## FRENCHMAN'S BOAST.

Gen. Mercier Says French Could Easily Invade England.

ENGLAND NO LONGER THE SAME.

The Transvaal War, General Mercler Declares, Has Shown That the British Army, Though Brave, Is Not Equal to the Task Imposed Upon It.

Paris, Dec. 5.-Gen. Mercier caused a deep sensation in the senate yesterday, during the debate on the naval bill, by pointing out the ease by which England could be invaded. He demanded that the government introduce into the plans for the mobilization of the army and navy methods for the rapid embarkation and debarkation of an expeditionary corps. The president, M. Fallieres intervened, declaring that such proposals were out of order.

In the course of his extraordinary speech Gen. Mercier said:

"In the view of the possibility of war with Great Britain the use of the army is not sufficiently taken into account. The times are not the same as they were a hundred years ago. Steam, the navy, the telegraph and the railroad have rendered the problem of the invasion of England much easier of solution. Moreover, England hersel is no longer the same. The Transvaal war has shown that the British army, although brave, is not equal to the task which England expects it to perform. The British navy is powerful, but it has many coasts to defend.

France, therefore, is numerically England's equal at certain points, and is even her superior in the instruments of destruction. History furnishes many instances of mutiny in the English navy at the moment of battle. A landing in England is, therefore, not beyond realization.

This is not only my opinion, but that also of high naval officers. The British premier recently expressed significant fears, and if the principle of landing is admitted the practical means of execution may be discussed. I venture to think that the work I prepare while commanding an army corps could serve as a basis for such a project, which would not be expensive." At this point M. Fallieres asked Gen.

Mercier not to enter into the details of the statement, and Mercier replied that the scheme could be "held over the head of England like the sword of

#### CONVICTED EX-OFFICIALS PARDONED. Governor Pingree Releases Generals

White and Marsh. Detroit, Mich., Dec. 5 .- Governor Pingree, at 10 o'clock last night, announced that he had pardoned both

Gen. W. L. White, ex-quartermaster general, and Gen. A. F. Marsh, ex-inspector general of the Michigan National Guard, who were convicted of complicity in the state military clothing frauds, upon the payment of \$5,000 fine by each. One thousand dollars of the fine is to be paid Jan. 1, 1901, and a like sum on the 1st day of January, 1902, 1903, 1904 and 1905.

Gen. White was committed to Jackson prison yesterday to begin the ten year sentence imposed upon him Monday by Judge Wiest, and Gen. Marsh is the result of an appeal of his trial, which resulted in his conviction, to supreme court.

In announcing the pardon Governor Pingree says that others equally guilty have escaped indictment, that full restitution has been made to the state, and that he desires to "place all the guilty ones on the same footing."

New Constitutional Amendment Vold Des Moines, Ia., Dec. 5.-A defect in the manner of the passage by the legislature of the resolution for the constitutional amendment providing for biennial elections was unearthed yesterday which, it is generally believed, will render the amendment void. The attorney general so decides. The constitution provides that when resolutions for submitting amendments to popular vote pass the legislature they must be spread in full upon the journals of each houses. The senate journal record is complete, but the house journals give only the title to the resolution.

The Chinese Negotiations.

Pekin, Dec. 5.-As was expected, the meeting of the foreign envoys yester-day did not result in any definite conclusion, owing to the fact that not all of the governments have notified their representatives as to the form of the preliminary note to the Chinese plenipotentiaries. Mr. Conger, the United States minister, said after the meeting: "Apparently it is the desire of all to arrive at a satisfactory conclusion. I believe the next meeting will be the last, but will not be called until every minister has received definite instructions covering all contingencies."

Porto Rico's House of Delegates. San Juan, P. R., Dec. 5 .- The Porto Rican house of delegates, which was harmoniously organized on Monday, Senor Manuel F. Rossy being elected speaker, met yesterday in joint session with the executive council, the two bodies adopting a resolution to cable greetings to President McKinley. Governor Allen's message, consisting of 5,000 words, was well received. The governor points out that the finances of the island are in a satisfactory condition, showing a balance of \$1,583,496. The receipts from May to October, inclusive, were \$1,041,696.

Man and Wife Held For Murder. Scranton, Pa., Dec. 5. — Pasquale Bivalacque was committed to jail without ball by Alderman Howe last night as an accessory to the murder of Mrs. Mary Paul Rose, for which his wife is awaiting trial as principal. Antonio Babsta, a neighbor, states that Bivelacque told him he bought the revolver with which the shooting was done and that he told his wife to use it on both Mrs. Rose and her husband.

Cannot Sit in the House of Lords. London, Dec. 5.—An interesting event in the house of lords yesterday was the lord chancellor's announce-ment of the receipt of certificates show-ing the Duke of Manchester and Baron Sudeley had been adjudicated bank-rupts, which precludes their sitting.

A WORK TRAIN WRECKED.

Nine of the Workmen Killed and Twenty More Injured.

Sacramento, Cal., Dec. 5 .- A work train, carrying its crew of between 25 and 30 track repairers, backed into a freight train a few miles east of Suisun, on the Southern Pacific railroad, yesterday, and in the wreck which followed nine men were killed and 20 more injured, many of them seriously.

It appears the freight train had the right of way and was running at full speed in order to meet and pass another freight at Suisun. The work train should have been on a siding, and was making for it at a good rate of speed when it collided with the freight. At the time there was a heavy fog prevailing, and it was possible to discern objects for only a short distance, so the shock of the colliding trains was terrific. All the casualties are reported to be among the men of working crews, as the engineers and firemen jumped and saved themselves. Over 200 feet of track was torn up, and the cars were smashed and piled upon each other in every conceivable shape.

Restrained From Cremating a Body. New York, Dec. 5.-The widow of George Everall, who died on Nov. 30, 1900, has been restrained by an order just issued by Justice Blanchard from cremating the body of her late husband, to prevent its being buried beside his first wife. A previous injunction restrained the widow, Katherine Everall, from making any disposition whatever of the body of her husband. It was secured on the application of Harry J. Everall, Florence E. Mannegan and Annie E. Archer, the three children of the couple. In an affidavit Everall says that Mr. Everall, Sr., during his life constructed a vault in Woodlawn and requested the son to see that he was buried there beside his first wife. Pending a final order of the court the body will remain in the receiving vault.

Escaped From an Asylum.

New York, Dec. 5 .- John Armstrong Chanler, former husband of Amelie Rives, now the Princess Troubetskoy, cousin of Representative William Astor Chanler and great-grandson of the original John Jacob Astor, who has been confined in Bloomingdale asylum, at White Plains, has escaped, and is supposed to be wandering about the county in Westchester county. Mr. Chanler had been confined in Bloomingdale asylum for two years. As he was tractable he had been allowed certain liberty, which two days ago he took advantage of to walk out of the gates. Mr. Chanler is a millionaire, and had a private room in the institu-

A Senatorship Again Declined.

Minneapolis, Dec. 5 .- Governor Lind, who is a fusionist, has informally offered the appointment as United States senator ad. interim, to succeed Senator Davis, to C. A. Smith, a wealthy Swedish-American lumberman of this city, and a Republican. Mr. Smith has, however, declined the proffer. The governor's appointee would serve only until the legislature, which meets next month, elects. L. L. Brown, of Winona, recently Democratic candidate for congress in the First district, is being urged, and former Congressman C. A. Towne is not altogether out of the case.

Raise Conl Freight Rates.

Philadelphia, Dec. 5.-The Record "Probably no more apparent evidence of the interests secured by the Pennsylvania railroad in the Baltimore and Ohio, Chesapeake and Ohio and Norfolk and Western railroads, and what it signifies both in making and maintaining of rates, is the fact that it is the purpose to advance the tidewater freight rates on bituminous coal 10 per cent on April 1, 1901. These four railroads control the entire output of bituminous coal to tide water, and the harmonious relations existing permits of a concert of action.

The Chicago Explosion.

Chicago, Dec. 5 .- A corrected list of the casualties in the explosion Monday evening of a boiler in the lighting and heating plant of the Chicago and Northwestern railway shows six dead and 16 injured, five of whom probably will die. Hugh McGregor was added yesterday to the list of dead and the injuries of the following will, it is belleved, result fatally: August Beck, Milwaukee; Mrs. Beck, Milwaukee; John Butterworth, Chicago: A. J. Scully, Chicago; George Gillis, Chi-The Becks were returning to Milwaukee after their wedding trip.

Will Sue For Embezzler's Losses. Newport, Ky., Dec. 5.-The United States grand jury yesterday heard testimony in the case of Frank M. Brown, late assistant cashier of the German National bank of Newport, who is charged with embezzling \$191,000 of the bank's funds. Among the witnesses summoned are some known to have knowledge of Brown's losses of money at poolrooms and other places. Receiver Tucker is authority for the statement that the government will undertake to recover the money lost

and spent by Brown.

Robbed His Bride and Fled. Youngstown, O., Dec. 5 .- Mrs. Helen Taylor, 19 years old, who was married in New York a few days ago, has been deserted here by her husband, Theo-dore Taylor. Mrs. Taylor alleges he also relieved her of \$150, all her sav-Taylor represented to his wife that he was to manage a store here. Mrs. Taylor says the money taken was the result of ten years' saving. Her maiden name was Helen Krause.

Schooner Wrecked, Crew Rescued. Atlantic City, Dec. 5.-Waterlogged and sinking, the schooner Oliver Schofield, lumber laden, from Norfolk to New York, came ashore yesterday afternoon above Tom's River life saving station, and is rapidly being pounded

to pieces by the heavy seas which are breaking along the Jersey coast. The crew of the schooner was brought safely ashore. There is no hope for

Steamer Parisian Reported Disabled. Halifax, Dec. 5.-The Allan line steamer Parisian, due yesterday, is reported by a pilot boat to be broken down off Sambro. A pilot boat has just come up the harbor with the intelligence. A flerce gale is blowing.

# PUSHING SUBSIDY BILL

Senator Vest's Amendment to the Shipping Measure.

HOUSE PASSES THREE MEASURES.

One of These Provides For Military Instructors in Public Scools When Desired-House Starts Consideration of Army Reorganization Bill.

Washington, Dec. 5.-The program of the senate leaders for a business session was taken up in earnest yesterday and material progress wa made. What is popularly known as the ship subsidy bill was made the unfinished business of the senate instead of the Spooner Philippine measure, and the discussion of it was opened by Mr. Frye, of Maine, chairman of the committee on commerce from which the measure was reported. He addressed the senate for more than an hour and a half, and had not concluded when the senate adjourned to hold a brief executive session. Just before the adjournment Senator Vest gave notice of an amendment he will offer to the ship subsidy bill. The amendment provides for the repeal of such existing laws "as either prohibit or restrict citizens of the United States from purchasing ships built in other countries to be used in the foreign carrying trade of the United States, or which impose taxes, burdens or restrictions on such ships when owned by American citizens which are not imposed on ships built in the United States." The amendment also makes it lawful "for all citizens of the United States to buy ships built in whole or in part in any foreign country and have them registered as ships of the United States."

The session of the house yesterday was brief. The real work began today, the house considering the army reorganizing bill which Mr. Hull, chairman of the committee on military affairs, reported yesterday. He explained the urgent necessity for immediate action upon this measure, and asked unanimouse consent for the consideration of the bill today. When Mr. Sulzer (N. Y.) objected to the request Mr. Hull introduced a resolution for a special order for the consideration of the bill today, with provision for a vote at the end of six hours' general debate. Mr. Connor (Ia.), the successor of Senator Dolliver, took the oath. Three bills were passed under the call of committees, the most important being one to provide for the detail of not to exceed 100 retired army officers and 300 non-commissioned officers as military instructors in the public schools of such cities as adopt a system of military instruction. The others were "to prevent the failure of military justice" and to legalize an issue of \$250,-000 of bonds by Pima county, Arizona

An Alleged Insurance Murder. Sioux City, Ia., Dec. 5 .- Charges of attempted insurance swindle that cost the life of one of the alleged swindlers are made by J. H. Hurd, of the Laboring Men's Co-operative Life association, who has just returned from an investigation of the case. George A. Barber, of Webster City, Ia., who held a policy for \$7,800 in the company, is dead at Pagosa, Colo., and Mrs. Mary Wright. of Chicago, and W. R. Neff are held at the same place to appear at the coroner's inquest. The policy was made payable to Mrs. Wright, who was alleged to be Barber's afflanced. Hurd charges that Barber was poisoned.

Monstrous Murder in Texas. Dallas, Tex., Dec. 4.-Screams of agony brought policemen to a saloon in East Dallas yesterday. Seated in a chair, unable to move, was a man whose garments were a mass of flames. The officers say Eugene Faulkner and J. W. Chapman were standing behind the bar smoking cigars and watching the unfortunate man, who was being roasted to death. They refused to help the officers put out the fire. The men were arrested, and the victim, who was Pate Bain, a former constable, died in the hospital. Police declare turpentine was poured on Bain's clothes and a match applied.

American Capital in England. London, Dec. 5 .- The Daily Express publishes an interview this morning with Mr. Frank Hawley, an electrical promoter, who is now in London in the interest of an American syndicate. Mr. Hawley says the capita'ists he represents are ready to expend no less than £4,000,000 in the construction of electric surface railroads in London and the suburbs to a radius of 30 miles. Not a penny of British capital will be asked. Mr. Hawley expresses himself. as confident that the undertaking will be a financial success.

Riotous Strikers Locked Up. Latrobe, Pa., Dec. 5 .- A riot occurred here yesterday at the works of the Bessemer Coal and Coke company. Three deputy sheriffs were injured, and as a result the borough prison is full of strikers. The injured are: Deputy A. K. Baker, ribs broken; Deputy David Detrick and Deputy Logan, badly bruised. Then men are striking against the adoption by the company of the Connellsville scale.

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MOON'S PHASES.

VERY DAY adds to the l'a list of deaths attributed

to heart failure. If the truth were told the bulk of these deaths might be written down as due to stomach failure. For it is in the failure of the stomach and other organs of digestion and nutrition, that "weak" heart, "weak" lungs, "weak" nerves and other forms of physical deterioration have their beginning. The man whose stomach is sound, who can digest and assimilate the food he eats, and so

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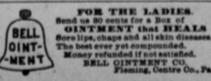
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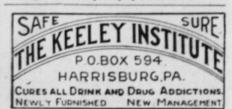
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