Scranton Tribune.

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State Library

GOV. STONE OPENS THE CAMPAIGN

The State Executive Defends His Own Administration at a Meeting in Pittsburg.

DEMOCRATS ARRAIGNED

A Pointed Reference Is Made to the Platform of the Party of Discontent and Alleged Reform, Which Contains Little Save Complaint at the Progress of Republicanism—A Document That Appears to Be a Reprint of the Most Vicious Falsehoods Emanating from the Yellow Journals—Governor Prepared to Meet Every Issue in Pennsylvania Politics.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Pittsburg, Sept. 29.—At a rousing meeting at old city hall Governor Stone last night opened the state campaign in Pittsburg and vicinity. He spoke for nearly two hours and was repeatedly cheered. Among other things the governor said:

"I am here tonight to say to this large audience that the Republican party in Pennsylvania is still worthy of your confidence and support. I am willing to meet every issue in Pennsylvania politics. I will not run away from anything, or anybody, or dodge any questions. I claim that throughout this state the Republican party presents a solid front to the Democratic party, and that wth the excepton of a few newspapers that have no party and no country, but which at times support the Republican ticket, we have no disaffection

The speaker then declared he had vetoed two years ago the two constitutional amendments which are to be voted on this fall because he doubted that it would result in the "reforms claimed for it." He declared, nevertheless, that the amendment for personal registration in cities would not meet with serious opposition. The other amendment, Mr. Stone said, "seeks to place a voting machine in every district,' at a cost of $1,500,000, adding, "I don't think it possble to invent a machine that will make dishonest election officers honest, and if they are honest you don't need a machine. I think it is a scheme to make money for those interested in the patents."

Democrats Arraigned.

"What are the issues in Pennsylvania this fall?" the governor asked, and continued: "The Democratic party adopted what they called a platform and the yellow journals crowed triumphantly and spoke of the ringing declaration; called it an able production and lauded it to the skies. They could not very well do anything else, for the so-caled platform is nothing but a reprint of the same falsehoods published in these yellow journals for weeks before the convention assembled.

"There is not a single declaration in their platform that is true. I thought that they would say something about free silver. I don't know what they could say, but something ought to have been said; something should have been said about imperialism They say nothing about free trade Not a word about Aguinaldo and Bryan They seem afraid to declare for any man or measure.

"Their platform contains no utterance of party faith, but a series of charges against the present state government and the Republican party. It declares 'that every department of our state government is honey-combed with profligacy, dishonesty and reckless disregard of constitutional or moral obligations;' that 'the powers of government are prostituted to the purposes of public thieves.'"

Governor Stone then asked his hearers if they thought State Librarian Reed, Superintendent of Public Instruction Schaeffer, the state treasurer and other officials were theves.

The governor continued:

They charge the last legislature with being corrupt. The Democratic convention may have knowledge of corruption that I do not have. Some members of that convention may have evidence unknown to me. There were men in that convention who were members of that legislature, and who might more properly have given their information while the legislature was in session and possibly helped to check bribery, if there was bribery.

I look with discredit upon men who, themselves members of a legislative body, sit quietly and participate in their sessions with knowledge of a wrong-doing and do not raise their voices against it, but wait until the denunciations may affect the fall election and then charge their associates with bribery. I am willing to join this convention in the declaration that no Democratic member who received a bribe ought to be returned. I am willing to go further and say that any member of the any legislature who takes a bribe ought not to be re-elected to that office or to any other office, no matter what his politics.

The first great crime which this wicked legislature committed, in the opinion of the Democratic convention, was the re-election of Senator Quay. If that was a crime, it was one in which the people of Pennsylvania jointly participated. It was the ratification of an issue that was settled by the people at the previous November election. It settled one thing in the Republican party for all time; that the will of the majority shall rule. Those who opposed him, as well as those who favored him, were glad of it, and no one has questioned it since, except the Democratic convention.

This remarkable platform says that "the legislature proceeded to that other and greater robbery of the railway franchises of the state, worth millions to the plunderers, and stripping every city, town and township in the commonwealth of the proper control of its streets for trolley improvements." This is a ridiculous statement, as well as a false one. The elevated and underground railway law is new and became necessary to relieve thickly congested streets in large cities. The Supreme court had decided that there was no authority to build and operate any elevated railway. Both laws provide that the consent of councils must first be obtained. The law simply gives the power to council to grant the right. There cannot be any valid objection to the laws, because the consent to build must first be obtained from the people affected, through their representatives in councils. The laws are wholly unobjectionable. The railways contemplated in many instances may be objectionable.

Discussed New Laws.

Governor Stone then passed to a discussion of general laws passed by the last legislature, saying:

"The last legislature passed more good and necessary general laws than any legislature within the last twenty years." Among such laws the speaker enumerated the new forestry act, the law punishing kidnappers of children with life imprisonment, the law providing for the pensioning of judges the act commuting sentences of convicts, the new oleo laws, the juvenile court laws, the store order tax law and other legislation for miners and the law prohibiting marriage of first cousins. As to the act commuting sentences of convicts, the speaker said it had been demanded by those interested in penology for years. Taking up the appropriation for the new capitol building, the speaker made this promise:

The four men who have been appointed commissioners to complete the capitol building are honest and capable men. That capitol will be completed within the time named in the law and for the money named in the law. Not a dollar more will be expended and not a day's more time will be asked. The yellow journals could not assail the personal character of the commissioners, because these men are known throughout the state. They were greatly disappointed. They had cartooned the capitol building as a plum tree, and said that I was saving it for the gang and would shake it for their benefit, and when they found that I had done just what I always intended to do and had appointed an honest commission they were disappointed.

Were the insane asylums and hospitals crippled by the reduction of appropriations? Let me tell you that each insane asylum and hospital got more after the reductions were made than they have received before. Why was I able to take off $2,000,000 and still give them more than before? The decision of the Supreme court that the governor had the right to reduce an item in the appropriation bill left no doubt about the power to do it, and the senators and members knew that I would do it if the appropriations exceeded the estimated revenue, and so much larger appropriations got through than otherwise would have gotten through. I do not blame the senators and members. They know that I would have to take the responsibility any way, and so they thought while I was about it I might as well take a part of their responsibility as my own. They knew, too, that I did not care much about newspaper criticism.

Taking up the Democratic platform, the governor continued:

Democratic Platform.

That platform is not only false, but it is anarchistic. It teaches anarcy. What is anarchy? Webster defines it as absence of government—that there shall be no kings, no presidents, no rulers or laws. What is the best and most effective way to convince people that this doctrine is right? By teaching them that officials and administrations are corrupt? By teaching that officeholders are thieves? There is no difference between the teachings of Emma Goldman and this platform. Emma Goldman admits that she is an anarchist, and the other fellows do not admit it, but they teach the same doctrine. Emma Goldman does not preach that rulers should be assassinated, but that rulers are dishonest and corrupt.

The declarations in the platform of the Democratic party that every department of our state government is honeycombed with dishonesty, that the powers of government are prostituted to the purposes of public thieves, are as much anarchistic as the usual utterances of Emma Goldman and the other anarchists, and yet it was such utterances as these by Emma Goldman that incited Bergman to shoot H. C. Frick and Czolgosz to shoot the president of the United States. Emma Goldman did not tell Bergman to shoot Frick, she did not tell Czolgosz to shoot William McKinley, but she told them that they were corrupt; that they were dishonest; that they were thieves, and if some man who believes that no government is better than good government, who believes that every thief in office deserves to die, should read the platform of the last Democratic state convention and go to Harrisburg and shoot some one who is at the head of a state department, that platform would be as morally responsible for his death as Emma Goldman is for Czolgosz's crime.

Let us call things by their right name. I am telling you the truth when I say that the declarations in the so-called platform of the last Democratic state convention at Harrisburg are anarchistic. I suppose that some yellow journal will say that I called the Democrats anarchists. I do not say that Democrats are anarchist. Far from it, but this platform is anarchistic. I do not charge Democrats with anarchy, but I wish to show them their platform as it is and make them ashamed of it and disgusted with it.

KILLED BY FAST FREIGHT.

An Unknown Man Meets Instant Death on Lehigh Valley Tracks.

Special to the Scranton Tribune.

Pittston, Sept. 29.—About 5 o'clock this evening an unknown man, walking the tracks of the Lehigh Valley "cut-off," near the Pittston station, was struck by a west-bound fast freight train and instantly killed. His head was severed from the body and crushed to a pulp; both legs were cut off, and the trunk was mangled in a shocking manner.

While the man was well dressed, there was nothing about his clothing that would afford the slightest clue towards identification. A search revealed the fact that his pockets contained nothing save three matches. The Pittston poor board took charge of the remains.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

Altoona, Pa., Sept. 29.—John K. Patterson, lawyer, a former representative at Harrisburg, and a leading Republican politician of Blair county, died at his home in this city this morning of typhoid fever, aged 44 years. He was a native of Blair county.

Chicago, Sept. 29.—Rev. Dr. William G. Gray, the venerable editor of the Interior, a publication of the Presbyterian church, died today at his home at Oak Park. Dr. Gray, who had passed his seventieth year, was one of the foremost Presbyterians of the west, and had been identified with the Interior for more than thirty years. His "Campfire Musings" and editorials were widely read.

Schenectady, N.Y., Sept. 29.—Dr. Henry Whitehorn died in this city this afternoon, aged 86 years. He was at one time one of the best known educators in the country and was a personal friend of Jefferson Davis. He occupied the Greek chair in several of the American universities.

PRISONERS BREAK JAIL.

Eight Inmates of the Canton Prison Take Leg Bail.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Canton, Sept. 29.—Eight prisoners broke out of the county jail tonight by sawing the bars over a window opening upon the court, between the jail and the court house. They had five minutes start when their absence was discovered. Bloodhounds were immediately put on the trail. One of the men was George Haymond, arrested here during the president's funeral by outside detectives and held for the authorities of Olean, N. Y. Several of the other prisoners were also arrested by the assistance of outside detectives.

Only one prisoner remains, Michael McGovern, held for a robbery in which the victim was tortured. He was regarded as the most desperate and was held on another floor of the jail.

NEW YORK YACHTSMEN ARE VERY ANXIOUS

The Narrow Margin by Which Columbia Won the Race on Saturday Caused Some Misgivings.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

New York, Sept. 29.—An anxious but determined lot of yachtsmen gathered at the New York Yacht club tonight for another talk. Yesterday's exciting races, the chances of Columbia in her next race with the Shamrock II on Tuesday, but above all that dreaded question of the prospects of the famous cup at last returning from whence it came after being in American hands a brief month over half a century.

Every member frankly admitted that he had experienced something like a shock but no one wanted the Columbia to win another race on so narrow margin. The bulletin board of which was tacked the summary of the race was the chief attraction at the club and around it was a group of more or less expert amateur yachtsmen discussing the question of what the Columbia would be able to accomplish in the triangular race on Tuesday. Every one hoped for the best and many recalled the preliminary racing with the Constitution and Independence the Morgan boat had shown much speed when sailing with started sheets.

In the race Tuesday, if the wind holds true, two of the legs of the triangle will be sailed under these conditions: One of the legs, probably the first, will be a beat of ten miles to windward; the next will be a broad reach under large jib topsails, or balloon jibs, while the third leg will be a close fetch to the finish line. On these two reaches the racers have shown great speed, and the Columbia has frequently made one of the ten mile sides of the triangular races in something under three-quarters of an hour. It is said that the Shamrock II has shown a good fourteen knot gait in a reach, which is a trifle better than the Columbia has done, but such timing cannot be considered absolutely reliable. At any rate, with a good breeze the race on Tuesday should be a fast one. Much will depend on position of the boats at the start, but at the yacht club tonight there seemed to be the utmost confidence in Captain Barr, of the Columbia, despite the fact that he was outgeneraled yesterday by the skipper of the Shamrock II.

POLICE BATTLE WITH MOB

Four Special Officers Are Attacked by 200 Strikers—Regulars Come to the Rescue.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

San Francisco, Sept. 29.—A mob of about 200 strikers and their sympathizers early this morning attacked four special officers at Market and Kearney streets, and a number of shots were fired. Regular policemen came to the aid of the special officers and a pitched battle ensued, with a fusilade of shots. The mob scattered in all directions, but about thirty of them were arrested. Four of these were identified as striking teamsters. They were heavily armed.

During the melee William Miller, a striking teamster, was shot in the breast and will probably die. Six other persons were shot, but their injuries are not thought to be serious.

ACCIDENT AT TWIN SHAFT.

George Wallace and Michael Connolly Are Instantly Killed.

Special to the Scranton Tribune.

Pittston, Sept. 29.—George Wallace and Michael Connolly, timbermen, employed at the Twin shaft, while at work in the shaft, making repairs today, in some manner lost their footing and fell to the bottom, a distance of 160 feet.

Both were instantly killed, and the body of Connolly was badly mangled. Wallace resided at West Pittston, while Connolly's home was on Parsonage street. Both were married.

Walace, one of the men killed, was lieutenant colonel of the Ninth regiment, N. G. P., and had a record of 16 years continuous service.

ASPHYXIATED IN A WELL.

Wilkes-Barre, Pa., Sept. 29.—Thomas Vincindy, and his son, Antonie, Italians living at Pittston, were asphyxiated in an old abandoned well this afternoon. The boy dropped a bag of peanuts into the well. The fther with a rope lowered the lad into the well in order that he might recover the peanuts

Getting no response from the lad after he had been down for some time the father followed him into the well and fifteen minutes later both were taken out dead.

Engagement at Candelara.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Manila, Sept. 29.—Captain Lawrence Hearn, of the Twenty-first infantry, reports a severe engagement with insurgents near Candelara, the Americans losing one killed and two wounded. The insurgent loss has not been ascertained. The Americans captured 30,000 pounds of rice and several hundred rounds of ammunition.

SCHLEY CASE CONTINUED

Captain McCalla Finishes the Testimony Which He Commenced on Friday.

THE SANTIAGO BLOCKADE

Incidents Recalled by the Testimony of Officers McCalla and Southerland—More Evidence as to the Disinclination of Admiral Schley to Coal at Sea—Lieutenant Barnes Gives Expert Cipher Testimony.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Sept. 29.—Yesterday's session of the Schley court of inquiry began at 11 o'clock, with the recall of witnesses, for the purpose of correcting mistakes in their testimony and allowing other questions to be asked them, when necessary to make clear any point which had not been sufficiently elucidated. Captain McCalla, who had commanded the Marblehead during the Spanish war, then continued his testimony.

McCalla's Testimony.

When Captain McCalla took the witness stand Mr. Hanna asked him: "Were any ships assigned to the duty of engaging the batteries on the morning of May 31, 1898, or during that day, or to the duty of enfilading the batteries?"

The reply was: "None that I know of."

Mr. Hanna then asked: "Were there any shoals or other obstacles of any kind to present the battleships from approaching the mouth of the harbor of Santiago sufficiently close to have been within easy range of the Colon?"

Captain Parker objected to the question, but the court refused to sustain the objection, and the question was repeated. Captain McCalla replied: "None that I know of. The only shoal I knew of was the shoal on the west side of the channel opposite the Morro."

"Did the battleships go within range of the Colon?"

"Not from my observation."

"Were you so situated as to observe the fall of shots from the fleet?"

"I was."

"Where did they fall?"

"I think I saw every shot fired. They all fell short that I saw. One very nearly reached the Colon."

The witness said that the American ships engaged in the Colon bombardment steamed in a distance of about two miles.

Captain McCalla testified at some length concerning the weather and the sea on May 26 and 27. He said there was no difficulty in coaling on the 27th, as the sea was smooth. The witness said he had been present during a conference of commanding officers on the Brooklyn while the fleet was off Santiago on May 29. Describing what took place, he said:

"The commanding officers were ordered on board the Brooklyn on May 29. It was with regard to the work of blockade. I can only remember one specific thing which took place at the close, and that was that Captain Evans asked Commodore Schley if the Spanish ships came out if he was going for them. He said, 'Certainly,' and then arranged for a subdivision of fire from the ships under his command on the Spanish ships should they come out."

Mr. Hanna—Prior to that conference of May 29 had you at any time received definite instructions respecting the order of battle or the mode of procedure which the fleet should follow in case the Spanish vessels should suddenly appear?

"I do not remember."

Enough Glory for All.

"Did you have any further conversation with Commodore Schley?"

"I had a conversation with him in his cabin after the battle of Santiago, about July 5, in Guantanamo Bay. I went on board, making an official call, to pay my respects, and during the visit Commodore Schley read me what I understood to be a part of his official report of the battle. After he has finished I said: 'Commodore, you remember that after the battle of Lake Erie there was an unfortunate controversy, and I hope that there will be none after the battle of Santiago, because there was glory enough for everybody.'"

Captain McCalla said that when the Flying Squadron encountered the scout ships to the south of Santiago, on May 26, they were east of a direct line south.

"If they had continued as they were then going, could they have arrived at Santiago?" he was asked, and replied:

"Certainly not."

"Where would they have arrived?"

"If they had continued as they were going they would have struck the coast of Hayti."

Relating the particulars of the blockade of Santiago before June 1, Captain McCalla said the Marblehead and the Vixen had at night occupied positions inside the large ships, about two miles from the shore line, and that the line was easily discernible.

On cross-examination by Mr. Rayner, the witness said he had failed to execute an order from Admiral Remey delivered while he was in command off Cienfuegos, directing that all except the smallest vessels be withdrawn. He had, he said, failed to leave the small vessels there.

"Did you do that on your own responsibility?"

"On my own responsibility."

Referring to the fact that he had informed Captain Chadwick, Admiral Sampson's chief of staff of the code of signals arranged for communicating with the insurgent Cubans, he said that he did not in any way communicate with the commander in chief. Mr. Rayner then asked: "According to the regular custom and regulations observed in cases of that sort, was it not your purpose that this communication should go to the commander in chief through his chief of staff?"

"Certainly," was the reply.

The witness said further that he thought it had been common knowledge at Key West after his arrival there on May 19 that the Cuban insurgents were on the coast near Cienfuegos, but that no information was given concerning the secret code. He had, he said, failed to give the code to Commodore Schley when he passed him, when the commodore was on his way to Cienfuegos, because he did not know that the commodore was bound for that port. "If I had thought that he was going to Cienfuegos," he said, "I would have gone alongside and given him my information." He had ordered the Eagle to give Commodore Schley information concerning the presence of insurgents, but had not given the secret code to the commander of that vessel. He would have done so if he had known the destination of the squadron.

Replying to a question, Captain McCalla said that Commodore Schley's fleet while off Santiago had never, to his knowledge, been withdrawn to any distance from the harbor of Santiago.

"Then," said Captain Parker, "that story, by whomsoever told, is absolutely false?"

"I object," shouted Captain Lemly in a voice as sharp as a pistol shot. "The objection is sustained," said Admiral Dewey. "The question is highly improper."

Passed It Along for Schley.

Lieutenant Commander W. H. H. Southerland, who commanded the converted yacht Eagle during the Spanish war, followed Captain McCalla on the witness stand. He said that he had first fallen in with the Flying Squadron on May 19, when the squadron was steaming toward Cienfuegos, and Captain McCalla's sub-squadron was on its way from Cienfuegos to Key West. He had then, under Captain McCalla's orders, undertaken to give Commodore Schley his information concerning the situation at Cienfuegos, and had given this information to the Scorpion for the commodore, his message being as follows: "We left Cienfuegos on the night of the 16th, at which time, as we learned from insurgents, the only vessels inside the harbor were two gunboats and several connaideros."

Commander Southerland also told of his return to Cienfuegos on May 24, and of accompanying the Marblehead to the shore for the purpose of communicating with the insurgents. He also related that in returning Captain McCalla sent him at full speed in advance of the Marblehead to warn the commander of the squadron that Cervera's fleet was not inside the harbor at that point and had not been there. He had, he said, delivered this information about 3 o'clock.

He Wanted to Coal at Sea.

Describing the cruise from Cienfuegos to Santiago, Commander Southerland said that from midnight of May 24 to the afternoon of the 25th the Eable had made very bad weather. This was due to the fact that the sea had a "long roll," which was very trying to the yacht, as the vessel was then one-third full of water.

"A little after 1 o'clock on the 26th, when about thirty-five miles from Santiago," he said, "I was called alongside the flagship and the commodore directed me to go to Port Antonio for coal and to report rough weather south of Cuba. My answer substantially was that I already had three days coal, as much as the Marblehead, meaning as much in proportion. The commodore told me that I had not coal enough for his purpose, and directed me to carry out his orders. I then asked him again very earnestly to let the Eagle remain with the fleet and coal from the collier. He very courteously replied to me that he either very much regretted or else was very sorry that he could not let me do so, as the Eagle had not coal enough for his purpose, and again directed me to proceed, which I did after communicating with my division commander."

"How much coal did the Eagle have?"

"Not less than twenty-seven tons."

"Of course, the Merrimac was with the squadron, was she not?"

"She was."

"Were the wind and weather practicable for the Eagle to go alongside the Merrimac to take coal?"

"Without any doubt."

"Why did not you do this?"

"It was not in my power; because I had no authority."

"Did you suggest to the commander of the Flying Squadron you could do this?"

"I did not. I requested him earnestly to let me stay and coal from the collier."

"Was there anything else said between you and the commodore at this time?"

"No. I was so disappointed I did not care to say anything else."

Mr. Rayner questioned Commander Southerland concerning his megaphone message to the Scorpion on May 19, and displayed the log-book on that vessel to show that, while other facts were mentioned as having been megaphoned by the Eagle, there was no mention of the fact that Commander Southerland had said anything about the conditions at Cienfuegos. The witness said in reply to a question that his own log made no mention of his message. "It was evidently," he said, "a question of whether the young officer on deck at that time put down my exact words."

Commander Southerland was then excused, and Lieutenant Barnes was called. Pending his appearance, Mr. Hanna made a statement concerning the two versions of the Schley dispatch of May 28. He referred to the fact that not only the translation of the dispatch, but also the translation of a navy department dispatch of May 27 had been called into question. He, however, gave his especial attention to the Schley message, saying:

"There is no more important paper before the court than this telegram, and in order to discount its importance, in order to weaken its terrible effect, there have been introduced on the record here suggestions that the dispatch as printed by the government is not correct. Now, we propose to show that this dispatch, as printed in the appendix to the report of the chief of the bureau of navigation for 1898, is precisely, word for word, as that dispatch was received by the navy department from the wires and confirmed by the telegraph company. We propose to show further that that dispatch, as received by the navy department, was cipher word for cipher word as it left the West Indies. As it was placed upon the wires in Kingston, so it is printed in the appendix.

Expert Testimony in Cipher.

Lieutenant Barnes then identified the cipher copy book of the auxiliary cruiser Harvard, which vessel during the war was under command of Captain (now Rear Admiral) Cotton. This was the vessel which carried Read Admiral Schley's dispatch to Kingston to be transmitted by cable to Washington.

Lieutenant Barnes said he was familiar with the department's cipher code, and that last night and this morning he hade made a translation of the dispatch as presented.

Mr. Hanna reminded the witness that at the end of the message, as printed in the appendix, was the following sentence: "Very difficult to tow collier to get cable to hold," which sentence did not appear in the copy of the dispatch as preserved by Rear Admiral Schley in his press copy-book. He then asked whether these words could by any translation or any legitimate use of the cipher have been added, or whether they could be due to a cipher error, or had been simply added.

"They could not have been simply added in cipher," replied the witness.

Mr. Rayner then cross-examined the witness, first asking him whether he had any knowledge that the cipher dispatch in question was a correct translation of the dispatch that Commodore Schley gave to Captain Cotton.

"I have no special knowledge that it was," the witness replied.

"Now, in Admiral Schley's letter book I want to show you an entry. The word 'confirm' occurs. Does that not mean the navy department has confirmed that dispatch by comparing it with the original?"

"It does not mean that to me."

"What does it mean?"

"I do not know who put that there."

Mr. Rayner—I am quite sure we do not know who put it there.

The Witness—That was there when I first looked at the book; so was also the word "cancelled" in some of the other dispatches."

"Who has that original dispatch, the original English dispatch of which this is a press copy—can you tell me that?"

"I do not know. I suppose the captain of the Harvard has it among his papers. It cannot be found among the papers he has turned in at the navy department.

Mr. Rayner—Then we have here this case. We have a dispatch sent by Admiral Schley delivered to Captain Cotton translated into cipher, and you do not know whether that cipher is a correct translation of the original, and you cannot tell us where we can get that original dispatch, so that we can ascertain whether this press copy does not correspond with the original dispatch delivered to Captain Cotton?

"I cannot."

Mr. Rayner and Captain Parker closed by stating there was no intention on their part to cast any imputation on the department.

The witness was excused and at 3.30 p. m. the court adjourned until Monday morning.

Costa Rica Is Neutral.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Washington, Sept. 29.—Referring to news in regard to the Colombian revolution in which it is said that the liberal party has organized in San Jose, Costa Rica, for the purpose of carrying on the revolution now in progress in Colombia, the Costa Rican minister states that his government has observed and will strictly observe the laws of neutrality, no matter what influences may be brought to bear upon Costa Rica.

DISATTROUS FIGHT WITH FILIPINOS

Company G, Ninth United States Infantry, Surprised by the Insurgents.

ONLY 24 AMERICANS MANAGED TO ESCAPE

The Members of the Company Attacked While at Breakfast by an Overwhelming Force of Insurgents and Those Not Killed Are Forced to Retreat—Filipinos Capture All of the Company Stores and All of the Rifles Save Twenty-six—The Outbreak Regarded as a Consequence of the Assassination of President McKinley.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Manila, Sept. 29.—A disastrous fight between United States troops and insurgents occurred yesterday in the island of Samar, near Balangiga. A large body of insurgents attacked Company C, Ninth infantry, only twenty-four members of the company escaping.

All the others are reported to have been killed.

The company were at breakfast when attacked, and made a determined resistance, but the overwhelming numbers of the insurgents compelled them to retreat.

Of the survivors, who have arrived at Basey, eleven are wounded. According to the latest returns, the strength of the company was seventy-two. The survivors include Captain Thomas W. Connell, First Lieutenant Edward A. Bumpus and Dr. R. S. Griswold, surgeon.

Captain Edwin V. Bookmiller, of the Ninth infantry, reports that General Hughes is assembling a force to attack the insurgents.

The insurgents captured all the stores and ammunition of the company and all the rifles except twenty-six.

Washington, Sept. 29.—News of the disastrous fight between troops of the Ninth infantry and the insurgents in the island of Samar, yesterday, was sent promptly by General Hughes, commanding in that island, to General Chaffee at Manila, and by him transmitted to the war department. It reached the department during the early hours today, and Adjutant General Corbin, realizing its importance, at once made it public, after sending a copy to the white house.

General Chaffee's dispatch, which agrees with the Associated Press dispatch, is as follows:

Manila, Sept. 29.

Adjutant General, Washington.

Hughes reports following from Bassey, Southern Samar: Twenty-four men, Ninth regiment, United States infantry, eleven wounded, have just arrived from Balangiga. Remainder company killed. Insurgents secured all company supplies and all rifles except twelve. Company was attacked during breakfast, morning, Sept. 28; company, seventy-two strong. Officers Thomas W. Connelly (captain), Edward A. Bumpa (first lieutenant), Dr. R. S. Griswold (major surgeon), escaped. (Signed) Chaffee.

Samar a Dangerous Country.

The news created a sensation in official circles. It was the first severe reverse that has occurred for a long time. Still the officials were not unprepared for news of just this character from Samar, in which the revolution started by Aguinaldo still continues. Samar is a country about as large as the state of Ohio, and the American forces of occupation number in all between 2,000 and 2,500 men. These are distributed among various posts in the island, a large number being located at the more important centers. Spain never made any effort to occupy Samar, and it only has been for probably three months past that the United States has undertaken that work. The latest report made by General Hughes to the war department was that the number of insurgent rifles in the island aggregated about three hundred. The Filipinos carried on a guerilla warfare and operations against them were difficult. The disaster to Company C, of the Ninth infantry, occurred, it is believed, while it was engaged in an expedition to clear the country of roving bands of those insurgents. The fact that the Americans were attacked while at breakfast indicates the daring and pluck of the insurgents.

Immediately upon the receipt of the dispatch, Adjutant General Corbin cabled General Chaffee to send a complete report of the fighting and a list of the casualties. A well-known official of the government, in speaking of this outbreak against the American forces in Samar, said he regarded it as a consequence of the death of President McKinley. In all probability the insurgents had received, he said, only meagre reports and possibly believed the shooting to be the result of some popular outbreak against the president. The natives had seized the opportunity in the flickering hope of retrieving some of the lost ground.

THE PRIZE WAS DIVIDED.

William Connell Glee Club One of the Winners at Poultney.

Special to the Scranton Tribune.

Poultney, Vt., Sept. 29.—The eisteddfod was successful in every particular and the adjudications met with the approval of all competitors. The competition on male chorus, "Song of the Pilgrim," was very spirited. The prize was divided between the William Connell Glee club, of Scranton, and Mettowee Glee club.

B. B. Roberts, of Olyphant, won the musical competition, and William Evans took the prize in the baritone solo competition. Ivor Parry won two prizes. The concert given by the Connell Glee club was a grand success.

GHOULS VISIT M'KINLEY TOMB

The Guard at the Vault Is Attacked and Stabbed by a Masked Man.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Canton, O., Sept. 29.—A strange story comes from Westlawn cemetery tonght where a company of regulars from Fort Wayne, Mich., are guarding the vault in which the body of President McKinley lies. It is to the effect that the guard on duty on top of the vault fired a shot at one man who refused to heed his challenge, that the shot was diverted by another man who appeared from another direction and that an effort was made to stab the guard. Military regulations prevent either the officers or the men from being quoted on any matter connected with their service and for this reason Captan Biddle who is in command was obliged to decline to be quoted at the camp tonight He will make a full report to his superiors at once. Reliable authorities made the following statement:

Private Deprend was on guard duty on top of the vault at a point commanding the entrance below and the men appeared from the rear. Shortly before 7.30 he saw what he took to be the face of a man peering from behind a tree about 40 feet from his post. He watched it for twenty minutes, he says, and at 7.45 saw the man hurry to a tree ten feet nearer. He challenged the man to halt but this was not heeded and the fellow approached nearer. Deprend levelled his gun and aimed to shoot for effect but just at that instant another man who came toward him from the opposite side caught the gun, threw it up and the bullet was spent in the air. This same man struck Deprend on the right side of the abdomen with a knife or other sharp weapon cutting an "L" gash in his overcoat an inch and a half long each way and a smaller one in his blouse. The flesh was not broken but was bruised under the cuts in the clothing. Deprend in the struggle fell and rolled down the side of the vault. Lieutenant Ashbridge was in front of the vault and rushed to the top on hearing the shot, but the men made good their escape. All members from the company on hearing the shot hurried to the vault and besides searching the cemetery the guard was increased. Deprend is a recruit enlisted in New York four months ago. He is said to be an excellent soldier and to have a fine record with his officers. He says the man who attacked him was masked, but that the first one he saw was not masked. He says that the latter carried a white package in his right hand and something that glittered in his left. Since the incident stories have been told in camp of some incendiary conversations overheard in the crowds that have visited the cemetery, including one today alleging that some stranger said: "Lots of people would like to see this whole thing blown up." There are seventy soldiers at the cemetery, twenty of whom are constantly on guard duty about the vault and camp.

Steamship Arrivals.

By Exclusive Wire from The Associated Press.

Queenstown, Sept. 29.—Sailed: Umbria, from Liverpool, New York. London—Sailed: Marquette, New York. Southampton—Sailed: Barbarossa (from Bremen), New York.

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, Sept. 30.—Forecast for Eastern Pennsylvania: Cooler Monday, Tuesday, fair, variable winds.