

ENGLAND HAS FAITH IN US Willing to Abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty.

CONDITIONS AT PRESENT

That Obstacle to Our Construction of the Nicaragua Canal Will Be Removed Probably - Guarantee of Neutrality of the Waterway Demanded - Significance of Mr. White's Visit to English Cabinet Ministers - Any Wrong Impression Made by the President's Message Cleared Up.

London, Dec. 23.—There seems to be little doubt that Great Britain will agree to abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. The temper of the cabinet and public opinion, which largely influences the government's policy, points to such action, though no definite understanding with the United States has yet been reached.

TAX ON MEDICINE.

An Important Revenue Decision Rendered by Assistant Attorney General Boyd.

Washington, Dec. 23.—An important decision rendered by Assistant Attorney General Boyd and approved by the attorney general was sent to the secretary of the treasury today constraining section 20 of the revenue act relative to taxes under schedule B, on medicinal articles and preparations.

TRANCE FOR FIVE MONTHS.

Strange Case of Miss Tony Brosheit of Milwaukee.

Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 23.—Tony Brosheit, a young woman 23 years of age, who has been in a trance for the past five months at her home in this city, was yesterday her normal condition through the influence of hypnotism.

LORBER WILL BE RELEASED.

He Surrendered at San Francisco When Wanted for Murder.

New York, Dec. 23.—Isidor Lorber, who surrendered himself to the police in San Francisco and is now being held for the New York authorities, will probably be released. The police state that all Lorber did was to desert his wife and there was no suspicion that Lorber had anything to do with her death which occurred three days after his departure.

MEXICAN TREATY.

Grave Complications Are Threatened on the Border.

Washington, Dec. 23.—The state department has not been advised of the reported negotiation of any extradition treaty between the United States and Mexico, and unless some steps are taken speedily looking to the replacement of the present treaty which is just about to expire the conditions will be very grave on the border.

Secretary Hay on Duty.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Secretary Hay resumed his duties at the state department today although still suffering from the effects of an attack of grip.

BOOKS WERE BURNED.

Additional Evidence Against the Standard Oil Company.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 23.—Evidence was secured from additional witnesses today to show that the books and papers belonging to the Standard Oil company had been destroyed on Nov. 19 and 21.

UNCLE SAM TAKES ANOTHER ISLAND

THE FLAG WILL BE RAISED OVER WAKE ISLAND.

It Will Be Used as a Cable Station Between the Philippines, Hawaii and the United States When the Pacific Line Is Laid—The Island Not Inhabited—Temporary Residence of Guano Gatherers.

Washington, Dec. 23.—The government has determined to hoist the flag over another island far out in the Pacific ocean and orders were sent out late this afternoon to the commander of the Bonington, Captain Tausig, to proceed at once to take possession in the name of the United States government of Wake Island lying in latitude 19° N., longitude 155° E. It is distant about 2,000 miles from Niihau, the westernmost of the Hawaiian islands and 1,300 miles east from Guam. It is almost in a direct line between these possessions of the United States and is admirably adapted for use as a station for a Pacific cable to connect the Philippines with Hawaii and the United States. It is about three miles in length and encloses a lagoon of salt water. The average height of the island is eight feet above high water. It is scarcely capable in itself of sustaining life but it is expected that a cable station can be maintained without difficulty by the erection of a condenser to supply fresh water.

SENOR SAGASTA SICK.

Suffering from Pneumonia—Six Physicians in Attendance.

Madrid, Dec. 23.—The condition of Senor Sagasta, the premier, now causes grave anxiety. Six physicians were in consultation this afternoon regarding his case and all agreed that he is suffering from bronchial pneumonia, with high temperature and unfavorable absence of expectoration. The newspapers express great sympathy.

FILIPINOS WANT INDEPENDENCE

Aguinaldo's Representation Sends Letters to Eugene Hale—Not Satisfied with Military Government.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Senator Hale received yesterday two letters from Filipinos in London, touching the proposed annexation of the Philippine islands. The first letter is from Aguinaldo, the Filipino representative who came to Washington in behalf of Aguinaldo's interests, and later went to Paris with the hope of influencing the peace commission. The letter says:

GRIP AT WILKES-BARRE.

The Mayor Has Been Advised That the City Is Too Dirty.

Wilkes-Barre, Dec. 23.—A grip epidemic is threatened in Wilkes-Barre. Hundreds of people are down with the disease. Mayor Nicholas issued a proclamation this afternoon urging citizens to thoroughly clean their premises.

UNLAWFUL COMBINATION.

Black Man and White Woman Sent to Prison in Maryland.

Cumberland, Md., Dec. 23.—John Rowland, colored, and Martha Craven, the white woman he married, were each sentenced by Judge Boyd today to eighteen months in the county jail, the minimum penalty for miscegenation. When Judge Boyd asked if they had anything to say why sentence should not be pronounced, Rowland arose and said he believed the girl had colored blood in her veins, and that in marrying her he acted in good faith.

BOARDING HOUSE BURNED.

John Rigo Cremated—Murder Suspected.

Lorain, O., Dec. 23.—John Dalton's restaurant and boarding house was burned early today. There were several boarders in the house, all escaping except John Rigo, a man whose home was in Chicago. His remains were found after the fire had been extinguished and the condition of the body is such as to lead to the belief of murder and the firing of the building to cover the crime.

Brooke Leaves for Havana.

Savannah, Ga., Dec. 23.—Gen. John R. Brooke and the members of his staff left this afternoon for Miami, where they will take a steamer for Havana. General Brooke has been in Savannah several days recovering from an illness which began soon after his return from Porto Rico.

Respite for Johnson.

Danville, Ind., Dec. 23.—John Johnson, who was in jail here last Tuesday, was granted another respite today when Judge Ryan said a petition with two thousand signatures has been presented to the governor for life imprisonment.

GAS CORNERED.

The Pittsburg Gas Companies Have Consolidated.

New York, Dec. 23.—It is announced today that the consolidation of all the local gas light and heating companies of Pittsburg, Pa., has been successfully accomplished. The combination was managed by Brown Bros., bankers, of this city. The capital investment is \$3,000,000.

DESPERATE FIGHT WITH BURGLARS

THEY SHOOT A FARM HAND NAMED MOONEY.

Passing Through Casaville with a Stolen Horse and Cutter, They Are Pursued by a Poise of Farmers. In the Battle Mooney Is Shot in the Abdomen and Very Seriously Wounded.

Utica, N. Y., Dec. 23.—Two men were seen entering the barn on the farm of Mrs. Margaret Brown, near Casaville, last night. Mrs. Brown's son and a farm hand named Mooney halted the men, who fired upon them with revolvers, a bullet striking Mooney in the abdomen and inflicting a dangerous wound. The robbers jumped into a sleigh and drove towards Utica. Neighbors of Mrs. Brown telephoned for a surgeon and gave pursuit to the robbers, who in their flight dropped an overcoat which belonged to a man at Unadilla Forks, whose house they had robbed and whose horse and cutter they had stolen. The rig was abandoned four miles from this city, near Yorkville. At the latter place the men took breakfast.

MRS. BOTKIN'S TRIAL.

Admits That She Was Intimate with John P. Dunning.

San Francisco, Dec. 23.—The trial of Mrs. Cordelia Botkin is nearing its end. The defense concluded its case today with the testimony of the accused woman.

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THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today: Fair; Colder; Northwesterly Winds.

- 1 General-Spanish Evacuation of Cuba. Another Island for Uncle Sam. Great Britain Willing to Abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty. Pierce Fight with Robbers. 2 General-Dun's Review of Trade, Financial and Commercial. 3 Local-Christmas Services in the Various City Churches. 4 Editorial, Comment of the Press. 5 Local-Social and Personal. Her Point of View. 6 Local-Meeting of the Board of Control. 7 Local-D. & H. Freight Train Crashes Into a Trolley Car. Attorneys Had a War of Words in Court. 8 Local-West Scranton and Suburban. 9 News Round About Scranton. 10 Law in Interest of Dumb Animals. 11 Sunday School Lesson for Tomorrow. Joseph Jefferson. 12 General-News of the Soldier Boys at Camp McKenzie.

GOVERNOR EASTINGS ENTERTAINS STAFF

A Pleasing Social Event at Harrisburg—The Guests Present.

Harrisburg, Dec. 23.—Governor Eastings entertained the members of his military staff at a dinner this evening in the executive mansion. The affair was in charge of Private Secretary Beiler and was one of the most charming social events of the Eastings regime. The staff will return the compliment to the governor at Philadelphia on the evening of January 5. The mansion was beautifully decorated and the table decorations were the most profuse ever seen at the state capital. The high side boards and the hard wood mantels of the dining room, on the first floor, were filled with masses of bright green ferns and the darker shade of holly leaves. The table was of unique design, somewhat after the form of a huge leaf and large enough to accommodate comfortably the twenty-five guests who surrounded it. The table was constructed of tightly stretched wire webbing, overlaid with red and gold, which in turn was covered with rare lace. A large cut glass center piece was supported by stacked muskets and sabres and decorated with holly, Roman hyacinths, American beauties and pearl de jardin roses, the hollow center of the table being outlined in gold and red electric lights with cut glass shades, each entwined with a bunch of holly in berry. In the barrels of each of the muskets was stuck a small silk American flag and on either side of the centre-piece was a large silver candelabrum. The bay window just back of the table was decorated with two state flags on either side of an American flag and with stands of arms at each side. The grillwork of the window was filled with holly. Opposite the window the white silk flag of the commander-in-chief was draped above the table from a silver staff embedded in the mantel. The military character of the function was charmingly emphasized by the sabres, muskets, side-arms and flags, while at either end poised doves holding small American flags typified peace.

ALL MASONS INVITED.

Special Sermon to Members of Order at Penn Avenue Baptist Church. Commemorating St. John's Day, which is held in veneration by the Masonic fraternity, Rev. Mr. Pierce, of the Penn Avenue Baptist church, will preach a sermon to the members of the several Masonic organizations of Scranton tomorrow evening at 7 o'clock.

APPEAL IN THE KELLER CASE.

It Has Been Allowed by the Supreme Court. An appeal has been allowed by the supreme court in the case of Joseph Keller, of Dunmore, who was convicted of manslaughter in the killing of Peter Meyer last July.

STEAMSHIP ARRIVALS.

New York, Dec. 23.—Cleared: La Bretagne, Havre; Lucania, Liverpool; Statendam, Rotterdam via Boulogne. Sailed: St. Paul, Southampton; Germania, Liverpool; Friedland, Antwerp. Queenstown, Dec. 23.—Arrived: Umbria, New York for Liverpool and proceeded.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, Dec. 23.—Forecast for Saturday, December 24: Partly cloudy, fair and colder till Sunday; night, fresh northwesterly winds.

ARRANGING EVACUATION

The Programme Agreed Upon for January 1st.

Havana, Dec. 23.—At the joint meeting of the United States and the Spanish military commissioners today the programme was finally agreed upon for the change of flags on Jan. 1 at noon. Just between 12 o'clock the American warships will fire a salute of twenty-one guns in honor of the Spanish flag. Promptly at 12 the Spanish flags on the various public buildings will be lowered and immediately thereafter the Stars and Stripes will be hoisted over El Morro and the public buildings of the city, while Spanish artillery at Cabanas fortress will salute the American flag with twenty-one guns, Spanish warships in the harbor participating in the salute.

RAISING THE BANNERS

The Stars and Stripes Will Float from the Public Buildings in Havana at 12 O'clock - Spanish Troops Remaining After Noon Will Be Considered in Light of Foreign Troops.

At the same hour the Spanish troops, if any then remain in the city, will be paraded in barracks and will render proper salutes to the American forces passing.

SPANISH TROOPS.

It was agreed at the joint meeting that the Spanish troops remaining in Cuba after Jan. 1 should be considered in the light of foreign troops in a friendly country and to be accorded the privileges usually granted under international law. The quarters, buildings and the streets of Havana are to be covered by the immunities of extra-territoriality and further stipulations were entered into respecting the prevention of any disturbance of public order consequent upon their presence.

BANQUET OF MASONS.

Green Ridge Lodge Feasted at the Hotel Rudolph.

Green Ridge lodge, No. 597, Free and Accepted Masons, banqueted at the Hotel Rudolph last night. Earlier in the evening the newly elected officers were installed at a meeting in the lodge room at Green Ridge.

KELLY IMPEACHMENT CASE.

All of the Testimony on the Part of Petitioners Is In. At yesterday's hearing of the impeachment proceedings against Alderman John Kelly, of the Eleventh ward, the final testimony on the part of the petitioners was offered.

ST. LOUIS SIGHTED.

New York, Dec. 23.—The American steamer St. Louis, from Southampton, was sighted east of Fire Island at 1:13 p. m. The American peace commissioners are on board.

FRENCH STAMP DUTY.

Paris, Dec. 23.—The chamber of deputies today adopted a bill imposing a stamp duty of 1 per cent. on foreign securities.