

# IN THE NATIONAL HALLS OF CONGRESS

Tuesday, January 23.

Washington, Jan. 23.—For more than three hours today Spooner occupied the floor of the senate in explanation and defense of the course of the administration relative to the Moroccan conference at Algeiras, Spain, and in connection with Santo Domingo. The speech was delivered to crowded galleries and to a well filled senate, and received careful attention throughout. It was in the main a response to the charges of Bacon and Tillman, and its purpose was to justify the president's action in both the matters under discussion.

Washington, Jan. 23.—The eight-hour law cannot be abrogated for work on the Panama canal and canal commissioners cannot receive additional compensation beside their salaries as commissioners. These two changes in the urgent deficiency appropriation bill are under consideration by the house as the result of today's session. Numerous amendments seeking to effect the bill as to canal ground purchases, purchases of coal for the navy, consumed time in discussion, but defeat when a vote was taken. When the session ended, about half of the bill had been considered. It will be laid aside tomorrow, when the standard bill is to be brought in and to give the right of way until disposed of.

Monday, January 22.

Washington, Jan. 22.—The question of regulating railroad rates took practically all of the time of the senate today, notwithstanding that no bill with present end in view has been reported from the interstate commerce committee. The discussion of the subject was connected with Clary's speech, Alben Barkley, Bailey and Newlands being the principal participants in addition to Clary himself.

Clary advocated the passage of a bill which would give the Interstate Commerce commission power to regulate rates, when complained of, and said that if there was no legislation along that line, the country might count upon the interstate commerce committee's ownership. In that connection, he referred to the large vote given Mr. Borah in the late New York municipal election as an indication of the popularity of municipal ownership of public utilities.

Washington, Jan. 22.—With a point order pending, the eight-hour clause of the Panama canal item in the urgent deficiency bill was buffeted about in the greater part of today's session of the house. The debate general and the point of order which will be made by Hogg of Colorado, or by Williams, the minority leader, can only be made when the session is considered for amendment.

While the eight-hour provision of the Panama part of the bill is what is expected to be most strenuously debated for and against the administration's canal policy. Williams, the minority leader, declared the work of congress ought to be done by contract. Raymond, of Missouri, immediately retorted that this could not be done successfully, and Burton, of Ohio, urged that congress should scrutinize appropriations. Hepburn, of Iowa, urged necessity of centralization in responsibility, and wanted the president responsible for the work.

Saturday, January 20.

Washington, Jan. 20.—The cry of "defeat" raised in the house of representatives this afternoon caused the defeat of an amendment to an urgent deficiency bill appropriating \$10,000 to supplement express deficiency in the fund for the payment of transportation charges on silver from the sub-subsidiary trade centers. The amendment was proposed by General Kiefer, and was opposed by Representative Lawrence, Minn., Smith, Ia., and Conn. Representative Hill raised point of order against it. He lost. He charged that the appropriation was a species of graft for the express company. Smith joined in the declaration that it was no longer necessary for the federal government to continue appropriation, and that if the transportation of silver was not made profitable the coin would remain in circulation longer.

Washington, Jan. 20.—Murmurs heard in the senate of a possible reply by the beet sugar men against the pine tariff bill, taken up today by the committee of Philippines for consideration.

Hague Delegates Chosen.

Washington, Jan. 22.—Secretary of State announced that the American representatives to the approaching conference to be held at the Hague will be Joseph C. Chase, formerly ambassador to France, and Judge of Little Rock, Ark., ex-president of the American Bar association. As these delegates there may be a number being conditional on the Russian representation, and will also be a number of secretaries, stenographers and interpreters.

Irrigation Engineers Confer.

Washington, Jan. 22.—Irrigation engineers of the department of Agriculture are in conference in Washington for the work for the coming season. A. F. Stover, of Oregon, and H. Schaefer, of Idaho, are attending the meeting. These engineers are connected with the Reclamation service, but make a special study of resources, the use of water and drainage problems.

consideration. The opposition of the beet sugar industry to the Cuban reciprocity treaty developed a strength among the Republicans of seven votes. This was enough to defeat the ratification, a two-thirds vote being necessary. The same strength could not defeat the Philippine bill, which only requires a majority.

Friday, January 19.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Reform in the matter of making deficiency appropriations agitated the house today, and the entire time was devoted to its discussion, with the exception of a sort of speech for free hides by Perkins, of New York. The urgency deficiency bill was being considered under general debate order, and Littauer, of New York, in charge of the bill, set the pace by pointing out the failure of the legislation of last year to curb the heads of departments in their demands for deficiency supplies.

Thursday, January 18.

Washington, Jan. 18.—There was an echo of yesterday's stormy session in the senate today, when Tillman presented his resolution directing a senatorial investigation into the removal of Mrs. Minor Morris from the white house. The resolution provoked no debate, and Tillman contented himself with a brief statement, in which he said that he would not have introduced the resolution but for the taunt of Hale. When he concluded, Daniel moved that the resolution be laid on the table, and this disposition was made of it by a vote of 54 to 8. The remainder of the day was devoted to speeches on the pure food and merchant marine bills, McComber advocating the food measure and Mallory opposing the shipping bill.

Washington, Jan. 18.—After paying a tribute to the frigate Constitution today and ordering an investigation in order to ascertain the annual amount necessary to preserve the ship, the house devoted the day until 5:45 to the perfection and passage of a bill providing for the final disposition of the affairs of the five civilized tribes in the Indian Territory. With one or two minor amendments, the bill was passed subsequently substantially as it came from the committee. The bill provides for concluding the enrollment of Indians of the tribes and the allotment of land to them. The enrollment and allotment is made the subject of many restrictions and provisions.

Wednesday, January 17.

Washington, Jan. 17.—The recent forcible removal from the white house of Mrs. Minor Morris was made the subject of emphatic denunciation by Tillman in the senate today. His remarks called out remonstrances from Hale, Hopkins and Daniel, and led to the very abrupt closing of the doors and the sudden adjournment of the senate in the middle of the afternoon. The speech abounded in Tillman's peculiar expressions, and was characterized by many severe and exceptionally personally thrusts at the president. At times he wept over what he regarded as the indignities to the lady, and his voice and eyes were full of tears when he declared, in the face of protests from his fellow senators, that he would demand an investigation of the white house incident.

Washington, Jan. 17.—In response to the Sulzer resolution passed by the house Secretary Metcalf, of the department of Commerce and Labor, today sent to the house the report of Special Immigrant Inspector Marcus Braun, which deals at great length with the character of the immigrants coming to this country and the attitude of the European governments upon the matter. Mr. Braun declares that he has incontrovertible evidence that, while the number of aliens shipped to this country who are legally inadmissible due to disease is diminishing, immigrants inadmissible for other reasons are constantly brought into the country in large numbers "by the concerted action of some European governments and steamship agencies, by bankers and schemers of all sorts."

Life Saving Station at Flattery.

Washington, Jan. 18.—A favorable report was made today on Senator Piles' bills authorizing the establishment of a life-saving station at Cape Flattery and appropriating \$1,010 for the establishment of a fog signal at Ediz Hook.

Wants Philippine Secretary.

Manila, Jan. 23.—T. H. Pardo de Tavera has resigned his position as a member of the United States Philippine commission, assigning as a reason his belief that the Filipinos should have a portfolio. His resignation has offered an opportunity for one of his colleagues to express a desire that in the future there be a Filipino delegate in congress. Commissioner Ide is receiving thousands of congratulations on his appointment as governor, which is universally approved, though many regret the transfer of ex-Governor Wright.

Newlands' Plea Against Bill.

Washington, Jan. 23.—Senator Newlands today concluded his statement in opposition to the Philippine tariff bill, in the hearings now proceeding before the senate committee having in charge this measure. He took the position that it would be cruel to the Filipinos to accustom them to a subsidized price for their sugar and return them to the world's price, about \$35 a ton less, when the Philippines are separated from this government.

## BURTON WILL HELP.

Many Obstacles in Way of Appropriation for Columbia Jetty.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Chairman Burton, of the house committee on rivers and harbors, today gave a hearing to Senators Fulton and Gearin, H. W. Scott and J. N. Teal, of Portland, on the Columbia river jetty project. Representative Jones, of Washington, who is a member of the committee, was also present and took part in the discussion.

Mr. Burton is thoroughly familiar with the situation at the mouth of the Columbia and is fully aware of the fact that it would be good business policy to make an appropriation this session, not so much to extend the jetty as to protect the work that has been done during the past season. He realizes that, unless an appropriation is made, the sea end of the jetty, and particularly the unprotected tramway, will be left at the mercy of the heavy seas and liable to be damaged to the extent of several hundred thousand dollars.

But, while Mr. Burton is in sympathy with the Oregon men and while he recognizes the wisdom of an appropriation to protect the new portion of the jetty, he is not willing to give any assurances that such an appropriation will be made. There is no general river and harbor bill this session, and it is a serious question in Mr. Burton's mind whether it will be possible to put through special legislation in the interest of only a few emergency projects.

Mr. Burton stated, and the Oregon delegation agreed with him, that it would be utterly impossible to pass a special bill making an appropriation for this one project. Such a bill would be amended in the house and senate by the addition of appropriations for innumerable projects until in the end it would become a regular river and harbor bill, and under existing conditions a bill of that character would stand no show of passage.

But there are three or four other projects of importance, where emergencies exist similar to that at the mouth of the Columbia. Unless appropriations are made this session for the preservation of these works, the government will sustain a heavy loss. Mr. Burton is considering the advisability of reporting an emergency bill making appropriations for these specific projects only, but he is not yet satisfied that such a bill could get through without being amended to embrace many other projects.

Mr. Burton, because of the condition that exists in congress and because of the difficulties that stand in the way of special river and harbor legislation, will hold out no promises to the Oregon representatives, though he freely admits his interest in Columbia river improvement and expresses his personal belief that an appropriation should be made.

An appropriation of \$1,800,000 cannot be had, but it is possible that \$400,000 may be procured. Mr. Burton explains that it would be impossible to pass any bill which did more than provide funds to protect work already done.

## EACH ISLET A REPUBLIC.

Russian Revolution Spreads to Dots of Land in Baltic.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 18.—In addition to the Caucasus and a few localities in Siberia, the open revolt is now chiefly confined to small islands off the Baltic coast, where the difficulty of landing troops hampers the subjugation of the revolutionists. The icebreaker Yermak, carrying detachments of marines and infantry, has been unable to reach the principal island, Osel, at the entrance to the Gulf of Riga, and is now awaiting a light-draft steamer to land the troops.

Following the example of their brothers on the mainland, the peasantry or even the tiniest islands in the Baltic have instituted independent republics. One of these, on the islet of Linsuitt, probably the smallest state in the world, already boasts of a second revolution and a second president, the citizens having risen and overthrown the first president. The present chief magistrate, Jammenson, is addressing them in proclamations as "my faithful subjects."

Petition to Save Constitution.

Boston, Jan. 19.—Eric Pape, the artist, left Boston yesterday for Washington with the "Constitution petition," which he expects to present to congress. While in Washington Mr. Pape will try to secure the signatures to the petition of many men prominent in national life, who have expressed themselves as favorable to the movement to save "Old Inroads." The petition is an immense affair, and requires four men to carry it. It is estimated that over 20,000 persons have signed it.

New Governor for Alaska.

Washington, Jan. 19.—Assuming that J. G. Brady, governor of Alaska, proposes to resign his position, M. H. Perkins, of Nome, has been recommended strongly for that office. Senators Allison, Lodge and Piles called on the president yesterday, with ex-Governor Swineford and S. S. Ryan, of Alaska, to recommend Perkins' appointment. It is not known absolutely that Governor Brady intends to resign.

Peace With Insurgents.

San Domingo, Jan. 19.—A treaty of peace between the insurgent generals at Monte Cristi and the government was signed today on board the American cruiser Yankee. This assures perfect tranquility throughout the republic. Monte Cristi is now in the hands of the constitutional government forces.

## INSULT TO AMERICA

### Castro Not Satisfied With Trouble With France.

### FRENCH WARSHIPS ARE AT HAND

### Failing Instant Apology, Their Guns Will Talk—United States May Take a Hand.

Washington, Jan. 20.—Three French warships are now off the Venezuelan coast preparing to deliver the answer of France to President Castro's treatment of M. Taigny, the French representative at Caracas, by a naval demonstration in Venezuelan waters. Two additional warships will join them as soon as they can make the trip across the Atlantic. Until the demonstration has been initiated, the French government will share with the president and Secretary Root the knowledge of the exact form which this expression of her displeasure at President Castro's action will take.

Meantime the delicacy of the situation at Caracas is greatly increased by news which has recently reached here from that city regarding the attitude President Castro now appears to be assuming toward Mr. Russell, the American minister. Unless this attitude is radically modified, it may be necessary to dispatch an American warship even nearer the Venezuelan coast than has already been planned. President Castro, it is said, will be given to understand that any treatment of an American representative such as that accorded to M. Taigny will not be tolerated. The cause which can be ascribed here for Mr. Castro's attitude toward Mr. Russell is that the former insists upon regarding as personal rather than official the efforts which Mr. Russell has made to assist a peaceful settlement of the Franco-Venezuelan troubles. The request of the French government that its interests in Venezuela be looked after by Mr. Russell was immediately granted for the reason that such a request is invariably granted by a friendly power however difficult the task.

France has adopted a simple program for her treatment of the Venezuelan situation. It provides for an immediate and comprehensive apology by Castro for his treatment of M. Taigny, which treatment the Paris officials regard as insulting and intolerable.

One dispatch sent to Mr. Russell last Sunday had not been delivered to him up to the time the last dispatch was sent by him to the State department. This is being inquired into by the department.

## FUNDS FOR SEA WALL.

California Supreme Court Gives Favorable Decision.

San Francisco, Jan. 20.—The Supreme court this afternoon handed down a decision by which funds will soon be available for the completion of the San Francisco sea wall. The court sustained the validity of the so-called sea wall act, passed by the legislature in March, 1903, which authorized the state board of harbor commissioners to issue \$2,000,000 in bonds to complete the San Francisco sea wall.

The harbor commissioners proceeded to issue bonds under this act, but State Treasurer Reeves refused to approve the issue. The commissioners thereupon applied to the Supreme court for a writ of mandamus to compel the state treasurer to sign the bond issue. The court by its decision today directs the state treasurer to sign the bonds. The harbor commission, it is understood, will now issue bonds under the act from time to time until the full \$2,000,000 worth are on the market.

Afraid to Show His Face.

St. Petersburg, Jan. 20.—Distrustful of the spirit of his capital and perhaps remembering the incident of last January, when one of the saluting guns showered grape on the imperial chapel, the emperor will not come to St. Petersburg for the ceremony of the blessing of the waters of the Neva tomorrow. For the first time since the Empress Anna laid the foundations of the winter palace in 1732, the great church festival of the Epiphany will pass without the presence of the sovereign.

Big Grain Firm Fails.

Chicago, Jan. 20.—Announcement was made this afternoon of the suspension of the grain and commission firm of McReynolds & Co., of this city, one of the best known firms on the board of trade. The affairs of the firm will be wound up and it will go out of business, but the creditors will be paid in full and the assets are fully equal to the liabilities. The house has been a large handler of cash grain and controls three large elevators.

Funston May Go to China.

San Francisco, Jan. 20.—The Call will say tomorrow that Brigadier General Frederick Funston will soon be relieved from the command of the department of California and ordered to the Philippines, where he will be placed in charge of one of the brigades which is being formed in Luzon with a view to their possible utilization in connection with any move which may be made against China.



## For The Children

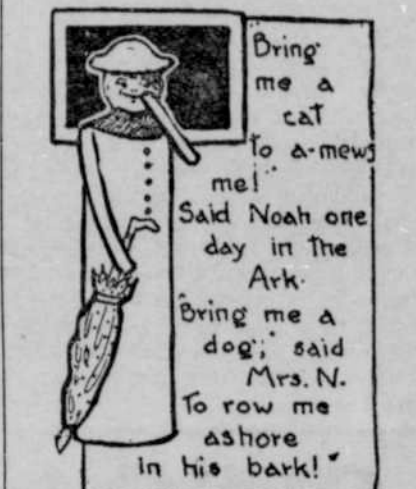
Asking Mother. "Mother, say, now can't I go hunting in the woods with Joe? Willie's mother says he can; I'll take care; I'm most a man. Do, please, mother, let me go hunting in the woods with Joe?"

So Fred begs; and would you think At the very self-same time, In the house across the street, Willie rings the self-same chime:

"Mother, say, now can't I go hunting in the woods with Joe? Freddie's mother said he might. Sure, we'll be home long 'fore night. Do, please, mother, let me go hunting in the woods with Joe?"

Joe stands waiting in the street, Coupled hair and rough-shod feet; Fight he holds his battered gun, Hears the pleading of each one; Stands and listens anxiously, Thinking, thinking, soberly.

"Guess their mothers think I'm rough. Wild and reckless, like enough; Hardly trust their boys to me; Wish they would, and then they'd see Just how careful I could be. I don't have to ask my mother, For she's dead. There's none to bother If I stay or if I go; Wouldn't I be happy, though, To hear mother tell me: 'No, You can't go a-hunting, Joe?'" —Washington Star.



## Saving the Family.

Bobby had two grandmothers. One grandmother lived far away from him, and sent him presents—a striped worsted ball, a "Mother Goose's Melodies," a cotton-flannel pig, a calico cat, a rag doll and a pair of reins; and the other grandmother lived with Bobby, and had to play ball, read "Mother Goose," squeal for the cotton-flannel pig, "mlau" and "scat" for the calico cat, make dresses for the rag doll, and drive Bobby all over the house, crying, "Get up, horsey!"

Of all his presents Bobby liked the reins best. They were red reins, hung with tiny jinglers. When grandma had callers, and so could not play "horsey," Bobby used to loop the reins over a chair-back, and, sitting on a cricket, drive round the country until the callers were gone.

Somebody else in the family liked the red reins with jinglers. That was Pussy Gray, the pretty Maltese kitten. She used to chase round after grandma and the prancing horse, and whenever the team stopped she would come frisking up, lift a little fore paw and set the bright bells jingling.

One day grandma had several callers, and the last one was the minister, and he took Bobby up on one knee and Pussy Gray on the other. The reins were left over the chair-back. "Those are my new reins," said Bobby. "My grandma that lives away off sent them to me. Do you know my grandma that lives away off?"

He slipped off the minister's knee, ran over to the table and got an album. He laid this on the minister's knee, and turned the pages till he came to the photograph of a lady with white hair. "There," he said, "that's my grandma that lives away off. This is the whole family. Everybody's in it—grandma and papa and me and everybody."

The minister looked at all the photographs, and Bobby, standing at his side, told the name of each. This took a long time, so it was late when the minister said good-by.

Then grandma, Bobby and Pussy Gray went to supper. After supper grandma put Bobby right to bed; and the chair horse remained tied to the table all night.

In the middle of the night grandma woke up and heard a jingling of bells—like sleighbells; and, not being really awake, she fancied that somebody was coming to give her a sleighride. Then she woke up a little more, and knew that it must be Pussy Gray playing with the jinglers on the red reins. "I forgot to put her down cellar," thought grandma. "I must go now, or she may get into mischief. Why, it is raining, and I left the parlor window open a little way! Dear me, I must hurry!"

When grandma reached the parlor she found the rain beating in at the open window; and she was just in time to save the album, which had been left in an easy chair by the window, from a wetting.

playing horsey I should not have waked up. Pussy Gray saved the whole family from the flood." And grandma laughed. "We must thank my horsey, too," said Bobby, "cause he was standing still to be ringed. I tied him there. My horsey helped save the whole family, grandma."

## HARDER THAN THE DIAMOND.

Tantalum Easily Drawn Into Wire or Rolled Into Sheets if Red Hot.

That nothing is harder in nature than a diamond and that a diamond alone can cut a diamond is a popular belief of long standing. Yet there is something harder. A new substance has made its appearance which, if it can be obtained in sufficient quantity, will probably replace the diamond alike in the operations of drill boring and in the lapidary's workshop, for it is harder than diamond; so hard, in fact, that the only effect produced by a diamond drill, worked day and night for three days on a sheet of the substance one twenty-fifth of an inch thick, with a speed of 5,000 revolutions a minute, was a slight dint in the sheet and the wearing out of the diamond. This substance is pure metallic tantalum.

Tantalum is not a common metal, yet it is also not one of the rarest. Its existence was discovered more than a century ago. Pure tantalum was first prepared by Dr. Bolton, a member of the famous electrical engineering firm of Siemens & Halske. One of his methods is to fuse the double fluoride of potassium and tantalum with metallic potassium in an electric furnace in vacuo, but he seems to prefer a much simpler electrical method. Making up the oxide into a filament, exactly like that of a Nernst incandescent lamp, he places it in a globe connected to an air pump and turns on the current. The oxide is decomposed and the oxygen being gradually removed by the pump the filament is reduced to the metallic state.

Tantalum offers from all other known substance in combining extreme hardness with extreme ductility. When red hot it is easily rolled into bars and sheets or drawn into wire. It is scarcely affected by the oxygen of the air, even at a red heat, and not at all at ordinary temperatures, and the strongest acids fail to dissolve it; nor does it amalgamate with mercury. It melts only at the highest attainable temperatures, and is therefore well fitted to serve for filaments in incandescent lamps, being much stronger than carbon. A pound of it will make 20,000 lamps, and these require exactly half as much power to light them as carbon filaments giving the same brilliancy.

If only it can be procured in sufficient quantity tantalum should prove a most useful metal. It will furnish better boring tools than the diamond drill and cheaper electric lights than carbon, while the possible uses of a plate or a wire harder than diamond, and yet tough and strong, are almost infinite, for every other hard substance is brittle and this fact has hampered the engineer for centuries.

## How a Badger Works.

During the daytime the badger sleeps deep in his burrow, far out on our Western plains and prairies, and at twilight he starts forth on a night's foraging. He is a dreaded enemy of the prairie-dog and the ground-squirrel; and, when he begins to excavate for one, nothing but solid rock or death can stop him. With the long, blunt claws of his fore feet he loosens up the dirt. Dig! dig! dig! he works as though his life depended on it, now scratching out the sides of the hole, then turning on his back to work overhead. At first he throws the dirt out between his hind legs, but soon he is too far down for that, so he banks it up back of him, then turns about, and, using his chest and forward parts as a pincer, shoves it out before him. He works with such rapidity that it would be somewhat difficult for a man to overtake him with a spade.—St. Nicholas.

## Curiosity Satisfied.

A woman cycled up to a butcher's shop and went in with a smiling face. "I want you to cut me off twenty-five pounds of beef, please," she said. The butcher was incredulous. "Twenty-five pounds?" "Yes, please."

It was a big job, and when he had finished he asked her whether she would take it or have it sent. "Oh, I don't want to buy it," she explained; "you see, my doctor tells me I have lost twenty-five pounds of flesh through cycling, and I wanted to see what it looked like in a lump. Thank you so much."

## Crowded to the Rear.

"I envy you," declared Muchpop. "Why so?" inquired Noldids. "Because you haven't children. A mere husband cuts no ice when there are children in the house. You at least occupy some place in your wife's scheme of life."

"Oh, I don't know," was the rueful response. "She has a couple of rubber plants."—Pittsburg Post.

## Didn't Talk Enough.

"Does she still belong to the Women's Sewing Club?" "No; she resigned." "For what reason?" "She said they didn't do anything at their meetings but sew."—Milwaukee Sentinel.

Popularity is like sixteen year old beauty: Nice while it lasts, but does not last long.