

FROM AN ENGLISH STANDPOINT.

Paper Publishes a Mass of One Writer Says the Claim Be Similar to One Made by Gibraltar.

London, Dec. 31.—The Chronicle publishes a mass of matter on the Venezuela affair, including maps in possession of the colonial office, extracts from the American papers which have arrived by mail and an article by Frederick Harrison, declaring that the Venezuela claim is on all fours with a Spanish claim to Gibraltar.

"If the United States can persuade Venezuela to submit to a bona fide boundary settlement and to drop her swagger about Charles V and Philip II of Spain, and can enforce an award when it is made, the question could be settled in a month."

The Brussels delegate to the Venezuela government, Veloz Gutierrez, recently visited The Hague, and exhausted every channel without success in support of the Venezuela claim. Five years ago the British vice-consul at Ciudad Bolivar, examined the Spanish records and proved the British aspect of the case completely.

The Berlin correspondent of the Standard says: "I have excellent reasons to state that the reports of an agreement between Russia and the United States about Venezuela are unfounded. On the contrary the czar was painfully surprised at President Cleveland's message, and any war involving England would be unwelcome to the Russian court, on the approach of the coronation."

The New York correspondent of the Times, while he affirms his previous convictions that there is no longer any feeling for war with England at present in the United States, says there lies a real danger in the future. He attributes this partly to the personal character of the president or that quality of it which his friends call firmness and his enemies stubbornness.

The proposed meeting of the American Society for the purpose of an exposition of the people for an amicable settlement of existing differences between England and the United States has been abandoned in view of the improved situation.

The Order of Crusaders has forwarded through the Hon. Neal Dow, Mother Stewart and Miss Frances Willard, a New Year's greeting to the Temperance Workers of America, with the hope that the war will now be averted.

The Venezuela Commission.

Hagerstown, Ind., Dec. 31.—The report that Richard H. Alvey, chief justice of United States court of appeals, District of Columbia, has been requested by President Cleveland to become a member of the Venezuela commission, is confirmed. The request was made Thursday last in Washington. The proposition took Judge Alvey by surprise, and he begged for time to consider the matter before committing himself. This the president granted. He is at his home in Hagerstown, and will be here until his court meets the first Monday in January.

Tonight Judge Alvey said that he had not yet fully made up his mind whether he would accept or not, for many of his cases would come up before the district court of appeals at the January term. Because of his heavy judicial duties, and for other reasons, he hesitated about immediately accepting the president's offer. He is heartily in accord with the president's views, and feels under obligations to further Mr. Cleveland's policy.

Venezuela's Representative Here.

Washington, Dec. 31.—General Usler, special commissioner of United States from Venezuela, is with his family. General Usler is commander of the army of Venezuela, was appointed commissioner to the United States and watch negotiations with Great Britain regarding the boundary dispute.

President Crespo, General Usler as soon as President Cleveland names the Venezuela commission, appoint a commission of five of the most representative citizens of the American republic to come to United States, and to convey to Cleveland, congress and the people, Venezuela's thanks and appreciation of good will shown by the United States government in its announcement of its intention to fearlessly enforce the Monroe doctrine. This mission has not yet been appointed, as the gentlemen who will serve have been notified.

ular Troops to Be Substituted.

Constantinople, Dec. 31.—At the request of the United States minister, Constantinople has ordered that regular troops be replaced by militia, who are to be used for the purpose of guarding the missionaries in the distant parts of the empire.

Floods in Indian Territory.

Omaha, I.T., Dec. 26.—The Grand river continues to rise and now is a depth of seventy to eighty feet above the channel. Great desolation is caused. Houses, wagons and animals of all descriptions are being washed down the torrent. Men have been found in the tree tops, and been for thirty days in a party in boats. A woman was in a wagon and calling for help.

English Press on a Peaceful Sea.

New York, Dec. 31.—The English press publishes the following in reply to requests for opinion upon the Venezuela situation: From the Prince of Wales—Sir Francis Knollys is desired by the Prince of Wales and the Duke of York to thank Mr. Pullinger for the cablegram. They earnestly trust, and cannot but believe, the present crisis will be arranged in a manner satisfactory to both countries, and will be succeeded by the same warm feeling of friendship which has existed between them for so many years.

From the Bishop of London—With all my heart I pray to God to avert from this country and the United States the crime and disaster of war between them; and I hold it to be the bounden duty of every man in both countries to avoid all provocative language, and to do all that he can conscientiously to promote peace.

The following unsolicited dispatch was received from the Freemasons of Manchester: "Christmas Greetings, Freemasons' Club, Manchester, to American Freemasons: Glory to God in the Highest; on earth, peace, good-will to men."

Various English religious bodies have cabled their brethren in America their sympathy with their efforts for peace.

London, Dec. 27.—The afternoon newspapers today continue their comments upon the Venezuela question, and hopes are expressed that the Christmas holidays will continue to bring about a calmer mood on both sides of the Atlantic. The possibility of war between Great Britain and the United States is regarded as past and the affair is now viewed chiefly from the standpoint of American domestic politics and its bearing upon the financial situation.

Thomas A. Edison, the inventor, is being pleasantly chaffed as the result of the publication here of an alleged interview with him, in which he is quoted as describing a number of startling inventions which he is said to be ready to bring forward in the event of war.

The St. James's Gazette, commenting upon the statement attributed to John Redmond, the Irish leader, regarding the attitude of Ireland in case of war, styles him a traitor, and says it believes him also to be a liar when he says that Ireland would go solidly American. The St. James's Gazette asks what would happen to the American politician just now who would say, in the event of war, Ireland would fight for England.

BACK DOWN OR FIGHT.

George Kennan Says That Is What This Country Will Have to Do.

Cleveland, Dec. 27.—George Kennan, the well-known writer and lecturer, speaking of the Venezuela dispute, said:

"I am surprised, in fact dumfounded, at the readiness of the American people to bring on a first-class war. Two months ago every mouth in this land was preaching peace at the contemplation of war in the Orient and Europe, and here today even the ministers of the gospel are shouting for war."

"I regret the condition, because I greatly fear that a terrible war is imminent. England will not back down from her position. This can be taken for a certainty. If President Cleveland's interpretation of the Monroe doctrine is not altered and is to be upheld, we shall have war, and the greatest war which ever transpired. It will not only take in the United States and Great Britain, but would involve the world."

"A foreign war will be very disastrous to us, and, while I have no doubt that we shall win and add Canada to our possessions, it will be very close to ruination to us."

"Such a war is bound to come unless the United States backs down, and I don't think it will. It will be the greatest calamity to humanity which has ever occurred."

THE STRIKE ENDED.

Basis of Settlement Reached by the Company and Striking Employees.

Philadelphia, Dec. 26.—The great trolly strike is ended. This is the final John Wannamaker is the man who brought about the settlement. He was aided by members of the Christian League. The basis of the settlement is as follows:

First—While the Union Traction Company will treat only with the workmen in its employ, it will allow them membership in any lawful organization.

Second—It will take up their grievances and give them full and fair consideration.

Third—It will immediately put on the old men as fast as vacancies arise; will give preference to any of the old men yet unemployed, and endeavor to arrange the trips of the cars to favor the old men as far as possible without violating its contract with the new men.

The questions of compensation and hours are left for future determination.

Concessions were made by both sides. The battle has been mainly fought on the question of the employes' membership in the Amalgamated Association of Street Railway Employees, which the company has persistently refused to recognize. The new men engaged since the strike began number nearly 1,000. There were about 5,000 strikers. They will report for work tomorrow morning.

The people of Billings are taking their share.

Substance of the Bills and Resolutions Introduced in the Senate and House—Make-up of the Various Comtees—The Senate.

Washington, Dec. 30.—The Democratic steering committee of the senate today completed the last assignment of minority members of the committees, and handed the list to Mitchell, chairman of the Republican caucus committee. The chairmen of the more important committees are as follows:

Appropriations, Allison; finance, Morrill; foreign relations, Sherman; judiciary, Hoar; commerce, Frye; interstate commerce, Cullom; military affairs, Hawley; naval affairs, Cameron; public lands, Dubois; Indian affairs, Pettigrew; claims, Teller; coast defense, Squire; education and labor, Shoup; territories, Davis; Pacific railroads, Gear; pensions, Gallinger; postoffices and postroads, Wolcott; agriculture and forestry, Proctor; private land claims, Harris; manufactures, Wetmore; fisheries, Perkins; civil service and retrenchment, Pritchard; immigration, Lodge; irrigation and reclamation of arid lands, Warren; mines and mining, Stewart; railroads, Clark; Indian depredations, Wilson; transportation routes to the seaboard, McBride; Nicaragua canal and Nicaragua claims, Morgan; international exposition, Thurston; national banks, Mantle; forestry reservations and protection thereof, Allen; to investigate trespassers on Indian lands, Baker; woman suffrage, Call.

Washington, Dec. 26.—It being generally understood that the ways and means committee would not be prepared to report its bill for the relief of the treasury situation before Friday, the attendance in the house today was comparatively small.

Mr. Dingley, chairman of the ways and means committee, said the committee met this morning and unanimously decided, in view of the president's message, that it was not appropriate for the house to adjourn until a proper response had been made.

"On Friday," he continued, "we hope the house will make a response to the urgent request of the president and take some action which will relieve the situation in which the country finds itself."

Bech of Ohio will introduce in the house tomorrow a bill providing that duties imposed by the tariff laws of the United States shall not apply to food products and raw materials from such nations as may make equivalent reciprocal concessions in favor of merchandise imported from the United States.

Washington, Dec. 27.—The two bills to be presented to the house for action and their text are as follows:

No. 1.—"A bill to maintain and protect the coin redemption fund, and to authorize for the resumption of specie payments," the issue of certificates of indebtedness to meet the temporary deficiencies of revenue.

"Be it enacted, etc., that in addition to the authority given to the secretary of the treasury by the act approved January 14, 1875, entitled 'An act to provide for the Resumption of Specie Payments, he is authorized from time to time, at his discretion, to issue, sell and dispose of, at not less than par, in coin, coupon or registered bonds of the United States to an amount sufficient for the object stated in this section, bearing not to exceed 3 per cent interest per annum, payable semi-annually and redeemable at the pleasure of the United States in coin, after five years from their date, with like qualities, privileges and exemptions provided in said act for the bonds therein authorized."

"And the secretary of the treasury shall use the proceeds thereof for the redemption of United States legal tender notes, and for no other purpose."

"Section 2.—In order to provide for any temporary deficiency now existing, or which may hereafter occur, the secretary of the treasury is hereby authorized, at his discretion, to issue certificates of indebtedness of the United States to an amount not exceeding \$50,000,000, payable in three years after their date, to the bearer, in lawful money of the United States, of the denomination of \$20, or multiples thereof, with annual coupons for interest at the rate of 3 per cent per annum, and to sell and dispose of same for not less than an equal amount of lawful money of the United States."

Bill No. 2.—"A bill to temporarily increase the revenue to meet the expenses of the government and provide against deficiency."

"Be it enacted, etc., that from and after the passage of this act, and until August 1, 1898, there shall be levied, collected and paid on all imported wools of classes 1 and 2, as defined in the act hereinafter cited, approved October 1, 1890, and subject to the conditions and limitations thereof, and on all hair of the camel, goat, alpaca and other animals, except as herein provided; and on all noils, shoddy, garnetted waste, top waste, slubbing waste, roving waste, ring waste, yarn waste and all other wastes composed wholly or in part of wool, and on all woolen rags, mungo and flocks, and a duty equivalent to 60 per cent of the duty imposed on each of such articles."

"Section 2.—That from and after the passage of this act and until August 1, 1898, there shall be levied, collected and paid on all imported articles, made in whole or in part of wool, worsted, or other materials described in section 1, of this act."

"Section 3.—That after passage of this act, and until August 1, 1898, there shall be levied and paid

Washington, Dec. 30.—The house today responded to the appeal of the president by passing a tariff bill the operation of which is limited to two and a half years and which is designed to raise \$40,000,000 for the relief of the treasury. The vote today was on party lines, with two exceptions.

The Republicans all voted for the bill except Hartman of Montana, who did not vote, and the Democrats and Populists against it, save Newlands of Nevada, who voted in favor of the measure. The special order under which the bill was brought to a vote, after three and a half hours of debate, was ironclad in character and compelled the members to adopt or reject it without opportunity of offering amendments of any kind.

Washington, Dec. 31.—The house today passed the bond bill by a vote of 170 to 136; and the house, having discharged the task for which it had been sitting during the recess, effected an agreement by which it should adjourn next week, three days at a time, in order to give members an opportunity to rest and visit their homes. The closing hours of the debate today were lacking in spirit, and there was practically no excitement until the vote was taken. The margin of 34 by which the first section of the bill, against the measure massed their opposition, was passed showed that the friends of the measure had marshaled every vote in its favor available. As it was 47 Republicans refused to act with the majority of their party. The Populists and Democrats, with the exception of Hutchinson, who voted for the bill, presented an unbroken front against the bill.

ELECTION OF PRESIDENT.

Movement to Substitute the Popular Vote for the Electoral College.

New York, Dec. 26.—A local paper says:

T. M. Curtin, a cousin of the late Andrew Curtin, who was governor of Pennsylvania, and a relative of Jeremiah Curtin, who for many years was connected with the United States legation at St. Petersburg, is preparing to spend \$100,000 to secure an amendment to the constitution of the United States. Most of the money will come from Mr. Curtin's own pocket. The balance will be given by two friends, who are earnest believers in his project and who have the utmost faith in his ability to accomplish his object.

Mr. Curtin and his private secretary are at present visiting friends in this city. The amendment to the constitution for which Mr. Curtin is now working is the election of the president by a popular vote instead of by a college of electors.

After he has accomplished this, as he feels sure he will, he intends to work for a change by which United States senators will also be chosen by popular vote. Such a change, Mr. Curtin thinks, would be of great benefit to the country and would prevent much injustice from which the people are now suffering. As a first step toward bringing about the change, Mr. Curtin and his friends are about to establish a bureau in Washington through which an expression of opinion as to the best man to be nominated for president by the leading parties will be secured. This bureau will be opened in a few days and will be at work until after the Democratic and Republican conventions.

SHOULD THERE BE WAR.

Lack of Uniformity in Small Arms and Signal Codes.

Washington, Dec. 26.—Lieutenant Niblock, in charge of the naval militia division of the navy department, has urged attention of the authorities to the serious inconvenience and confusion that is apt to arise in case our military and naval forces are called into joint action, as they must in defensive war, growing out of the lack of uniformity in small arms and signal codes.

The army is armed with the Kragg-Jorgenson rifle of thirty caliber, while the navy has contracted for a supply of Lee magazine rifles of twenty-three caliber, so that the same kind of ammunition will not serve both arms, and grave mistakes are apt to occur in issuing it to the men.

Lieutenant Niblock suggests in the interest of the naval militia, as well as on broader grounds, that it would be well if the war and navy departments would settle as soon as practicable by competitive tests, which is the best weapon, that of the army or that of the navy, and stop at once the making of the less desirable arm.

In the case of signal codes, there is a like conflict. He said the navy department used the present naval code for twenty-five years, with the greatest success. When the change was made the navy department followed, but after a fair trial was obliged to abandon the present army code, and return to the original code. The navy cannot use the army code. The navy can and has used the present naval code.

The Fighting at Zeitoun.

Berlin, Dec. 26.—The Frankfort Zeitung publishes a dispatch from Constantinople saying there has been fierce fighting at Zeitoun between the Turkish troops, who surrounded that city, and the insurgent Armenians, who defended it. Both sides are said to have suffered frightfully. The Turks were 14,000 strong and had twelve thousand men.

The fighting at Zeitoun.

CAPITAL CITY OF CUBA IMMINENT DANGER

to Havana in Spite of the Ca stain-General Martinez de A Cuban Victory.

Havana, Dec. 27.—Further reached here today from Mata the rapid advance of the army, numbering about 12,000 upon Havana after forcing through the province of Sancti and into the province of Matanzas in spite of the efforts of Captain Martinez de Campos and about troops at his disposal in the invaded.

The reported important bat between the Spaniards under Camp the insurgents at Coliseo plant twelve miles from Cardenas, do appear to have been a very engagement. Cardenas is a se and quiet an important place for of about 40,000 inhabitants. It is twelve miles from Matanzas, the tal of the province of that name the largest town between Cardenas Havana.

The Spanish forces do not appear have encountered the main body of insurgents, as at first announced. fight at the Coliseo plantation was tween a portion of the northern col of the insurgent columns, now push through the province of Matanzas, instead of turning out to be a g victory for the Spaniards, the real the engagement was virtually a feat for Campos' forces, for the Cub army pushed onward unchecked, and still advancing on the city.

The fighting took place amid burnt cane, underwood, tall grass and trees and was of the usual guerrilla nature. At times both the troops and insurgents were surrounded by walls of flames, and the smoke was so dense over certain portions of the ground tested that the Cubans and the troops were unable to see each other, and kept hanging away at open space, wasting gun ammunition. It is true that the indiscriminate firing was more noticed upon the part of the troops than on the side of the insurgents, but for one insurgent killed, at least 2,000 shots must have been fired. The Cubans, following their customary tactics, seemed to melt away into the distance as soon as the troops got within fighting distance of them, and nearly all the firing was at very long range, although the soldiers made several gallant charges through the burning territory. This style of fighting is termed a defeat for the insurgents, but as they succeeded in accomplishing their object—holding the Spaniards in check while the Cubans pushed on southward—the result was really a Cuban victory.

The captain-general of the front as possible battle, encouraging the and actions. One of eral's orderlies, who was horse beside Camp bullet in his breast ground badly wounded, no doubt, intended for commander.

DEATH IN HOT

The Terrible Fate of A Sausage-Mak

Portland, Or., Dec. 26.—Staub, a sausage-maker, of hot water in the steam tory at the corner of Ninth streets, about 1 o'clock afternoon, and was so badly that he died at 7:30 o'clock.

Staub had been at work and day for the past four ing lard and preparing for display. After this had away, he had been killing and yesterday he started the premises. He had been for that purpose in a steam is about four feet square and was two and one-half feet The valve for shutting off the at the back of the tank, so as grating in front of the tank, raised from the floor on s reached across to turn off the. As he leaned forward the slipped on the greasy floor, pitched head first into the boiler. In a moment he had above the surface, sprang out tank, and ran to the door, cal agonized tones, "Help! help!"

R. Gerdes and his brother, who near by, ran to his assistance. was in great agony and his ser were pitiful. They tore off his as quickly as possible, and, while sleeves were pulled down over hands, the skin of his arms came from the elbows down over the to the ends of the fingers, which hung, like long gloves turned out.

As quickly as possible, physici were summoned, and did all in the power for the sufferer.

He lingered through the afternoon gradually failing, and finally fell in a comatose condition, and about 7:30 passed away. Staub was a Swiss birth, about 26 years of age, and leav a wife and infant child. He had taken an accident policy a month or two since; so they will not be unprovided for.

Cause of His Silence.

London, Dec. 31.—The Chronicle says: "Lord Dunraven's failure to incriminate Defender's owner or crew is complete. He may now in cold blood reflect that he has done more blood between the two nations all others combined."

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Britain Will Assent.

[Boston Journal.] ion of the administration en manifested two year ago t be necessary to speak ow and the country would saved some humiliating ex But better late than neve maxim. We can afford to be bygone.

John Paul Jones.

[Boston Globe Democrat.] be year 1777 that Jon commanding a ship of appeared on the British de a raid on the coast f The Declaration of 14 as then but little mod d. If England is consi nity from attack at br case of war with th forgotten the gris ad American sailors.

Is Impossible.

[Philadelphia Times.] ble to believe that two nations like Great United States are ge a petty dispute of tr at to have been settled nment years ago. It evens mistake for col more say anything tha ne peacefully as well as of the discussion. The for the nation, an at the nation will r him in all that is mand, even to an ex still prefer to believe

to the South.

[New York Times.] newspaper sneeringly days ago that ther dis of Jefferson Davis Cleveland at the South. tion repelled that in frequent expression to them in its applica situation. He spoke which showed that s in it, and undoubt the prevailing senti th. That section of the Ireland of Am for an opportunity to be flag that waves financial policy the ngular at the South. the Monroe doctrine southern heart to a daim.

American Spirit.

disposition in this criticize or object spirit of Mr. Cleve which he accom ence between this Britain in regard ter. It will doub to the Tories, whose s have abolished s from their mind. at the people will ove the firm stand ven. The message about, and from genuine Ameri a note of patrio heard in high ater days, and for on the ears of come sound. To merican will say

Uniform.

borrowed a new same it is the no the country ho wears it. For s, except for a reflect that he has done mev had blood between the two nat all others combined." A postoffi has been estab Sheridan, F out counte Taylor.