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CRIMINAL.

Lady Scott Pleads Guilty.

Georgia Lynching--Held Up and Robbed.

LONDON, Jan. 8.—When the hearing of the libel suit against Lady Selina Scott, John Cockerton and William Aylott, by Earl Russell, was resumed counsel for the defense announced that the plea of justification was withdrawn and the defense had agreed upon a verdict of guilty.

Lynching.

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan. 8.—A special to the Journal from Unadilla, Ga., says Anthony Henderson has been lynched for the assassination of old man George Sumner and an attempted assault upon Sumner's daughter. At the preliminary hearing he made a full confession.

An Imposter.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., Jan. 8.—Harry Sabin, arrested at San Francisco, who claims to be a son of ex-United States Senator Sabin, is an imposter. The senator has no son.

Carter H. Harrison, the first president of the league, was at the head of the table and acted as toastmaster, Bryan being seated immediately at his right. It was midnight when Harrison rapped for order and, in a few pleasant, well-chosen words, introduced Bryan. The latter was greeted with great applause when he rose to speak in response to the toast: "Andrew Jackson."

Robbed.

SANTA ROSA, Cal., Jan. 8.—P. W. Wallace, who came here from Oregon recently to purchase farm land, was held up and robbed of \$200 by a masked highwayman on the Sebastopol road near here last evening.

Murder.

OROVILLE, Cal., Jan. 8.—Geo. Wolf, of Magalia, drove to Chico and left there with a two-horse wagon and some goods. He carried between \$600 and \$700 with him to be used in paying the men at the mine. His team was caught on the Carr grade after dark and Wolf is supposed to have been waylaid, shot and killed, and his body robbed. Up to the present the body has not been found. The sack containing the money was found in the wagon, but the coin had been taken.

CONGRESSIONAL

The Business Disposed Of

Mostly Routine—A New Joint Resolution by Mills of Texas.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—The senate disposed of much routine business at the outset of session yesterday. Petitions as to Cuba and for and against the Loud bill were exceptionally heavy. One petition from the Commercial Club of Chicago, expressed approval of the present policy of the administration.

Mills of Texas, member of the committee on foreign relations, brought forward a new phase of the Cuban question by offering the following joint resolution:

"Resolved, by the senate and house of representatives that the expediency of recognizing the independence of a foreign government belongs to congress, and when congress shall so determine, the executive shall act in harmony with the legislative department of the government.

"Second, That the independence of the republic of Cuba ought to be and hereby is recognized and that the sum of \$10,000 is hereby appropriated for a salary and the expenses of a minister to that government whenever such minister shall be appointed by the president."

Mills said he would address the senate on the resolution Monday.

FUNDING BILL.

The republican and democratic steering committees decided to make the Pacific railroad refunding bill the order of business in the senate after the free homestead bill. The republican committee with Senator Allison, its chairman, present, was in session for an hour, when Senator Gorman and Cockerell were called in as representatives of the Democratic committee.

There was no opposition in either committee to the proposition to give the bill consideration and to place the time for hearing it as an early date as practicable. The agreement was made only conditional upon the passage of the bill through the house. If it falls there it will not be considered in the senate. No attempt was made to provide for the consideration of any other bill.

A SUBSTITUTE.

Senator Morgan has offered a substitute for the Pacific railroads bill, which provides for a board of trustees consisting of nine members, four to be appointed from west of the Mississippi river, four east, and one, who shall be president, whose locality is not specified. These men shall not be stockholders in the roads, and shall be appointed by the president and the appointments confirmed by the senate. They shall take control of the roads and manage them as a corporation with a view to settling the debt.

A provision is made for a 4 per cent sinking fund. The whole debt is to be refunded in bonds bearing 3 per cent interest running for thirty years.

Senator Morgan says that under his bill the roads can be made to pay all liabilities within 25 years.

HOUSE.

Despite the fact that the house entered upon consideration of the Pacific railroads funding bill, the attendance on the floor was not large. Great interest, however, was manifested by those present. Maps showing the routes of the Pacific railroads, erected in the area in front of the speaker's rostrum, were frequently referred to by the speakers.

Under a special order adopted before the holiday recess, the debate will continue until Saturday evening, and the voting take place on Monday.

Before the debate began a bill was passed to amend the act providing for a civil government in Alaska so as to create the office of surveyor-general, at a salary of \$2000 a year, to perform the duties of register and receiver of the general land office at Sitka.

The resignation of Governor Black, of New York, as member of the house, was read.

Under a special order, the house then went into committee of the whole, with Payne of New York in the chair, and took up the funding bill. Chairman Powers, of the Pacific railroads committee, said it had been arranged so that time for and against the measure could be equally divided, he to control the time in its favor, and Hubbard, Republican, of Missouri, member of the committee, who had made the minority report, against. The house confirmed the agreement.

Powers then made his opening argument. The bill which the committee reported, constituted a plain business proposition, and he asked the members to continue it as such. He described the necessity which existed in the early '60s for a transcontinental railroad, the difficulties which beset the undertaking at the time when the South was ablaze with red war, the hopelessness of private capital being able to accomplish anything without government aid, and the determination of the government to back a hazardous enterprise by large grants of land and by floating the bonds of the road up to \$18,000 a mile as far as the Sierras, and \$23,000 for distance across the mountains.

Dashed to Earth.

OAKLAND, Cal., Jan. 8.—General Ezeta, the ex-president of the republic of Salvador, has one more bitter dreg added to his cup of unhappiness. He read the published report of the cancellation of the papers of the counsuls-general of the republics of Honduras, Salvador and Nicaragua, and the issuance of papers to his sworn enemy, Dr. Calderon, as consul-general of the united republics. These facts mean that Ezeta's last hope of returning to Salvador and being received by his faithful people will never be realized.

"I look upon the whole matter," said the general as he paced uneasily up and down his room, "as a great farce. The unification of those three republics has all been accomplished by their respective governments without ever submitting the question to the people.

"There is a motive for it—a very clever motive—and before long the money-lenders of this country and Europe will discover it. The three bankrupt republics have simply banded together for mutual strength and for the purpose of presenting to the world an appearance of solidity and stability so that they will be enabled to float some heavy loans under the guise of making permanent improvements and developing the Greater Republic of Central America."

Rain in India.

CALCUTTA, Jan. 8.—At a meeting of the council Sir John Woodburn, revenue member, said the timely rains of November and December had saved India from the greatest calamity of the century, so widespread and severe was the drought. The large area sown with the assistance of the November rains had, he said, been greatly benefited by further rains last week, and an addition to food stock was expected in April.

In spite of this, the present situation was very grave. Nearly 750,000 persons were already in receipt of relief, and the task of providing for the enormous numbers was gigantic. The government was giving unstinted help.

The viceroy, Earl of Elgin, endorsed the statement of Sir John Woodburn, and said it was what the government was awaiting to enable it to give better effect to the proposals it would gladly receive.

The government, the viceroy emphatically declared, can have nothing to do with an appeal to private charity. Its own duties were clear, and the government was determined to fulfill them. The funds were ample, and it should never be said the full resources of the empire had not been used for relieving distress.

A Cuban's Story.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—Antonio Aguiro, a member of the Havana produce exchange, arrived here on the steamer Orizaba, from Havana. He was a resident of Guanabacoa, where, according to recent reports from Havana, atrocities were committed by the Spanish troops under Colonel Fondevilla. Senor Aguiro when seen last night said:

"The reports which reach the United States of the state of affairs

PROPOSAL.

Fishy Story From Spain.

Ruinors That Gomez Wants of Surrender.

CHICAGO, Jan. 8.—A dispatch to the Tribune from Washington says: Positive statements were made from Spanish legation sources that Gomez, the Cuban commander-in-chief, had actually submitted a proposition for peace to Senor Sagasta, in Madrid, and that the facts have already been communicated to the junta here.

All that stands in the way, it says, is the proposed recall of Captain-General Weyler, which the insurgents declare shall be preliminary to all negotiations. The statements come to the Tribune correspondent with great distinctness, but, as the source is Spanish, there is an open suspicion that the news may be given out for the express purpose of injuring the insurgent cause.

Secretary Quesada and other Cuban representatives have all along denied that the insurgents would accept anything short of independence, and they profess to be shocked and disappointed at the story of yielding on the part of Gomez. They will not admit that he has communicated with them, but the legation story is to the effect that a letter from the Cuban general was received by the junta December 5, in which he says that if Weyler is recalled and Martinez Campos, Calleja or General Pando sent in his place, the insurgents will be ready to talk of laying down their arms.

In Pinar Del Rio.

CINCINNATI, Jan. 8.—A special to the Commercial Tribune from Key West says:

Reports from Pinar del Rio are that Weyler's withdrawal has encouraged the insurgents greatly. Another attack was made on the trocha Monday, near the southern end, and four forts destroyed, the garrisons deserting upon the appearance of the insurgent forces. At one attack, the big dynamite gun was used, and its first shot threw the garrison into such terror that they fled, leaving a large supply of ammunition and guns.

The outposts at Artemisa have been driven in, and two convoys of supplies to Spanish camps along the tributary road have been captured by the Cubans.

Havana advices state that Quintin Bandera, the guerrilla insurgent leader, is "bushwhacking" near that city.

American Under Arrest in Havana.

HAVANA, Jan. 8.—Dr. Casper Belancourt, a naturalized American citizen and a well-known dentist, who was arrested December 7, as a political suspect, is said to have been one of the leaders of the insurgents during the 10 years' war. It now appears that he is charged with conspiring against the government in handling mail matter intended for the insurgents, in connection with Gustave Martinez, collector of the junta, the Aguiro, the insurgent leader, and Jose Maria Diaz, the agent of Castillo, also a leader of the insurgents. The king's attorney last night sent the documents in the proceedings against Belancourt, where he will be tried before an ordinary tribunal. Diaz and Martinez have already been deported to Spain's penal settlement.

New York's Story.

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"The reports which reach the United States of the state of affairs

in Guanabacoa are from telling the whole truth. Colonel Fondevilla has instituted a reign of terror at the place. His name is well known to the American press.

"Fully 500 families have left the town and moved into Havana since his taking charge. People are taken from their homes and killed with machetes in the outskirts of the town. The world is then made to believe that such people were leaving their homes to join rebels who swarm in the neighborhood. I know of 30 persons who have thus been done away with.

"Even honest Spaniards are shocked at Fondevilla's acts. One of the honest Spaniards warned me that my name was on the list with more than 200 more kept by Fondevilla as men marked by him for secret execution as rebel sympathizers. Being a thoroughly neutral man and having good friends among the Cubans and Spaniards alike, I managed to obtain my passport for the United States. I owe my escape from Fondevilla's clutches to my Spanish friends, toward whom I feel the greatest gratitude."

Delgado's Escape.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—A Havana special to the Mail and Express says: The escape from instant death of Harry Delgado, the Mail and Express correspondent, was little short of marvelous. It was learned here yesterday that he had undergone an operation in San Ambrosio hospital, and that it will be determined at the end of nine days whether he is likely to live or die. Delgado's vitality was much reduced by his experiences. He laid for weeks in a bed without medical attendance.

When his hiding place was discovered, he was so weak that he could scarcely move. He had no arms and no ammunition.

South American Matters.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—A Herald dispatch from Buenos Ayres says:

The chamber of deputies last night, after an exciting debate, approved the projected tax in foreign insurance companies. The tax is 10 per cent on all premiums except those involved in life assurance, which will be taxed at the rate of 2 per cent. National companies will be taxed 2 per cent and 4 per cent respectively, the foreign companies to pay also an annual tax of \$600, \$5000 or \$3000, according to their classification.

As well as these amounts, foreign corporations must also pay 50 per cent of the annual tax for every new risk. National companies will pay an annual tax of \$2000 paper currency and 50 per cent for every new risk. Insurance upon the products of agriculture will not be taxed.

President Uribu will not sanction the proposed issue of \$10,000,000 in mortgaged bonds advocated by the chamber of deputies, to be used in helping the farmers who have lost their crops.

The Herald correspondent in Rio Janeiro telegraphs that President Morais will assume office on January 20. Yellow fever has again appeared in Rio Janeiro. Thirteen cases were reported yesterday.

Armenians Liberated.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—A Herald dispatch from Constantinople says: The last 20 of the 388 Armenian prisoners in Constantinople were liberated yesterday. There are still in prison 25 prisoners condemned to death, one of whom is Bishop Arabgari. As to the number of American priests in prison condemned to death, only two have up to the present time been mentioned to the patriarchate as worthy of pardon. Sixty-five Armenians who had sought refuge in Verna returned yesterday evening and were delivered without difficulty to the American patriarchate.

Jewelry Firm Assigns.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—J. H. Johnson & Co., dealers in diamonds, jewelry and silverware, yesterday assigned to John R. Keim and Arthur H. Masten. Their liabilities are reported at \$219,000; assets about \$200,000.

WHEAT.

The Market Remains Firm.

California Markets Bound to Rule High-Seed Wheat Scarce.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 8.—Seed wheat in this state has become scarce and in many instances the acreage will be largely reduced. This is especially the case with renters and consequently will largely reduce the acreage. Shippers willingly pay \$1.00 per cental for good No. 1 shipping wheat. Today they paid as high as \$1.63 for extra choice.

Owing to the growing scarcity the San Francisco market possesses a firmness independent of the other leading markets. It was said that there were not more than 250,000 tons of wheat remaining in the entire state to supply the export demand and the home requirements before another crop is harvested. A decrease of 74,715 tons in one year.

The bulls believe that wheat will close at \$2 per cental in the local market before July 1st.

Talkington, Bottger & Co's., circular for Jan. 7, 1897:

WHEAT.

The market opened one-half cent below yesterday's closing, and a further dip occurred before the selling pressure was removed. A large quantity of wheat was for sale at the opening, and in spite of the unusual strong position statistically, buyers are easily discouraged. Wheat in the San Francisco market has become very scarce, and is daily advancing. Shippers would willingly pay \$1.60 per cental for a good No. 1 shipping wheat. Today it was known among a firm that have paid as high as \$1.62 for something extra choice, within the last 48 hours.

Chicago May wheat opened up at 81 1/2 @ 82, and closed at 80 1/2 @ 81 1/2. Cash wheat sold at 77 1/2. Liverpool futures sold January 6s 9/16 to 6s 8 1/2. March 6s 11 1/2 to 6s 10 1/2.

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ROYAL—the most celebrated of all the baking powders in the world—celebrated for its great leavening strength and purity. It makes your cakes, biscuit, bread, etc., healthful, it assures you against alum and all forms of adulteration that go with the cheap brands.



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