mania of ghost dancing and had fixed the date of his departure with his band for the Bad Lands near Pine Ridge. This we learned from scouts sent out from Fort Yates when it was found out for certain what his intentions were.

Forty-four of the Indian police were sent out. It was no child's play for this handful of men. They went out with orders to bring in the noted chief alive, if possible, but at all events to bring him, and no body of men ever carried out more hazardous orders in a more loyal manner. They left the agency just after dark of December 14th, expecting to make the capture at daylight. Two troops of the Eighth cavalry, F. and G. left at midnight, to be at Sitting Bull's village also at daylight to support the police and prevent a recapture.

At daybreak of the 15th we were approaching the bluffs overlooking Sitting Bull's village. Our horses were in a swinging gallop. We reached the crest of the bluff and, looking down, saw Sitting Bull's village under us. The police were occupying Sitting Bull's house, their ammunition nearly gone, but still keeping up the fight. Several dead were lying around. The first body we recognized was that of Sitting Bull. He was lying on his back with a bullet through his head and one through his left breast. The manner of his death was as follows:

The police entered his village just at dawn and going to Sitting Bull's house they awoke him and told him to get up and come with them, that they were going to take him to the agency, and that if no resistance was offered he would not be harmed. Sitting Bull dressed and was led outside. The first lieutenant was on one side of him and the second lieutenant on the other; they started to lead him toward a pony they had ready saddled for him.

At this moment, Sitting Bull began to yell, and the Indians swarmed out of their houses and teepees, each with his gun in his hand, outnumbering the police nearly nine to one. Fire was opened at 75 yards' distance, and both lieutenants fell at the first fire. Bull Head, as he dropped, fired at Sitting Bull with his revolver, shooting him through the head. Red Tomahawk, who was himself exposed to a murderous fire, turned, and, with his Winchester, shot Sitting Bull through the breast. The police were then obliged to seek shelter in the house.

The Indian police at Standing Rock are indignant at the slur cast upon them by the correspondent. The little monument on Grande river, erected by the agent and these two troops of the Eighth cavalry, marks the spot where he died.

They Put a Drummer Off the Train and Made the Young Ladies Sing.

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Dec. 28—Half a dozen cowboys took possession of the south bound passenger train on the International & Great Northern railroad 40 miles north of here last night. They boarded the train at Buda station and their first act was to force a Chicago drummer off the moving train because he wore a red cravat and a high silk hat. They then made a number of young ladies in the Pullman coach sing for them, enforcing all demands with drawn pistols. They ruled the train for 20 miles when they stepped off at a way station.

BLIND BOSS BUCKLEY.

The Famous Politician in London.

HE GRANTS AN INTERVIEW.

Says the Trouble in San Francisco Is Only a Little Party Fight, Declares the Exposure a Traitor and Himself a Great Reformer.

LONDON, Dec. 26 — Christopher A. Buckley, the famous blind politician of San Francisco, whose movements for some time have been a mystery, arrived here on Wednesday night on his way to Wiesbaden. Buckley consented to an interview with a correspondent and gave a most remarkable account of the state of affairs in California. When asked about the San Francisco trouble, the blind man smiled and said:

"It's a little party fight; that's all. The question is whether the Democratic party in San Francisco is to be run by an ex-chief justice of the supreme court, a reformed stock broker and an undeveloped young man who bangs his hair and puts up for a newspaper, or whether the party is to be run by me.

"The indifference of the citizens is such that politics has every show there. This newspaper which has got plenty of money behind it, but is not successful, makes a deal of talk about the public interest in order to increase its circulation. It has always been with me when it could make anything by it. But now it's going to fool the public by fighting me. I left San Francisco on the first of September. I went to Montreal to make a visit of two months.

"After I left William T. Wallace, ex-chief justice of the supreme court, now head of the superior court in San Francisco, took the law into his own hands. He called a grand jury of his own and had me indicted for bribery. This took place two months after I left. The charge was not true, legally or otherwise, I having been in Europe at the time. If this man Wallace had been a public-spirited citizen, backed by honest popular indignation, I should have had nothing to say, but I put Wallace on the Superior bench.

"The ex-chief justice begged me to put him back into politics, which I did. Wallace was a rich man and always had an itching for office. Last year he wanted the nomination for the Supreme bench. I refused for several reasons; one was that the party would not have him, the other was that charges were made against his integrity with affidavits, I believe, by a local paper.

"When he was once before a candidate for office these charges had never been satisfactorily answered, so far as I knew, and when I refused he was bitterly angry and swore in the presence of the Superior judges at San Jose that he would put me in jail. This he tried to do in selecting the grand jury by overriding the law, as he had explicitly laid it down himself when Supreme judge. I don't think a man of this kind, whose first idea of reforming a city is treachery to his friends and gratification of personal spite, will ever reform the city to any great extent.

"The same thing is true of the newspaper. This is a sensational paper named the Examiner, hitherto called by other papers 'Buckley's Morning Organ.' This is the property of young Hearst, son of Senator Hearst. He is a good young fellow, but feather-headed. This young fellow owes me every possible debt of gratitude. I made his father United States senator. When a vacancy in the senate for California occurred, I had arranged with General Stoneman, then governor of California, for the appointment of another man. Stoneman wanted a recommendation for governor for himself.

"This was all settled with a friend of Hearst, who came to me and said he first wanted the appointment. There was no reason for my consenting, but I consented on condition that this friend would fix the matter with Stoneman and relieve me of any obligation to the latter, which he did. I got nothing for it.

"The Examiner, since the young fellow has been at the head of it, has always been with us when there has been anything to be gained. Young Hearst came to me at San Jose last year when Steve White was seeking the endorsement of the Democratic State convention for the United States Senate and wanted me to use my influence to put White down. I could not do it, he being a personal friend of mine, and making his fight quite independent of me. Because I wouldn't do what I couldn't do, Young Hearst, who had been getting advertising, information and political aid for a long time through me, turns enemy and starts in to down me.

"I'm willing to leave the thing to the people," continued Buckley. "I've been managing the Democratic party in 'Frisco for 15 years, and during that time that city has never had a defaulter. My business is politics and they say a politician is a public enemy, but how is it that San Francisco has less taxes than any other large city in the United States? How is it that after 15 years of nearly continuous Democratic administration San Francisco does not owe one dollar? How was it that we came in January, 1883, with the city $500,000 in debt, at the end of a year we had paid off the debt and reduced taxes to 97½ cents? How is that the city hall commission, where millions have been spent, has never had a charge of any kind made against it?

"How is it that when I could have put men on the commission who would have wasted or stolen hundreds of thousands I always nominated, with the help of my friends, men who were unexceptionable?

"I left Montreal on the 30th of last month. I left New York, and received on Monday of last week information that the supreme court of California had declared the grand jury illegal, citing against him his own previous decision in a similar matter. I also heard the paper had quit attacking me, but I don't know if this be true, and don't care."

"What about the reformed stock brokers?"

"He is a State senator, Jerry Lynch. He started out to down me all by himself, because he loved the dear people. The trouble with Jerry had was wantee nomination for Congress, and didn't get it."

"When are you going back to San Francisco?"

"About March, I think."

"What shall you do on your return?"

"I don't know that there is anything to do. I think I will let Wallace, the Examiner and Lynch run the party for a while to see what they can make of it. They will find it's not so easy as they imagine to reform, when their own underpinning is a little shaky, and are likely to be disappointed."

Everybody Says That No Unusual Preparations for War are Being Made, But the Secretary of War is Suspiciously Busy.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 28 — Secretary Tracy's offices presented a busy scene this morning. Within an hour he saw Senator Allison, chairman of the Senate committee on appropriations, Senator Cameron, chairman of the committee on naval affairs, Senator Butler, member of the same committee, Senators Frye and Hale, Chief Constructor Wilson, Chief Engineer Melville, Captain Phillips, who is to command the new cruiser New York, Lieutenant Mason, executive officer of the same vessel Commodore Folger, chief of ordnance; Commander Chadwick and lastly Charles C. S. Cramp, builder. Notwithstanding this sign of official activity and the reports printed of unusual work at the navy yard, officials of the navy department deny that there is the least speck of war cloud on the diplomatic horizon. Assistant Secretary Souley said he had already expressed his views as to the navy yard. When asked where the San Francisco was bound to he declined to give a definite answer. He was reminded that the last time she went out for "gun practice," as reported by the department, she had next been heard of at Valparaiso. He said the vessel had no orders for the Chili naval officers. When asked if the cruiser was bound for Acapulco he replied that she would not go as far south as Mexico. He also stated that the Baltimore is now possibly north of Panama on her way to San Francisco. Commodore Folger, chief of the ordnance bureau, added to the general denial by saying that there is no unusual activity at the naval gun factory. Cramp also insisted that his force is not working faster or longer than usual. He said Commodore Wilson, chief inspector, had gone over to Philadelphia to inspect the progress of naval work and on Saturday had not found a single man of 3000 employes at work. Moreover Cramp did not believe half his force was at work today, as they are keeping holiday season. At the Department of State matters moved along in the usual serene fashion and there is not a trace of warlike excitement. The officials say nothing has been heard from Minister Egan since the 23d inst. Why he did not attend President Montt's inauguration Saturday they did not know and doubted the correctness of the report to that effect. At the War department neither Acting Secretary Gran nor Major General Schofield who would certainly have been in a position to know had any information of an intention to appoint General Miles to command in the event of war with Chili. In fact the only sign of warlike preparation visible at the executive departments consisted in the order issued Saturday for the immediate preparation of the new 12-inch gun just completed at the navy yard here for transportation to California, together with 4000 pounds of powder and 11,000 shells. Senor Montt, the Chilian minister, called at the department of state at noon. He had an interview with Secretary Blaine for half an hour.

Has Stopped Drinking Now.

NEW YORK, Dec. 28 — Edward M. Field, neither eats nor drinks and is growing weaker every day. He passed a restless night. This morning he refused to take breakfast and complains of pains in the head. He refuses to touch medicine.

Henry Hewitt Involved in a Big Everett Land Suit.

SNOHOMISH, Dec. 28—One of the most important cases ever instituted in this county was begun before Judge Denny on Saturday. The amount is very heavy and the property in question lies almost in the heart of Everett.

Briefly stated the case is as follows: In 1868 Erskine Kromer filed a homestead right on 160 acres of land in section 30 now a part of Everett. He proved up on the land and in 1876 secured his patent. In 1885 Kromer died, bequeathing the property in question to his son, Victor E. Kromer, a lad now about 15 years of ago. Kromer left some money for his wife, and several lots in Seattle for his other children. In his will Kromer provided that his homestead should not be sold until his son had reached the age of maturity.

In 1889 the guardian appointed made application to the probate court to sell the homestead, alleging that he could invest the proceeds much more advantageously. Kromer's widow appeared and contested the application, setting up that the homestead was community property, and that she was entitled to one-half of it.

The probate court, however, held that as she had accepted the money left her by Kromer in his will, she was, therefore, stopped from claiming that this was community property. From this decision Mrs. Kromer appealed to the superior court, which reversed the decision of the probate court, and held that she was entitled to one half of the homestead.

Mrs. Kromer thereupon sold her half to F. P. Friday for $1500. Friday immediately commenced an action in the Superior court, contending for a sale of the entire homestead claim, alleging that to partition the property instead of the proceeds of a sale would work great hardship to all parties interested. The court thereupon ordered the entire tract sold, and Friday became the owner, paying $6500 for the minor heir's half.

Friday then sold the land to the Rucker brothers and Henry Hewitt, Jr., for $25,000.

The present proceedings are brought to set aside all the acts of the Probate and Superior courts and all the deeds made to the several parties, upon the allegation that none of the courts had jurisdiction in the premises, and for the further reason that the Rucker brothers, Friday and Henry Hewitt were guilty of fraud in procuring the deeds and orders of the court; that as this property was always the separate property of Kromer, and that as he had bequeathed it to his son Victor, it could not be sold until the heir reached his majority.

He Was Once Arrested on a Charge of Murder.

PUTNAM, Conn., Dec. 28—Charles N. Cutler, died here a few days ago amid surroundings indicating extreme poverty, but leaving an estate valued at $100,000. One night away back in the 50's Charles Collins was shot dead while crossing a bridge, and it was generally believed that Cutler was the murderer. Cutler and Collins had been suitors for the same girl and the rivalry changed the once friends into bitter enemies. The girl seemed to prefer Collins. Suspicion was directed to Cutler, and he was arrested, but the evidence was insufficient to hold him and the murder was never avenged. After this episode in his life Cutler became a recluse and a miser.

A Grip Victim.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 29—Assistant Secretary of State Nettleton is confined to his residence with the grip.

To Be Conferred on the Archbishop of Aix Who Was Recently Fined by a French Court—Serious Trouble May Ensue.

ROME, Dec. 26—It is the intention of the Pope, says the Directiro, to confer the grand order of the Cross of Christ upon the archbishop of Aix, as a token of the sympathy of his holiness with the archbishop in the latter's recent conviction and fine for writing an insulting letter to the French Minister of Public Worship. Should this information prove correct, it means that this is the Pope's defiance to the French government, and that a serious outcome may be anticipated in the near future.

PARIS, Dec. 26—News has been received from Rome that the pope intends to confer the grand cross of the Order of Christ upon the Archbishop of Aix. In the present state of public feeling when a movement is on foot to separate church and state as one result of the Archbishop of Aix's conduct, supported as he was by letters of other distinguished prelates, such a step upon the part of the Vatican is significant, and will be looked upon here, should the news prove correct, as a defiance upon the part of the pope of the government of this country, and the reply of the French government may not be slow in forthcoming. The Archbishop of Bordeaux, it will be remembered, made a common cause with Monsignor Gouthe in a diocesan letter which he addressed to all Catholics in France. In this letter the archbishop defends the right of members of the episcopate to join in pilgrimages to Rome.

[The archbishop of Aix was recently fined 2000 francs because of a letter he had written concerning the French Minister of Public Worship. Several weeks ago a number of French Catholics had gone to Rome on a pilgrimage and while there had been maltreated. The French government took no action in the matter and gave rise, to the disgust which the archbishop of Aix vented on the head of the Minister of Public worship. He was brought to trial, and to the astonishment of everybody, was heavily fined. His course has now become one of international interest and may lead to a factional political fight in France which would overthrow the present ministry.]

An Early Settlement of Existing Troubles Expected.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 26—An early settlement of existing difficulties with Chili is confidently expected by officials here. What the nature of the settlement will be depends entirely upon the government of Chili. The policy of waiting has been adopted by this government for the reason that the difficulties that led to the present condition of things occurred under the administration of the provisional junta government in Chili which might not represent in any degree the belief of the people when matters were fairly put before them, but it has never been proposed or conceived even that Chili would not be held to strict accountability for the unfortunate or wanton attacks by the Valparaiso mob upon the Baltimore's men, resulting in the death of two of them. That will be vigorously pressed at the proper time and in a proper way.

That time has now arrived. Today the provisional government gives way to the new government, under President Montt, elected since the fall of Balmaceda and the success of the Congressionalists. It has been hoped of President Harrison and Secretary Blaine that in the new cabinet the minister of foreign affairs might be found one who would not reflect the views of the radical element in the country, which is evidently bent on refusing to make suitable reparation for attacks upon the Baltimore's sailors and subsequent indignities heaped upon Minister Egan and occupants of the United States legation.

This hope has been encouraged by expressions of Minister Montt, who in all his communications with the State department has given assurances of the pacific intention of Chili's government. While it is true these assurances have apparently not been borne out by the action of the people and officials of Chili, Secretary Blaine has been content with them pending the change of government there.

But the authorities have not been idle under this state of affairs and despite formal official denials to the contrary, it may be stated with a degree of confidence that suitable arrangements have been made to meet any probable exigency that could arise in relations between the two countries; that the United States would not be taken at a disadvantage or by surprise whatever.

Heavy Snow, Intense Cold, Trains Delayed and Stock Suffering.

OMAHA, Dec. 26—All day yesterday a blizzard prevailed throughout Nebraska. The western part of the State was in the storm's embrace several hours earlier. The weather turned intensely cold. The wind blew at a terrific rate and snow fell in great quantities. Traffic on all railroads in the State is seriously retarded, and in many cases along the western division of the Union Pacific trains are blockaded. The snow has drifted seriously. Stock has suffered intensely, but farmers feel partially compensated for loss of stock in the fact that, having their winter wheat well protected in the interior portion, and the heavy fall of snow occurred before it turned so cold, consequently winter grain is well protected. The storm extended throughout Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming and the Dakotas. In Wyoming the loss to stock is reported unusually large, with a complete train blockade.

A Duke Shot Him in the Face While They Were Hunting Birds.

LONDON, Dec. 28—The injuries from which Prince Christian, of Schleswig Holstein Sonderburg, is suffering is the result of an accident. The queen and members of the royal family are spending the Christmas holidays at the Osborne house on the Isle of Wight. The day before Christmas the party were hunting birds when a flock rose between the Duke of Connaught and Prince Christian. The former fired, but unfortunately did not aim high enough. Three shots entered Peince Christian's face, destroying one eye.

New York City and Surroundings Enveloped Today.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26—The heaviest and densest fog that has been observed in this city for years has hung over the river and bay all day. Traffic on the streets is much impeded, and on the river ferry boats, tug boats and smaller craft are compelled to move at a much reduced speed. Although several large ocean steamers are due today, none are reported from Fire Island, the only arrival being the steamship Bermuda from St. Croix.

Outgoing mail steamers are employing extra caution and moving down the bay with only sufficient way on them to keep them steering. An object they say cannot be seen from the bridge of the steamer more than 50 yards away. All trains on the various railroads are much delayed, but as yet no serious accidents have been reported.

He Was Gathering In Valuables When the Cool Conductor Outwitted Him, Aided by a Self-Possessed Young Lady—Escaped Badly Wounded.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Dec. 26.—The members of the train crew of the Chicago & Northwestern vestibuled limited train which arrived here at 1:40 p. m. yesterday afternoon, tell a remarkable story of an attempted robbery. The train had just left Eau Claire and stopped at a small station this side of that place, when a man boarded it. The man walked forward to the first coach and fastened the door by taking a seat cushion and placing it against the lock. He then pulled two immense revolvers from under his coat, and the passengers were startled by hearing him shout in stentorian tones: "Throw up your hands."

He accompanied his remarks in language more forcible than polite and there was a spontaneous exhibition of cuffs and finger rings. He then adopted an unique method of robbing the passengers. He ordered them to march up to a front seat one by one and deposit their valuables there. Two or three had started to do so and there was a watch, two pocketbooks and a finger ring as a nucleus for the collection when the conductor coming forward started to go through the train. On arriving at the door he saw the trouble inside the coach. He showed his generalship by not rushing against the door which he observed was fastened with a cushion frame.

The train was slowing up for the next station and Howard hastily called the brakeman. He told him that he would jump off the train, attract attention by climbing to the rear of the coach, and then the brakeman was to force the door. The scheme was carried out. Howard jumped off the car, caught the rear platform and quickly opened the door. He sprang behind a seat. He also had a big revolver, which he got ready for service.

The robber saw him and as soon as he observed Howard's belligerant attitude, he plunged a bullet at him. Howard returned the fire and the robber advanced down the center of the car slowly waiting for a chance to get a good shot at the conductor. Frank Lane, the brakeman, attempted to force the door but the brace against it held it firmly. His gesticulations, however, attracted the attention of Miss Mary Schetber, who was sitting in one of the front seats, and she pluckily stepped to the door and pulled the seat away.

Lane stepped into the car and he also had a revolver. By this time two or three of the passengers who could see that the chances were now against the robber regained their self-possession and they in turn found revolvers, which they produced. The robber was by this time in the center of the car, and he was just preparing to take another shot at Howard when Lane fired and dodged behind a seat. The robber turned and Howard fired at him, hitting him apparently in the shoulder, as one of his arms dropped to his side. He ran into the closet and was locked in there, but jumped out of the window almost as soon as the door was closed.

The passengers were returned their money and valuables, which he had left untouched on the car seat. The detectives of the company have started from Minneapolis and Chicago for the scene of the attempted robbery, and every effort will be made to capture the desperado. He wore a heavy seal ring on the little finger of his left hand. The company will offer a large reward for his capture.

Doctors and Clergymen Overworked in an Eastern Town.

HAVERHILL, Mass., Dec. 26—The grippe has been very much increased by the cold westerly rain storm prevailing during the last three days. The doctors say that fully half of the residents of this place are now suffering from the disease in a more or less aggravated form. Holiday trade has been materially injured by the prevalence of the disease. Physicians are all over-worked and clergymen cannot answer half the requests for attendance on the sick and perform other ministerial duties which devolve on them.

NEWTON, Kas., Dec. 26—It is estimated there are 500 cases of grippe in this place. The disease has increased with great rapidity within the last few days. The plague is rather light, and no deaths have been reported. Physicians are not severely taxed.

But He Drank Two Glasses of Whisky and One of Milk.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26—Edward H. Field, who was locked up in Ludlow street jail, still persists in refusing to eat. He greatly alarmed his physicians. Warden Falion was instructed yesterday to give him whisky, of which Field drank two glasses. Field does not talk to anybody. This morning he drank a cup of warm milk. Field is getting very nervous and appears to be dazed.

Widow Kelly Burned to Death.

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 26—Mrs. Annie Kelly, a widow, aged 45 years, was burned to death this morning in her grocery store. A kerosene lamp standing on a barrel exploded and, egress being cut off by the flames, she was suffocated and burned to death before assistance could be rendered.

Wing Shots Will Face the Trap on New Year's Day.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Dec. 26—New Year's day Captain Jack Brewer and E. D Fulford, the greatest wing shots in the world, will face the traps in this city for a purse of $5000, this sum having been subscribed by the Harrisburg Sporting Association, of which Fulford is a member.

Thousands of spectators will witness this, the fifth match, and applications are already being received for tickets from New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburg and other cities.

In view of the intense rivalry existing between Fulford and Brewer, the New Year's contest will be awaited with much interest.

Revolutionists Active in Brazil.

RIO GRANDE DE SUL, Brazil, Dec. 26—Fights between the government troops and revolutionists are reported at the border towns of San Juan Baptiste, Santa Ana and Livremento. The government of Uruguay has posted large bodies of troops on guard along the frontier to prevent the Brazilian revolutionists from crossing the border.

Wants the Time Extended.

BERLIN, Dec. 26—The municipal authorities of the Baltic port Dantzic have petitioned Chancellor Caprivi to extend the time allowed before putting into operation the reduced tariff on grain in bond, of which Dantzic now holds 23,000 tons.

Favor Berlin For the Fair.

BERLIN, Dec. 26—The committee of the German commercial diet has declared in favor of holding an international exhibition in Berlin.

Murderer Dies in Prison.

CONCORD, N. H., Dec. 26—Isaac Sawtelle, who murdered his brother Hiram, died of apoplexy this morning at the State prison.