

CHEERING FOR CUBANS.

Their Prospects for Ultimate Victory Growing Brighter.

WEYLER'S FALSE STATEMENTS.

His Report That There Are Only Five Hundred Insurgents in the Province of Pinar del Rio Disproved by Latest Developments.

KEY WEST, Fla., Jan. 13.—According to advices received here from Havana the government does not allow news of the burning of plantations, etc., to be published, but it is stated on reliable authority that if the government allowed the grinding of cane in Havana province the planters would not be able to make 10,000 hogsheads of sugar, because, from eight miles out of Havana as far as Matanzas, nearly all the sugar cane has been burned.

General Weyler asserts that there are only 500 insurgents in the province of Pinar del Rio but the Cubans say that he will shortly repeat having made such a statement. There is no doubt that the insurgents have suffered greatly from sickness and other causes, but it is claimed that should the Spanish commander only partly withdraw his troops from the western part of Pinar del Rio the insurgents will again concentrate in large bodies, having only scattered into small groups for the present in order to escape the overwhelming force sent against them.

Only a few weeks ago the captain general admitted that there were still 3,000 men under arms against the government in Pinar del Rio. But the troops have certainly not brought back with them from the mountains 3,000 machetes, much less 3,000 rifles and the necessary ammunition. The Cubans claim that all such statements are directed from Madrid for the purpose of influencing congressional action at Washington, and there is good reason to believe that is the case. By apparently showing the pacification of Pinar del Rio the Spaniards undoubtedly hope to prevent any recognition of the belligerency of the Cubans.

As a matter of fact, by the death of Maceo, there seems to be little or no change in the situation when compared with what it was a year ago, unless it is that the Cubans have more confidence, more arms and more ammunition than ever before, and that they are carrying the warfare close to the gates of Havana. Such a state of affairs is likely to continue, from all appearances, until the Spaniards are exhausted financially and compelled to agree to all or nearly all the demands of the Cubans. The latter are playing a slow but sure waiting game, and they can afford to do so, for it is apparent to every disinterested spectator of the struggle that this policy must win sooner or later.

A great deal, of course, depends upon Maximó Gomez and the progress his army will make during the next few weeks or so. But it is not thought likely that Gomez will risk a pitched battle with the Spaniards when he can probably accomplish the end in view without taking any such chances. However, the Cubans expect military news of importance shortly, as it is understood that they have been advised by the New York junta that the moment is opportune for a coup of some kind which will be of importance enough to demonstrate that General Weyler is not stating the exact facts when he says that the province of Pinar del Rio is pacified, and that he is now proceeding to accomplish the pacification of the island of Cuba.

The insurgents have been frequently taunted by the Spaniards, and the fact has been much commented upon in the United States that the insurgents do not possess a single town of any importance. This is susceptible of an easy explanation. It is almost impossible for forces lacking in artillery to capture fortified towns provided with an abundance of artillery and plenty of ammunition for the same. But now the insurgent leaders have been provided with a few field pieces, which, although they may not be of sufficiently large caliber to be used as siege guns, may shortly be utilized in a manner which will astonish the Spanish, who have hitherto enjoyed considerable immunity owing to having the monopoly of artillery of the island. During recent months things have been made more equal, and the insurgents are not placed at the same disadvantages that they were twelve months ago.

A Prodigal Young Thief. LANCASTER, Pa., Jan. 13.—William Leibold, 17 years of age, until recently a messenger boy for a telegraph company, has spent \$4,000 of stolen money since last October in gambling and fast living. Today he is in jail, with barely a penny of it left. He procured the cash through innumerable forgeries of the name of Charles H. Grubb, the iron and furnace master, who had been accustomed to send messenger boys to the First National bank, where he is a depositor and director, to get checks cashed. Leibold availed himself of this knowledge, and employed the same means to get the money.

Dupont's Senatorial Contest. WASHINGTON, Jan. 13.—Hon. H. A. Dupont yesterday filed in the senate a duplicate of a petition to have his claim to a seat in the senate as a senator from Delaware reopened. After setting forth his citizenship in Delaware, Mr. Dupont asserts that on May 9, 1865, he was duly and legally elected to the senate for the term beginning March 4, 1866. Eleven members of the Delaware legislature who voted for Mr. Dupont join in the petition. The petition was referred to the committee on privileges and elections.

Two Burned to Death. PITTSBURG, Pa., Jan. 13.—Miss Regina Sheridan, aged 30 years, while in the act of carrying red hot ashes into the back yard of her home, set fire to her dress and was burned to death before aid could reach her. Robert Adams, a boy 3 years of age, was also burned to death at his home here. He had been standing with his back turned near the fire that was being made by other children, and his dress became ignited.

Captain Murphy Indicted in Delaware. WILMINGTON, Del., Jan. 13.—The grand jury in the United States court found a true bill yesterday afternoon against Captain Edward Murphy. He is charged with having taken a filibustering party to Cuba on the steamer Laurada last summer. Murphy was recently wrecked on the steamer Commodore off the Florida coast.

Convict Died from His Injuries. SING SING, Jan. 13.—Joseph Hoffman, the convict whose attempt at suicide last week by jumping from the fourth story of the state penitentiary has been attributed to the abolition of labor in the prison, died yesterday as a result of his injuries.

ITEMS OF STATE NEWS.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., Jan. 11.—A true bill was found by the grand jury against E. Van Valkenburg, of Wellsboro, who is charged with attempting to bribe Representative Weis, of Northampton county, to vote for John Wanamaker for the United States senate.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 12.—William McCue, who was removed from the Eastern penitentiary to the asylum at Norristown as an insane convict, is dead as the result of severe internal injuries. Whether these injuries were inflicted by himself or by the attendants at the insane asylum is now being investigated by the authorities.

WILKESBAIRE, Pa., Jan. 11.—On the new Wilkesbairre and Northern railroad a runaway car dashed down a steep grade for seven miles, wrecked a lumber wagon, an electric car and a house, killed one man and injured three men and a woman. The dead man is Benjamin Leonard, of Doranston, who leaped from a trolley car and was injured internally.

ALTOONA, Pa., Jan. 11.—A middle aged woman named Mrs. Oscar Andrews was discovered dead here Saturday in a Fourth street tenement. Investigation showed that she had died of starvation and exposure. Coroner McCartney will investigate the case. The report of the board of public charities shows that sixty-five families, comprising 900 persons, are dependent on public contributions for support. It is a situation unparalleled in the history of Altoona.

READING, Pa., Jan. 13.—Jonas Hodgkins was arrested Monday night and committed to prison in default of bail, charged with assault and battery and intent to kill. Infuriated by a remark made by his wife, he hurled a lighted lamp at her head. The woman fortunately escaped the flying lamp, which landed on the carpet. Hodgkins ran out of the house, and his wife pluckily extinguished the blaze with buckets of water.

YORK, Pa., Jan. 12.—Ten head of valuable Durham and Jersey cattle were killed yesterday on the farm of John Gentry by Deputy State Veterinarian Hendon, on account of tuberculosis. Several other farmers are having their herds examined and it is thought more will have to be killed, as the infection has apparently spread extensively. At West Chester yesterday fifteen valuable cattle belonging to Frank B. Chambers were killed by order of the state board.

POTTSVILLE, Pa., Jan. 11.—The case against the school directors of Blythe township, wherein they were charged with firing rifles from the teachers of the district to secure their appointment, and misdemeanor in office, was concluded Saturday. The jury rendered a verdict of not guilty, but placed all the costs upon the defendants, who at once accepted the verdict and made arrangements for the payments of the costs, nearly all the witnesses signing off their fees.

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., Jan. 11.—Misses Alice Minne and Minnie Burnett were yesterday thrown under a moving trolley car. The horses they were driving became frightened, and during the runaway the carriage was upset and the women thrown to the track. Miss Minne was rescued from under the car, and her skull is so badly fractured that she may die. Miss Burnett was only slightly bruised. Prompt action on the part of the motor-man saved them from being ground to death.

BRADDOCK, Pa., Jan. 11.—Mill workers at the Carnegie plants here and at Homestead, Duquesne and Pittsburg, and employees of the Westinghouse works, at Tuttle Creek and Wilmerding, are forming a joint stock company to build a \$2,000,000 iron and steel plant at Port Angeles, on Puget sound, state of Washington. Twelve hundred prominent mill workers of this section have in the past fortnight subscribed for about \$1,000,000 worth of stock. The plant will employ 2,000 men and will cover thirty acres of ground.

STRODSBURG, Pa., Jan. 13.—Charles Morrison, a well known farmer who lived a few miles above Bushkill, Pike county, was killed yesterday in a peculiar manner. Morrison, in company with his 13-year-old daughter, visited Jesse Gunn, an old friend, and while on their way home near Spackman's creek, the horses which Morrison was driving became unmanageable and pulled the heavy wagon off the road and down the banks into the creek. Morrison's neck was broken, and he died instantly. His daughter was unhurt.

MAHANOY CITY, Pa., Jan. 12.—Stiney Valdeso is a fugitive from justice, and his wife and infant child are lying at their home very badly injured. Unknown to Valdeso his wife's brother arrived from Hungary, and they were clasped in each other's arms when the husband entered the room. Thinking it an old lover he seized a chair and beat the couple into insensibility. He then picked up his infant babe and dashed it against the wall. Thinking all were dead he escaped into the mountains. His wife and babe cannot recover.

CHAMBERSBURG, Pa., Jan. 9.—Two freight trains on the Baltimore and Cumberland Valley railroad collided at a siding near Alteswold yesterday. One train was standing on the siding, when a brakeman named McKewen opened the switch and the other train dashed in. Both locomotives were demolished and many cars damaged. Engineer W. F. Brown, of Baltimore, reversed the lever of the moving train and jumped, dislocating his shoulder and receiving severe bruises. The boilers of the engines were telescoped. McKewen took to the woods and has not yet been found. The loss will be heavy.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 13.—The state board of charities has prepared a report to be presented to the legislature after the recess. The board states that the Eastern and Western penitentiaries are so overcrowded as to make imperatively necessary the erection of an additional penitentiary, to be centrally located. There is also a pressing need for an additional state hospital for the treatment of the chronic insane exclusively by homeopathic physicians. Legislation is recommended to encourage municipalities to build institutions for the care and treatment of their own insane by the offer of \$1 a week from the state treasury for each patient so supported.

LEBANON, Pa., Jan. 11.—John M. Gossler, aged 40 years, cashier of the Lebanon National bank, attempted to commit suicide at his home yesterday by shooting himself in the head while his wife and two children were at church. The ball lodged behind the right ear, and when found a few minutes afterward he was unconscious. His death is looked for momentarily. Besides his connection with the bank Mr. Gossler was teacher of the large Bible class in the Lutheran church. For some time past his health has not been good and this is believed to have prompted him to end his life. His accounts with the bank are said to be correct.

FUNDING BILL KILLED.

The Measure Overwhelmingly Defeated in the House.

GOVERNMENT'S PROBABLE ACTION.

Assistant Attorney General Russell Says Congress Can Legally Declare a Forfeiture of the Land Grant and Property of the Pacific Roads.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—The Pacific railroad funding bill went down to its doom in the house yesterday under an adverse majority of 65. The friends of the measure who had predicted its passage up to the last moment were surprised by the decisive character of their defeat. They had been led to hope from the votes on the substitutes that the bill had more than an even chance of passing. The Bell substitute provided that if the Union Pacific and Central Pacific would class off the first mortgage, and advance the government's lien the government would extend the indebtedness at 3 per cent. It was defeated by a vote of 110 to 58. The Harrison substitute provided for a commission to negotiate a settlement of the debt. This was rejected by the house by a vote of 55 to 214.

Many of the members were as much opposed to these substitutes as to the Powers bill. The California and middle west members voted almost solidly against them. When the vote came on the main proposition the whole opposition swung into line and crushed it by an adverse vote of 102 to 168. The vote was not taken directly on the passage of the bill, but on the preliminary motion to engross and read the bill a third time.

Bills, the subject of hard contests, are usually brought to a final test before the last parliamentary stage is reached. The Pacific funding bill, two years ago, was defeated in the same manner on the same motion. This is the fourth funding bill killed in the house in ten years. An analysis of the vote shows that 89 Republicans and 16 Democrats voted for the bill and 99 Republicans, 58 Democrats, 6 Populists and 5 Independents against it.

What action the government will take since the Pacific railroad funding bill has been defeated in congress cannot be stated. It is believed that it is the intention to take some step looking to the settlement in the courts, if necessary, of this long pending and vexed question. According to the treasury figures on Jan. 1 the net amount due to the United States by the bond aided roads, after deducting the amounts credited on account of transportation service, is \$121,810,876, the original principal of which was \$64,623,512. In addition to the amount owing to the United States the companies, under the authority granted by the act of 1864, issued bonds amounting to \$94,618,000, which have since by acts of congress become the first lien on the roads. It is the opinion of many that before the government could institute foreclosure proceedings it would be compelled to secure the interests of the first lien holders. This, however, is not the opinion of Assistant Attorney General Russell, who holds to the opinion that congress can legally declare a forfeiture of the land grants and property of the roads on the ground of conditions broken.

The chief event of yesterday's senate session was an impassioned speech by Mr. Mills, of Texas, in favor of a resolution introduced by him to declare the recognition of a foreign government a congressional prerogative and to recognize the independence of Cuba and appropriate \$10,000 for the salary of a minister. The senator quoted a long line of precedents and strongly denounced the administration, charging it with favoritism toward Spain. He spoke contemptuously of Castellar and Weyer and of Signor Crispi because of his declaration that Europe could not look without concern upon the pretensions of the United States. The Cuban question was the mercantile spirit of the nation against its honor, he declared. Mr. Proctor made a speech in favor of a constitutional amendment to limit the president to one six year term, and Mr. Allen, of Nebraska, made an unsuccessful attempt to secure the adoption of a resolution calling on the secretary of the navy for information as to whether contractors' men in the Brooklyn navy yards are made to work more than eight hours per day.

India's Famine Victims. LONDON, Jan. 13.—Lord George Hamilton, secretary of state for the Indian department, has sent to the lord mayor the statement upon which the appeal for subscriptions for the relief of the famine sufferers in India was based. He says that districts with a population of 37,000,000 will be sufferers from famine until the end of March, and that it may continue in some parts until the end of June. In other districts, having 44,000,000 population, the distress may deepen with famine for a shorter or longer period, while 6,000,000 people in the native states may be victims of famine. It is estimated that the famine will cost the Indian treasury at least \$4,000,000 to \$6,000,000.

A Modest Inauguration. DENVER, Jan. 13.—Without ostentation or display, and at an expense of less than \$5 to the state, Hon. Alva Adams, Democrat, was inaugurated governor of Colorado yesterday. He walked from his residence to the capitol, where in the presence of the legislature in joint session and a large muster of friends, the oath of office was administered by Chief Justice Hoyt. There was no public reception or demonstration of any description.

Government Prisoners for Trenton. WASHINGTON, Jan. 12.—Attorney General Harmon yesterday completed arrangements for the care and confinement at the New Jersey state prison at Trenton of prisoners convicted in the District of Columbia of violating laws of the United States. Previous to Jan. 1 such prisoners have been sentenced to the Albany, N. Y., penitentiary, but a law which went into effect on that date prevents a continuance of the customs.

Coal Miners' Strike Ended. PITTSBURG, Jan. 13.—The strike of the coal miners of the Wheeling division of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad is ended. All of the men returned to work yesterday, agreeing to accept the fifty-four cent rate offered by the operators. The decision of the men was reached at a meeting held last night to consider whether or not the strike should be continued.

A True Bill Against Edward J. Ivory. LONDON, Jan. 13.—The grand jury in a central criminal court yesterday found a true bill against Edward J. Ivory, alias Bell, the saloonkeeper of New York, who is charged with conspiring to cause a dynamite explosion.

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Tours to California. The Pennsylvania Railroad Company, recognizing the need of a more comfortable and pleasant way of crossing the continent, inaugurated a series of annual tours to California, running a through train of Pullman palace cars from New York to the Pacific Coast, and stopping at the principal points of interest en route. For the season of 1897 three tours have arranged to leave New York, Philadelphia, and Pittsburg, January 27, February 24, and March 27. The first tour will run direct to San Diego via St. Louis and the Santa Fe Route, and return from San Francisco via Salt Lake City, Denver, and Chicago, allowing five weeks in California. The second tour will run via the Mammoth Cave and New Orleans to Santa Diego, stopping at the "Crescent City" during the Mardi Gras Carnival. This tour will return via Salt Lake City, Denver, Omaha, and Chicago, allowing four weeks in California. The third tour will run via Chicago, Denver, and Salt Lake City, allowing passengers to return by regular trains via different routes within nine months. All of these tours, either going or returning, will pass through the famous Colorado region, Glenwood Springs, Leadville, and the Garden of Gods. Rates from all points on the Pennsylvania Railroad system east of Pittsburg: First tour, \$310; second tour, \$350; third tour, \$210; around trip, and \$150 one way. For detail itineraries and other information apply at ticket agencies special booking offices, or address George W. Boyd, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Broad Street Station, Philadelphia.

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