

A SILVER STRUGGLE.

Majority Recommendations to the Powers All That Is Hoped for by

OUR DELEGATES ABROAD.

Most of the Heavy Work Being Done Outside the Conference.

A POPULAR FORM OF GAMBLING.

Misleading Word Contests That Keep Postal Clerks Very Busy.

PEACEFUL IS GLADSTONE'S CABINET

(BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH.)

LONDON, Nov. 26.—(Copyright.)—The Brussels Monetary Conference has wasted its first week, so far as its actual sessions go. In reality, however, the genuine work must be done outside the convention hall in the private consultation of the delegates.

The American delegates are ready to put in any amount of miscellaneous effort of this sort, and they have not been idle these first few days.

They already realize, however, that it will be practically impossible to secure the endorsement of any monetary plan whatever by the present body.

The reason for this is that the delegates from half a dozen or more countries, including Russia, Italy, Greece, Roumania and Switzerland, are forbidden even to express an opinion at the conference.

Their instructions are simply, "go to Brussels, listen, say nothing and report to us what you hear." The German and Austrian delegates have a little more discretion. They are at liberty to discuss the subject without reserve, but they are forbidden to agree to any modification of existing monetary legislation in those countries.

Europe Not Willing for a Change.

Practically all the delegates are forbidden in any way to pledge their governments, but in the case of Germany and Austria the instructions almost imply an unwillingness to make any change.

On the part of Great Britain the attitude is unexpectedly conciliatory. Her delegates say unreservedly that representation at the conference under the form of legislation issued by the United States implied the acceptance of the principle that some measure is necessary for increasing the use of silver as currency by the nations.

The conference is, undoubtedly, disposed to deal with the question in the form in which it was presented by Senator Allison.

Most delegates recognized the wisdom of postponing its consideration in this form until all the special resolutions which will be presented have been discussed and disposed of.

The individual theories will most of them be dealt with in committee, and by the time all have been threshed out the conference will be ready to seek an agreement, if possible, point by point on the lines submitted by the American delegation yesterday.

A Majority Recommendation Hoped For.

The most that can be hoped is a majority recommendation to the nations, and the American delegates still have strong expectations that such a result will be reached.

They are thoroughly satisfied with the temper of the conference, as indicated in its reception of the programme offered yesterday.

No meeting of the conference was held to-day, the adjournment yesterday being until Monday. General expectations center on the plan that will be put forward by Alfred de Rothschild. The bi-metallics are sanguine that it will form the basis for a solution of the questions before the conference.

On the other hand, mono-metallics declare that in view of the position taken by the German and Austrian delegates, and the probable attitude of the British representatives, the conference is certain to fail, and it will only be a waste of time to prolong the discussion.

It was said yesterday that Mr. de Rothschild's proposals would be made public to-day, but the text of the proposals has not yet been completed. Mr. de Rothschild said to-day that they will not be seen in their final shape until Monday.

A Proposition for the Purchase of Silver.

Among the various rumors in circulation to which the delegates attach importance, is one that the various European powers will yearly buy silver to the minimum amount of \$5,000,000 sterling at a price to be fixed by general agreement, on condition that the United States continues silver purchases to the extent of \$4,000,000 ounces.

Notwithstanding the fact that Mr. de Rothschild refuses to make any proposals until Monday, the report is generally credited that they contain a statement that an international syndicate should be formed to buy silver until the normal value of the metal is re-established.

IMPUDENCE OF A LONDON THIEF.

He Places a Stolen Purse in the Pocket of a Bishop.

(BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH.)

LONDON, Nov. 26.—The most impudent rascal at large in England visited a charity fair at London Thursday and committed by slight-of-hand series of robberies which are usually accomplished only by the gentle violence of sweet words and beseeching glances at such places.

After stealing a dozen purses the thief deftly slipped one of the rifled "leathers" into the pocket of the Most Reverend Bishop of Lincoln, where it was found by the astonished prelate, and empty to its owner, the wife of a town councillor.

SOCIALISM GROWING POPULAR.

In London It Has Now Reached a Very Far-Advanced Stage.

(BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH.)

LONDON, Nov. 26.—The London City Council has now fully committed itself to the policy of abolishing the contractor or middleman whenever possible. Sir William Harcourt says that we are all more or less Socialists in these days, and certainly the London City Council is a body very far advanced on socialistic lines.

THE ISLE OF CRUSOE.

A Visit to the Secluded Spot Made Famous by Daniel Defoe.

ONLY 28 INHABITANTS EVEN NOW.

More Than an Abundance of Fish in the Surrounding Waters.

EXPLORED BY CHILEAN NAVAL CADETS

(CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH.)

VALPARAISO, CHILE, Nov. 8.—The Chilean corvette Abtao, commanded by Captain Ricardo Beaugrency, sailed last July with a number of graduates from the Naval Academy. Her voyage was of two months' duration, and as it was known that the vessel would call at the celebrated island of Juan Fernandez, Captain Beaugrency offered a prize to the graduate who would write the best description of the island. The competition was among members of the graduating class, but after examining the merits of the examinations the Captain awarded the prize to Cadet Victor Vergara, a son of Senor Juan de Dios Vergara, a prominent lawyer of Valparaiso.

The island of Juan Fernandez, the scene where the imaginary story of Crusoe is laid, is known by the name of *Mas-a-Tierra* (nearest to the land) from its proximity to

the coast of Chile. This name is given to the island to distinguish it from another small island known as *Mas-a-Fuera* (further), situated nearly 100 miles to the westward. To the Spanish mariners Juan Fernandez the two islands owe their nomenclature.

Mas-a-Tierra is the only island inhabited at the present time. Situated at a distance of 350 miles from Valparaiso, *Mas-a-Tierra* rises from the ocean in the guise of an advanced sentry of the continent. The discovery of these islands was due to one of those legendary navigators, the navigator in his voyages across the ocean—the trade winds. Juan Fernandez in discovering these lands became aware of the story of these winds that up to the period of his voyage along the coast of the southern continent had been ignored.

DISCOVERED BY FERNANDEZ.

Among the companions of Pizarro there came to Peru a Spanish pilot named Juan Fernandez. Born in Andalusia, Fernandez possessed the clear and penetrating character and lively disposition that distinguishes the people of the old Spanish provinces, but withal, his historic states, his career was marked by exhibitions of a cruel and malicious temper. George, John and Anthony de Ulloa were companions of Fernandez in his sea voyages, and the quartet had agreed to stand by each other in such good luck as might fall to their lot in the new lands. Fernandez was among the first who navigated the coasts of Chile and Peru, and with the observing powers of a sailor he soon discovered by the heavy westerly winds that their origin could be accounted for by the presence of winds in the same quarter.

Taking advantage of these observations, leaving the port of Talcahuano for Callao on his first return voyage, he made the passage in 14 days from port to port. Incredible and unbelieveable mariners doubt the statements of Fernandez and he was openly denounced as a sorcerer in league with the devil, but many followed his advice relating to the route to be sailing over the seas in rapid time. Fernandez, on his second voyage from Callao discovered in 1503 the island that now bears his name, and his Majesty, Charles V., granted by royal decree the name *San Juan de los Rios* to the mariner and his heirs forever.

A NEST OF PIRATES.

In 1616 Le Maire and Schouten, two commanders of piratical craft, sailed from the Texel for the South Sea. In the *La Vinta* Horn, Le Maire discovered the strange now bearing his name, and Cape Horn, so called from the vessel's name, was also discovered.

Westerly winds brought the vessels to the island, and the pirates, and there the pirates rovers rested to recruit their bodies and repair their craft. After these Dutch marauders sailed away, Sharp, the English buccannier, appeared on the scene, and from the islands a post his vessel laid waste the town of La Serena and other settlements on the Chilean coast. In succeeding years other pirate rovers visited Juan Fernandez, utilizing the island as their depot for the storage and distribution of plunder obtained along the Peruvian and Chilean coasts. It is said that Sharp's occupation, and who is known to the world through Defoe's work as Crusoe's man Friday. During the seventeenth century it is known that six Dutch sailors, deserters from the *La Vinta*, lived on the islands, but for nearly a century they were deserted.

The English vessel, the *Cinco Ports*, arrived at *Mas-a-Tierra* in 1704. Her mate was Alexander Selkirk, and, whether from his own inclination or in consequence of alterations with the captain, he decided to abandon his vessel and remain on the

island. How Selkirk lived and the manner in which he employed his time on the solitary island are events graphically described by Defoe. Four years and four months passed, until, in 1709, Davis, who was commander of the *Privateer*, one of Lord Anson's squadron, came to Cumberland Bay, and once again Selkirk found himself in company with people who spoke his own tongue and treated him kindly. Until he became sure of the nationality of the strangers, who he imagined were Spaniards, he refused to visit them at their camp, but hearing their speak English he joined the party and left in their vessel his island home. Thus in brief is the narrative that distinguishes this solitary grove.

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Without doubt that part of the island most interesting to visitors is the site of the old forts and buildings erected by the Spaniards, situated at Portezuelo and *Caleta* where Selkirk lived. The city founded by the Spanish commander was called *La Ciudad de San Juan Bautista*. The foundations of the fort are still visible, while a number of ancient cannon are buried amid a dense growth of gigantic ferns and semi-tropical vegetation. Two small forts, one at Godfish Point (*Punta Godfish*), the other under *Caleta*, are still remaining in partial preservation, the smooth and regularly laid masonry testifying to the careful work of the Spaniards. There were two forts or settlements, one on the level plateau where the cemetery now exists, the other in the valley leading to the *Cordon Salado-Pedregal*. Visitors can still decipher the outlines of the edifices which remain legible on the tombstones erected to the memory of those who died on the island during the latter portion of this century.

Upon the ruins of the fort at the base of Goat Hill the present sub-intendant of the island.

He Brings a Woman With Him.

Mr. Waterman arrived at the *Ribehuel* a week ago Thursday, accompanied by a proselyting little woman whom he registered as Miss Lillie Boone, of Denver. Being well known at the hotel on previous visits, his presence had been noted, and even the bootblacks and bell boys had lived on champagne at his expense. On the present occasion, however, his first remark after registering was a request for a loan of \$50.

Unfortunately a little unpleasant information regarding his recent doings had preceded him. It was known he had lost his position with the Colorado Midland and 10 children of both sexes. These people are vigorous and hardy physically, strong and well built.

WEALTH IN THE WATERS.

In the small rivulets on the island there is no fish, while the contrary, team with the fishy tribe. The color of the water is a deep electric blue, clear and translucent. At a depth of six fathoms the bottom is a deep blue, and the water is plain visible crawling around and into the crevices of the rocks.

The supply of fish is practically inexhaustible and must at some future time become a source of profit for some enterprising concern that will procure the necessary outfit for catching them in large numbers and shipping them to Valparaiso. The lobster, codfish, sea mullet, sea mullet, turbot, flounders, haddock, sea mullet, sardines, rock cod and many other varieties of fish are all to be caught in shallow waters.

Oysters, too, with white shells, are found in abundance clinging to the rocky shores, and are of delicious flavor. The lobsters are of the largest size known to exist in the Pacific Ocean, their shells tender and juicy, and there is no doubt if brought in a fresh state to Valparaiso they would meet with a ready sale.

NOT A PLACE FREQUENTLY VISITED.

It is very rare that vessels call at the island; ships go past, sailing over the scene within the gaze of all the residents, but unless it be a Government vessel on its annual visit from Valparaiso no sound of cable rattling through the masts is heard from the island. Clothing of all kinds, the simple luxuries of life, such as tea, coffee, sugar, salt beef and tobacco, are eagerly sought for by these people in exchange for fish, sealskins, pieces of sandal wood and other products of the island.

After descending the Portezuelo, a visit was made to the prison, a series of artificial caves constructed by the Spaniards at the base of the "Hill of the Goats." These caves were supposed to have been the residence of exiles from the mainland when Horn, Spang and the other Spaniards, during the excitement under the regime of

FOUR DAYS OF FRAUD.

A Man Who Was Once a Railroad Officer Now a Fugitive.

HE MAKES A RECORD IN CHICAGO

Among Big Hotels and Jewelry, Which Was Brief but Brilliant.

TRAVELING WITH A PRETTY WOMAN.

CHICAGO, Nov. 26.—Confiding friends of J. K. Waterman, late general freight agent of the Colorado Midland Railway, also a "high roller" at the Richelieu, an other ultrafashionable hotels throughout the country, believe to-day that he should be placed behind the bars of some especially secure jail.

Mr. Waterman was visibly present in Chicago only on Thursday of last week until last Monday morning, but in that short time he managed to obtain \$100 from the Richelieu and \$75 from the Victoria upon checks which have since been dishonored, to leave these hotels with unpaid board bills of good size; to obtain \$190 from Hugo Zelman, of the American Cafe, and to walk away with \$400 worth of jewelry from Spaulding & Co., who as yet have received no equivalent therefor. Up to the present his standing in Chicago has been of the highest, his friends legion and his ability to command almost any amount of money unquestioned.

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SISTERS BUT RIVAL.

One Had a Bean, the Other Took Him Away, and Now the Lost Prize LIES IN A PREMATURE GRAVE.

THE FIRST OF THE GIRLS PRESUMABLY A SUICIDE AND A MURDERER.

A MINNESOTA COBURNER'S SAD TASK

LA SORBIE, MINN., Nov. 26.—St. Henry, a country neighborhood 12 miles from this city, is in the throes of a tremendous sensation, in which love, jealousy, revenge and death figure. Two people, in the full enjoyment of health but three days ago, are now cold in death.

Tuesday morning word reached here that Joseph Houser, a prosperous farmer, had suddenly died of heart disease. On Wednesday the information also reached here that Miss Agnes Bear, a sister of Houser's wife, had died in the same manner. Houser was buried Thursday, but pending the burial of Miss Bear, a letter written by her was found which throws some light on the tragedy, and the funeral was postponed until the Coroner could be summoned and an inquest held.

While the letter does not own that the writer was the cause of Houser's death, it gives directions that she should be buried by his side and shows clearly that she contemplated suicide. At the scene of the double tragedy to-day hundreds of people gathered and the excitement was intense.

Houser had but just arisen on the morning of his death and had taken nothing but a chew of tobacco, when he complained of feeling strangely and almost immediately fell over, dying within an hour. The girl was at the house while he was being put into his coffin, and declared that she soon would go. Leaving the premises at 9 A. M. following the day of his death, she was a corpse within an hour after reaching home.

Miss Bear was 28 years of age and had "kept company." It is said, with Houser some time; but last August, while at Minneapolis, he married a younger sister. He was a popular young man in prosperous surroundings, and an enemy in the world, and his sudden death in so mysterious a manner, followed so soon by that of his former sweetheart, leads to the belief that her unrequited love prompted her to take his life as well as her own. It is probable that the remains of Houser will be exhumed and that the inquest now in session will also examine into the cause of his death.

Robins College Degrees Advertised.

LONDON, Nov. 26.—For some time past certain English newspapers have contained imposing advertisements, stating that degrees of the National University of the State of Illinois could be had at prices ranging from 10 to 20 guineas. These advertisements are signed "Prof. Van Angelbeck, Secretary," and give the name of Broughton House, of Christ College, Cambridge University, as the English agent.

Anarchy Unpopular in London.

(BY CABLE TO THE DISPATCH.)

LONDON, Nov. 26.—The Anarchists engaged Trafalgar Square for to-morrow afternoon, to hold a meeting to protest against the extradition of Dynamiter Francois, of Paris. The projectors of the meeting notified the police this evening that they had decided to abandon the demonstration. Anarchy is not popular in London just now, and the decision is a wise one.

Monday's Trial Lists.

Common Pleas No. 1—Dindiner vs. Kaufman et al, Roth vs. Clark, Wolf vs. Porter, Rodder vs. Porter, Beckwith vs. Flinn, Barton vs. Smith, et al, Laffy vs. Simpson, et al, Brown vs. borough of Homestead, Hill for use vs. Wilbert et al, Doran vs. Zoller, Burgess vs. Columbia Iron and Steel Company, Lightner vs. Boyer et al, Demulston vs. House Life Insurance and Investment Company.

Common Pleas No. 2—Wanda vs. Boyner, Conroy vs. Pittsford, Times, Nevins vs. the P. R. Co., Stewart vs. the Pittsford Traction Company, Sord vs. Chess, Fahnestock vs. Loos, Coleman vs. Clark, McInnes vs. Sharp.

DRIVERS AND TEAMSTERS

Don't fall to our fur lined and water-proof cloth overcoats. Nothing like them for warmth and rough wear. \$5. SOLOMON & KURSK.

THREE DIVORCES REFUSED.

Judge Slagle Objects to the Manner in Which They Are Presented.

Judge Slagle yesterday refused three decrees in divorce. In the case of Elizabeth

Shafer against Henry Shafer it appears that the proper publication of the notice as required by the act of Assembly was not made. The bill of the libellant in the case of Catherine Meyer against Jacob Meyer, sets forth "that the said Jacob Meyer has offered such indignities to the person of your petitioner as to render her condition intolerable and her life burdensome," but fails to add "and thereby forced her to withdraw from his house and family," which the Court considers the important element in this ground for divorce, and holds that it was an essential part of the offense and must be alleged and proven.

In the case of Andrew Johnson against Sarah Johnson, the Court says there was an allegation in the petition or proof in the testimony to show that the plaintiff was a resident of this county and the commissioner had no right to go outside of the county to take testimony without authority from the Court. The facts upon which the divorce is asked are capable of satisfactory proof and such should be furnished.

Divorces were granted in the cases of Jennie Wandless against James H. Wandless, for desertion; Jane E. Conliffe against Peter Conliffe, for desertion; Sarah Darden against Alfred Darden, cruelty; Walter Oridge against Mary Oridge, infidelity.

Three new suits were entered yesterday. They were: Eva Diekel vs. Charles Diekel, for desertion; George L. Francis vs. Mary Francis, infidelity, and Oras D. DeLo vs. Charles H. DeLo, cruelty and desertion.

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THE VILLAGE OF THE ISLAND.

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