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# The Daily Morning Astorian

THE ASTORIAN has the largest circulation of any paper on the Columbia River

FULL ASSOCIATED PRESS REPORT.

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## IT IS TOO LATE FOR AUTONOMY

### No Half-Way Proposition Will Be Considered.

## "INDEPENDENCE OR DEATH!"

### Maximo Gomez to the Public—Spain Still Talks Autonomy and Suffrage in the Colonies of the West Indies.

New York, November 5.—The Herald says it is too late to talk autonomy. Cuba is lost to Spain. Only independence for the island will put an end to the struggle now devastating the colony and ruining Spain. That is what eight leading Cubans all of whom formerly favored autonomy, told Senator Jose Canaleja at the Fifth Avenue hotel. These Cubans did not represent the junta. For the junta will discuss autonomy with no one, but the conference is the more remarkable in its result, because the men who talked so firmly against any proposition except independence were formerly leading autonomists, who in view of the recent developments, say that even were they to listen to such a proposal, the insurgents in the field would simply accept it as an evidence, not of Spain's good faith, but of her weakness and willingness to promise concessions rather than prosecute a hopeless war.

Colonel Canaleja was formerly a member of the Spanish cabinet. He comes to sound American feeling and to inform himself by personal observation of the state of affairs in Cuba. Before his conference with the Cubans, Senator Canaleja was unable to obtain an exchange of views with Estrada Palma, president of the Cuban junta.

"Tell him," said General Palma, to an emissary who sought to arrange an interview, "that when I was president of the republic of Cuba I assisted in making a law which is in force today and by which any member of the government who listens to a proposition from Spain short of absolute independence, is regarded as a traitor."

The meeting at the Fifth Avenue was in reality an accidental one. Senator Canaleja did not then, and has not since his arrival posed as representing the Spanish government, but it is known that his prominence in Spain makes his mission here likely to bear fruit when he goes home. The Cuban representatives appointed Senator Varona as spokesman. Senator Canaleja remarked that he could not understand why, if the Cubans had really been in earnest in asking for autonomy, they now refused to accept it. Senator Varona cited the history of Cuba since 1895, and declared that with victory at hand the patriots scorned the Spanish proposals. Senator Canaleja expressed regret that their attitude was so uncompromising, saying that it was impossible for Spain to yield, and that therefore the war must necessarily be continued. Spain, he added, had all the resources necessary to prosecute the war, an assertion which the Cubans received with doubt. He said he could not see why, if autonomy would give to the Cubans all the advantages of independence without its drawbacks, they should prefer to continue the war. There was some talk as to whether some of the Cubans named for important posts by the new premier were men likely to imitate the insurgents with the idea that Spain really intended to deal fairly with the colony. Senator Heredia Escobedo, of the Cuban party, said these men were rather of such a character that the insurgents would be irritated rather than soothed by their elevation.

The Cubans continued talking phrase after phrase of the autonomy question and expressed the belief that there is no end of the war short of independence, and their firm conviction that the insurgents will accept nothing else.

The discussion was conducted with

marked courtesy. Its effect upon the Spanish representative was marked.

**GOMEZ SPEAKS**

New York, November 5.—The Herald prints the following letter from Maximo Gomez of the Cuban army of liberation, dated at his camp in Sancti Spiritus:

"The enemies of Cuba have circulated in the United States the rumor that I am disposed to accept autonomy as a basis of a settlement or solution of the present war. The constitution of Cuba absolutely establishes in its article II that peace is to be negotiable upon the basis of absolute independence of Cuba. It is to obtain independence that we have been fighting for two years, and we will continue to fight for that until victory is ours. We will fight for absolute freedom as we stated in the manifesto issued at Monte Cristo, as was also later set down in our constitution, and we are daily confirming it by the shedding of blood on the battle field."

Salvador Cisneros, formerly president of the republic of Cuba, writes to the Herald:

"Independence or death has been our motto. We would rather see our beloved country disappear amid a heap of ashes than accept any concession, no matter how ample, unless they carry with them the absolute independence of Cuba."

New York, Nov. 5.—A dispatch to the World from Madrid says:

The government has decided to cable to the authorities at Havana to begin as soon as possible the trial of the crew of the Competitor before the naval court-martial, the decision of which must be confirmed by the Madrid government. Some newspapers say that the government considers that the Spanish war vessel acted properly in capturing the Competitor and might have summarily punished the prisoners, holding that the protocol of 1871 only applies to American citizens resident in Cuba, but this report of the cabinet's attitude must be received with reserve. The minister for the colonies will gazette before the end of November the decrees extending the suffrage in Cuba and Porto Rico, giving to the inhabitants of the colonies the same rights as enjoyed in the mother country, and determining the mode of carrying out autonomy in the West Indies.

**STEAMER ON FIRE**

Returns From Sea to Her Dock in New York

New York, Nov. 5.—The Red Star line steamer Southwick, which sailed from this port Wednesday for Antwerp, returned to port with a fire in her hold. When the steamer reached her pier at the foot of Fulton street a half hour later, to all outward appearances nothing unusual had occurred on board. None of her passengers were permitted to come ashore, nor was any person allowed to go on board except employees of the company. At 7 o'clock yesterday morning, when the vessel was about 20 miles off Sandy Hook, the crew discovered fire in the forward part of the vessel. The crew dug down to the hatches in the lower hold, where about 25 bales of cotton and some grain were stowed. Two lines of hose were brought to bear upon the hold and about 10 o'clock Captain Brice decided to go back to New

York. The passengers were informed as to what had occurred and there was no excitement among them at any time.

### THE PENSION ROLL.

Washington, Nov. 5.—The annual report of Commissioner of Pensions Evans is made public today. There was added to the pension roll during the year the names of 2,119 new pensioners and there were restored to the rolls 2,971 pensioners, who had been previously dropped—a total 5,090. During the same time the rolls to the roll were 21,569 by death. The whole number of pensioners on the roll June 30, 1897, was 775,014. The gain over the previous year was 5,133. Seven widows of revolutionary soldiers and nine daughters of revolutionary soldiers are still on the rolls. The amounts disbursed for pensions by the pension agents during the year was \$129,949,717.

### WANTS RETURN MATCH.

San Francisco, Nov. 5.—Joe Walcott's manager is trying to get a return match for the black man that George Lavigne at 140 pounds. Lavigne will not agree, however, to allow Walcott to weigh more than 117 pounds at the ringside.

### FAIR RETIRES.

San Francisco, Nov. 5.—Charles L. Fair, son of the late Senator Fair, has announced his retirement from the turf. He has been a liberal patron of racing for years, but has met with nothing but hard luck. All his horses will be sold.

### PLUM FOR WESTERN UNION.

Washington, Nov. 5.—Postmaster-General Gary has approved the report to the court of claims of First Assistant Postmaster-General Perry Heath, who found that there was due from the government to the Western Union company \$23,859. This represents the difference between the rates paid prior and subsequent to the adoption of the Wamamaker rate.

### G. A. R. MAN DEAD.

Keokuk, Ia., Nov. 5.—D. W. Bunker, of Galesburg, Ill., junior commander of the Illinois G. A. R., was stricken with apoplexy at the Riverside Sanitarium at Hamilton, Ill., and died in a few hours.

### MINING MAN DEAD.

Spokane, Nov. 5.—A. L. McClaine, secretary and treasurer of the Rambler, Cariboo Mining Company, died here last night of typhoid fever.

## COMMERCE IS STILL ACTIVE

### NUMBER OF FAILURES SMALLER THAN IN ANY MONTH FOR FOUR YEARS.

### Iron Manufacturers Far Behind With Their Orders—One Concern Putting Out 5,000 Tons Per Day.

New York, November 5.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly Review of Trade will say tomorrow:

A stronger proof of the great change in the condition of business could not be given than is found in the detailed report of the failures of all branches of business for the month of October. Though swelled by a few large speculative or brokerage failures, the aggregate was smaller than in any other month for more than four years, excepting in July and August, and one month in 1894. The quiet following the great rush of orders and purchases for over two months is still increased in many branches by unseasonably mild weather and yet the mills are obliged to refuse many orders because unable to finish the products engaged upon enough. It is in every way fortunate for the industry and would-be buyers, since speculation would otherwise advance prices so as to make a reaction improbable.

More works have joined the active list, including some works long idle, and the production in iron manufactures is the largest ever known. The output of the week again exceeds the demand, which naturally diminishes near the close of the year, and prices yield slightly, but the consumption is kept at the maximum by a pressure of orders which the works are not able to fill fast enough. The Illinois Steel company shipping 500 tons of finished product per day, is behind in its eastern and western orders.

## OHIO LEGISLATURE SAFE REPUBLICAN

### Wood County Is Still Claimed by Both of the Parties.

### WILL GO TO THE COURTS

### Action Already Commenced in the Circuit Court at Toledo—Leaders in Conference.

Columbia, Ohio, Nov. 5.—The Ohio legislature stands 74 republicans, 79 democrats, and one doubtful, on official returns received up to tonight. With a dozen or more of the 88 counties very close, there have been no material changes except in Wood county, which will be claimed by both parties until the courts pass on the action of the supervisors.

There have been no unusual proceedings before the returning boards of any of the counties, except that of Wood, although both parties have had their representatives and attorneys in their county seats wherever the vote was close. Chairman McConville, of the democratic state committee, has not changed his claims of a democratic majority on joint ballot and will not do so until official returns of all the counties are in and show the final result to differ from those he has at hand.

Chairman McConville and others from the democratic state committee headquarters went to Cincinnati to confer with John R. McLean and other party leaders regarding the contests that are to be made in the close counties.

Chairman Nash insists tonight that the legislature stands 75 republicans to 76 democrats, and the majority on joint ballot for senator will not be less than five. He says he is tonight satisfied with the situation in Wood county. What he feared was that the official count might wipe out the small republican plurality in that county. Since the official tally sheets show a plurality of 11 for the republican representative, Judge Nash says he is willing and ready to have any court pass on the case. He says the law provides that members of boards of election cannot go behind the returns, and the supreme court has held that they have no ministerial powers whatever, and cannot hear evidence or use their discretion in the counting out of any votes. That is left to the courts and to each branch of the legislature in passing on the credentials of its members.

In Wood county today Norris, republican candidate for representative, filed a protest against the board for counting the vote of Freedom township, because the ballots had been tallied in blocks of five. This precinct gave Norris 131 and Meers, democratic candidate for representative, 20. If the vote of the township had been thrown out it would have increased the plurality of Norris by 111, but it was counted. The republicans insist that Norris will be declared elected.

Dr. Darrin will remain at the Occident hotel, Astoria, until further notice, and will in the future treat all curable chronic and private cases with office or home treatment at the rate of \$5 a week, or in that proportion of time, as cases may require. The poor treated free, except medicines, from 9 to 10 a. m., daily. Patients able to pay, from 10 a. m. to 5 p. m. Evenings, 7 to 8. Examinations free to all.

### STRANGE TALE OF THE SEA

San Francisco, Nov. 5.—The Volcano, only 17 tons, was arriving after riding out a storm in mid-ocean during which her compass was lost. Captain William Kiesel succeeded in making port after a voyage of 1300 miles with no other guide than sun, stars and the trend of the current in the northern California coast.

In sight. Then an occasional glimmer of light enabled the skilled mariner to determine his way to the Goddard. The little vessel sailed from the island, the intention being to reach schooner in the north. On October 21 with salt and coal when 1300 miles west of Cape Horn a storm struck the vessel, riving her and sweeping part and the compass overboard. The captain decided to return in a manner in which he at least is considered many men.

It was a most remarkable escape, and the captain's skill and the skill of his crew were amply demonstrated.

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