

# HOLOCAUST IN AN ORPHANS' HOME.

## SIXTEEN CHILDREN DEAD.

### Extent of the Catastrophe Unsuspected Until Search Revealed It.

Sixteen little girls and boys are dead as a result of a fire at the Buckner Orphan Home, at Dallas, Texas, and nine others are seriously burned and crushed. Three of the injured, it is thought, cannot recover.

The holocaust was not discovered until Saturday night, when the boys' dormitory was destroyed, did not cool enough for search for bodies in the ashes until early Saturday morning. At that time it was thought that only five children had been burned to death.

When the ashes had cooled enough to admit of a search, scores of sympathizing friends and neighbors began the task of finding the bodies of the five whom it was known had perished. The search had hardly been instituted when the terrible truth appeared that there were more than five bodies in the ashes. The search continued until dawn, when 15 bodies had been found.

## CHILDREN ASPHYXIATED.

### Three Little Girls Found Dead in Bed in a Boston Suburb.

Three young lives were destroyed by gas in a tenement house at Roxbury, Mass. The dead are: Mary N. Reynolds, 7 years old; Margaret H. Reynolds, 4 years old, and Annie Connolly, 10 years old.

The two children were the daughters of John D. Reynolds, a laborer, who occupied the middle floor of the tenement. The Connolly girl was a niece of Reynolds' wife, employed to take care of the children. Her mother, Mrs. Mary Connolly, a widow, lives with her seven other children in Roxbury.

John D. Reynolds, the father, discovered the dead children shortly after he arose in the morning. The family occupies four rooms and the Connolly girl slept with the two children. Reynolds discovered the gas, and breaking in the door, saw the three children dead. Carelessness or ignorance in using the fixture is the supposed cause of the deaths.

## GARCIA WINS A VICTORY.

### The Battle of Gabuquito Ends in a Cuban Triumph.

One of the most brilliant victories achieved by the Cubans since the beginning of the revolution was won last Wednesday at Gabuquito, near Manzanillo, according to advices received by the steamer Olivette, which reached Key West Fla., Jan. 16, from Havana.

It seems that Gen. Galisteo Garcia, with a strong force of insurgents, has made his headquarters at Gabuquito for some weeks. Gen. Segura, with 4,000 Spaniards, was operating near Manzanillo and determined to attack Gabuquito, although the Cubans were strongly entrenched. Segura's plan was to storm the place, and he led his men to the charge in person, but the Cubans greeted the Spaniards with such a deadly fire from rifles and Hotchkiss guns that the latter retreated in great disorder.

Segura rallied his men and another charge was made, but the fire of the Cubans did such execution that the Spaniards were driven back. Segura was unable to rally his men for another attack, and withdrew. It is stated from Cuban sources that the Spaniards lost 300 killed and about 400 wounded. Among the killed it is said there were many Spanish officers, and Segura himself is reported slightly wounded.

## COXEY'S NEW PARTY.

### Organized by Twenty-Three Middle-of-the-Roaders at St. Louis.

General Jacob S. Coxey called to order the conference of "reformers," who met in St. Louis, January 12, pursuant to a call issued by the "Commonwealth" leader for the purpose of forming a new organization to take place of the People's party, which he declared is dead.

There were 23 middle-of-the-roaders present, most of them being local lights. The conference which was held behind closed doors, organized by selecting "General" Coxey as chairman, and Carl Browne as secretary. Among those present were: John J. Streator, of Hinsdale, N. H.; T. T. Taylor, of Philadelphia; F. E. Berry, of Rushville, Ill.; J. L. Dodge, of Council Bluffs, Ia., and Joseph Parvin, of Philadelphia. Letters of sympathy were received from a large number of sympathizers in different sections of the country, among them being Paul Vanderport, of Omaha; Ralph Beaman, of Washington, D. C., and George Francis Train.

Butler, Weaver, Jones and the other Populist leaders were denounced by speakers for selling out to the Democrats at the last election. A resolution was presented declaring that the action of the People's party leaders in the recent national campaign, in making the party merely a tail to the silver Democratic kite, has resulted in so crippling its road name as to practically kill its future usefulness as a reform party.

The resolution says that the new party shall be known as the "United States party," that the initiative and referendum shall be the party program through the American "Economic" ballot system, and that the national provisional organization committee be instructed to proceed to organize clubs throughout the United States, these clubs to send delegates to a national convention to be held in Nashville, July 4, 1897, to outline a policy of campaign for 1898 and 1900, based upon the non-interest bond plan as a means of providing sufficient revenue to do the business of the United States. This was discussed until a late hour.

## WAR PRISON

### On Johnson's Island Bought By The Fifth U. S. Regt.

The Fifth Regiment, U. S. G., stationed at Cleveland, has purchased 55 acres on Johnson's Island, near Sandusky, which will be fitted up and used for permanent encampment purposes. The tract includes the cemetery wherein lies the remains of 250 Confederate officers who died as prisoners during the war, when Johnson's Island was used as a depot for Confederate officers taken captive.

The old prison ground proper has passed into possession of the Fifth regiment. The old officers' barracks used by the Union force on duty as guard over the prisoners will be fitted up as an officers' club house. The old fort is also owned by the Fifth Regiment, as well as the blockhouse and powder magazine. About \$500 an acre is said to have been the price paid.

## THE STRIKE BROKEN.

### Jackson County Miners Returning to Work.

The strike which has kept the miners of Jackson county, Ohio, out for the past three months was broken when a number of them returned to work, cleaned out their rooms and started to get out coal. The mines were started for their benefit within the past 24 hours. Sentiment in this district has been strongly in favor of returning to work. A meeting will be held to decide the question and there is no doubt but that the vote will be largely in favor of returning to work.

## FLED FROM DEATH.

### The City of Bombay Deserted by Half Its Population.

Over half the population of Bombay, estimated to amount to about 500,000, has fled from the plague, and the usually crowded streets, docks and bazaars are not recognizable. Business in piece goods, metals, crockery and hardware is at a standstill. The courts are deserted and the judge and officials have gone to a healthier climate. Many of the native doctors, graduates of the college, have fled, and those remaining refuse to attend plague cases, or when they do attend to them will not touch the sufferers, dreading contagion. Clerks and others whose vocations call them to the city daily removed to suburban stations, where the people are mostly living in thatched huts.

It is estimated that 300,000 persons are encamped at Andheri, whence they will soon be forced to migrate owing to the lack of water and sanitation threatening to breed cholera. The cemeteries are already filled to overflowing and the wind is spreading the contagion. The nights are made hideous by cymbals and melancholy dirges. Often difficulty is experienced in carrying the dead, friends and relatives refusing to carry the corpses. In some instances women have assisted in carrying the dead bodies. A large number of plague corpses at the Tower of Silence, the Parsee burial places, have been eaten by the vultures inhabiting it. Corpses have even been found in the streets.

The official returns show that up to Wednesday evening there were 3,394 cases of bubonic plague and 1,395 deaths from the disease.

## HIGHER WAGES WANTED.

### Rates Increased in the Scale Adopted by The Miners.

The National miners' convention declared for a sharp advance in the price of mine labor. The committee on wage scale made its report, and so far as consideration had proceeded at the hour of adjournment, the report was adopted without material amendment. The scale report so far as adopted is as follows:

"Resolved, That the price for pick mining shall be 69 cents per ton in Pennsylvania, 60 cents in the Hocking valley, 60 cents in Indiana, 55 cents in the Grape Creek district, and the rate of 1894 for the balance of Illinois.

"Resolved, That the price per ton for loading and drilling after machines in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Illinois be three-fifths of the pick mining rate, and that the price per ton for entering, cutting and loading machine coal in Indiana shall be four-fifths of the pick mining rate in Indiana, and the price for all other machine work shall be advanced in proportion.

The clause of the report notated upon yet is as follows:

"All day labor wages shall be advanced at the same rates. In the Massillon and in Jackson district there shall be a differential of nine cents per ton over the Hocking valley.

The constitution was amended so as to abolish delegates-at-large, to require the election of officers to take place immediately after the convention is organized.

A plan for a general defense fund produced by and to be used by all union labor in one federation, was reported and endorsed by the convention.

The California president of the Pennsylvania organization, who was expelled threatens to create trouble.

## GEAR'S BILL FINDS FAVOR.

### A Cabinet Commission to Settle With the Pacific Roads.

The Senate committee on Pacific railroads agreed to report favorably the Gear bill, providing for a commission consisting of the Attorney General and the Secretaries of the Treasury and Interior, for the settlement of the debts of these roads. At Mr. Morgan's suggestion, the following proviso was added at the end of section 4, which fixes the basis of settlement, and, with this agreed to, the bill was ordered favorably reported by a unanimous vote.

The same commissioners in making any settlement under this act shall reserve to Congress the right to regulate or prescribe the rates of tolls or charges for the transportation of freight or passengers to be charged on any or all of said railroads, and all rights and powers, in respect of said railroads and railroad companies, as they now exist.

## CHRISTIANS FOR PEACE.

### Resolutions Adopted by a Great Foreign Mission Meeting.

General James A. Beaver, of Pennsylvania, presided at a great interdenominational mass meeting in the interest of foreign missions, at Carnegie Hall, New York, Jan. 15, and General Beaver, Bishop Charles H. Fowler and Rev. Dr. Richard S. Storrs were the speakers. This resolution, to be forwarded to the presiding officer of the United States Senate, was adopted:

"That this conference of foreign mission boards, representing, as its members believe, the sentiments of the great body of Protestant Christians throughout the United States (Canada), rejoice in the prospect of the early ratification by their respective Governments of the general treaty of arbitration and respectfully urge prompt confirmation of the same."

## Killed By a Madman.

At the Hospital for the Insane, at Spencer, W. Va., while an attendant was passing from one wing of the building to another he saw James Barrows, another attendant, fall into the corridor from the door of a room occupied by William Taylor, a patient from Summers county. Taylor, who was lying with a long iron bar and rained blows upon him until his head was crushed. An alarm was sounded, and several attendants rushed in, and overpowered the madman. Taylor had asked his victim to open the cell door, and the request was granted, as Taylor had not been considered dangerous. He then seized the attendant with the bar, which had been crumpled from a bedstead. Barrows was 24 years of age and lived in Glenwood.

## CONDENSED ITEMS.

Crater & Caverhill's warehouses at Montreal were destroyed by fire. Loss, \$300,000; insurance, \$200,000.

Masked men, in an attack on Wm Rowland's home, near Macon, Ga., killed Mrs. Rowland. A mob with bloodhounds is in pursuit.

President Thomas S. Hastings, of the Union theological society of New York, has resigned. Rev. Cuthbert Hall, of Brooklyn, will succeed him.

William P. St. John, treasurer of the Democratic national committee, is very ill at his home in New York, the result of overwork in the recent campaign.

The Treasury deficit for the first half of January is \$6,869,963, and for the fiscal year to date, \$44,768,360.

Over 500 citizens of Leadville, Col., have enlisted in the state militia, and when armed and uniformed will take the place of the guards now at the mines where the men are on strike.

William Ferguson, corresponding secretary of typographical union No. 6, of New York, and Jacob McKenna, a fellow workman, were accidentally asphyxiated by gas in a Brooklyn hotel.

Charles H. Cunningham, president of the Western electric company of Detroit, was indicted for forging Judge Hamilton's name on a check for \$75,000. Friends say Cunningham is insane.

# TO CURE OUR FINANCIAL EVILS.

## MONETARY REFORM.

### The Indianapolis Conference in a Working Session.

The National Monetary conference was called to order in Indianapolis, Jan. 12, and addressed by ex-Gov. Stannard, of Missouri, temporary chairman. Of the 270 delegates present nearly all were of States north of the Potomac and east of the Missouri. In his opening address Mr. Stannard said he believed that there is a strong and increasing conviction among the people in favor of retiring the United States and Treasury notes. He would retire them by the issue of bonds bearing a low rate of interest. He proposed to permit the national banks to issue notes up to the par value of the bonds deposited to secure circulation and to reduce the tax on circulation 3/4 of 1 per cent. He believed that banks should be permitted to establish branches in small cities, and that there might be advantage in withdrawing all paper money under \$10 notes, thus forcing coin into use.

Ex-Secretary of the Treasury Charles S. Field was the next speaker. He spoke of the recent election as a great victory for our institutions, and now the necessity is before the country of going onward and upward in another direction. As to the assertion that there were sectional interests in this matter and that New York was the creditor of the whole country, the last census showed that the recent election was a great victory for the United States and not New York property. If the debtor who has an obligation upon his real estate is to be benefited by any manipulation of the currency New York will get more than one-quarter of the benefit. But no government could give a value to something by calling it money and investing it with the legal tender quality. J. Hansen Rhodes of New York, was applauded when he said that he could see no reason why the government should not base all its issues upon the gold standard and replace all notes by coin certificates protected by a 25 per cent. gold reserve.

Mr. Dausman, of Chicago, presented a plan for the appointment by the President of a finance commission of the members, including one member from the Senate Finance committee, and one from the House Banking and Currency committee, three bankers, three merchants or manufacturers, and one political economist, this commission to make reports to Congress.

Mr. Bent of St. Paul, offered resolutions advocating the maintenance of the gold standard, withdrawal of the government from the banking business, the authorization of branches of national banks and the reduction of minimum capital stock to \$25,000.

George G. Tanner, of Indianapolis, offered resolutions concerning in favor of the national debt, retirement of greenbacks, a more extensive system of national bank currency and the imposition of severe penalties upon national bank directors for failure of duty.

H. H. Hanna, of Indianapolis, presented a scheme, for the appointment of a monetary committee of 11 members to be named by the President, to investigate the financial subject, their conclusions to be reported to an adjourned meeting of the convention.

Eugene Levering, of Baltimore, submitted resolutions declaring that legislation is needed for the maintenance of the gold standard, the creation of a safe and expansive currency upon the basis of the Baltimore plan.

The convention adjourned Wednesday. Following is the resolution adopted:

This convention declares that it has become absolutely necessary that a consistent, straightforward and deliberately planned monetary system shall be inaugurated, the fundamental basis of which shall be: First, that the present gold standard shall be maintained; second, that steps should be taken to insure the ultimate retirement of all classes of United States notes by a gradual and steady process and so as to avoid injurious contraction of the currency or disturbance of the business interest of the country, and that until such retirement process should be given a separation of the revenue and note issue departments of treasury; third, that a banking system be provided, which should furnish credit facilities to every portion of the country and a safe and elastic circulation and especially with a loaning capital of the country as well tend to equalize the rates of interest in all parts thereof. For the purpose of effectively promoting the above objects.

## UNITED MINE WORKERS.

### Annual Convention Opens at Columbus With Good Attendance.

The national convention of the United Mine Workers opened at Columbus, O., with about 80 delegates, representing nearly all the bituminous coal districts of the United States in attendance. President Penna in his address reviewed the wage troubles of the year and said many methods had been advanced as a means for bettering the condition of the miners. Among them is the restriction of the output by limiting the number of cars which a miner may load in a day, or the number of hours in a day a miner may work. President Penna did not believe such a proposition practicable. He was also opposed to a system of short work. The chief obstacle to any plan, he said, was that more than 90 per cent of the miners are unorganized or remain indifferent to their condition.

## TWO ROADS CONSOLIDATE.

### P. S. & L. E. and P. & B. Now One Line. Large Improvements Ordered.

The stockholders of the Pittsburgh, Shenandoah & Lake Erie and of the Pittsburgh and Butler railroad companies met at their general offices at Meadville and Pittsburgh and ratified the consolidation under the name of the Pittsburgh, Bessemer & Lake Erie railroad company.

An enormous sum of money will be expended for improvements on the line between Connetquot and Cranestville and the harbor. The harbor and docks will be operated by the Connetquot dock company, which Mr. Carnegie controls. With the mammoth coal-loading machines that will be placed on the docks the cost of loading coal will be reduced from 17 cents a ton to 1 cent, and will also do away with hundreds of tons of coal handlers. Ten miles of track will be laid around the dock.

## Monongahela Dams.

Major Hoxie, of the Corps of Army Engineers, has just returned to Washington from a survey of the Upper Monongahela river to select sites for the Government dams for which an appropriation has been made by Congress. Major Hoxie reports in favor of locations for four dams, the first and upper one being a little below Fairmont, the next at Opekeskie, the third at Holtstown and the last at a point a little above Morgantown.

Representative Dayton, of the Morgantown district, says he has determined the contract shall be let and work begun at the very earliest moment practicable.

## If There Should Be War.

The House committee on military affairs ordered a favorable report on the bill to increase the efficiency of the army. It authorizes the President in time of war to increase each troop of cavalry, battery of artillery and company of infantry to a war strength not exceeding double the strength provided by law. The President may order any regiment to draw its recruits from a state or territory designated by the President, and drawn to be counted as forming part of the quota of troops from the state called for by the United States.

# THE PLAGUE'S AWFUL WORK.

### Thousands Are Dying Daily From Disease and From Hunger.

The condition of India at the present beggars description. Millions of women and children are starving to death, while thousands are dying daily from the fearful plague. The death rate has been quadrupled.

The natives have been reduced by lack of food to little less than living skeletons in the most heathen districts, and as such they can be but victims by the thousand to the black plague which threatens to invade Europe through the Mecca pilgrims and other sources for the spread of contagion which are too numerous to mention. In Bombay alone 3,000 people have died, and the death toll at present reaches about 170 per day.

One feature of the plague is the fact that Americans and Europeans seem singularly free from contagion. In Bombay only three Europeans and no Americans have died. It has been suggested that the city be isolated and that escape by land be prevented by a strong cordon of troops, and that escape by water should be prevented by the patrolling of armed steamers.

The plague which has been raging for six months past at Bombay, and to some extent at other places in India, is conceded to be "the true plague." In its general character it is identical with "the Black Death," which in the fourteenth century destroyed, it is held, 100,000 lives in London, the lives of seven-eighths of the population of England and some 25,000,000 persons, or one-fourth of the population of Europe. But sanitary science is supposed to have mitigated its virulence or lessened its opportunities. In Bombay, with 750,000 inhabitants, the mortality is kept down to about 1,000 per week. Calcutta, with a million inhabitants, owing to efficient sanitation, is substantially free from the plague. At the first outbreak in the past year nearly every case was fatal. Up to the third week of November 730 persons had been attacked, and of these 517 died. Its victims are almost uniformly very poor and ill-fed natives. The English seldom or never take the disease.

The plague is a glandular fever, attended with a swelling of the groin. It seems to be unknown whether it is due to a microbe or to insanitary conditions. It ravaged Hong-Kong a few years ago, destroying many thousands there. It is endemic in China and the Euphrates valley, just as cholera has its home in the delta of the Ganges. London suffered from it in 1665 and again in 1720. During the present century Asia has been the chief scene of its activity. In 1830 at Bagdad the death rate from it was 2,000 a day, and on April 21 of that year as many as 30,000 dead bodies were counted there. It attacked Canton, O., a few months before in 1871, 1873 and 1877. Its ravages in China have been enormous, but little was known in Europe of the extent of the losses it caused.

## SHERMAN ACCEPTS.

### He Says He Will be the Next Secretary of State.

"I have accepted the state portfolio," said Senator John Sherman to the Associated Press correspondent at the Fort Wayne depot at Canton, O., a few minutes before departing for Washington Friday afternoon. The Senator called on President-elect McKinley and after a few hours conference, the matter of his appointment was settled. Mr. Sherman said he did not know who the other members of the cabinet would be.

Senator Sherman will be 74 years of age on May 11 next. He was generally considered in the United States Senate 36 years, with the exception of four years he occupied a place in the Cabinet of President R. B. Hayes.

## FIVE CHILDREN DROWNED.

### Went Under the Ice While Skating and Could not be Rescued.

Five children were drowned in St. Louis, January 15, while skating. At Kossuth avenue and Ashland place a crowd of children were skating on the ice in an old quarry. The ice gave way and the children were precipitated into the water and drowned before help could rescue them. They are: Amanda Arnold, aged 15 years, Arthur Arnold, aged 12 years, George Marshall, aged 9; Sadie Matthews, aged 11; John Gleason, aged 15, who made a heroic attempt to rescue his playmates, fell into the water, and as a result is in a serious condition.

In another part of the city Al Volmer, aged 11 was drowned in a pond while skating.

## WHAT THE MINERS DEMAND.

### They Abolish the District System and Vastly Increase the Scale.

The National Miners' convention was remarkable for the antipathy shown by the delegates toward their officials, the following being adopted unanimously, in spite of the protests of all the officers present:

Whereas, The present system or method of entering into contracts or agreements by state or districts is detrimental to us as a miningcraft, because mine owners and operators are given an undue advantage over us, and by such means they are enabled to force unjust demands upon us; therefore be it

Resolved, That we, the representatives of the miners, in convention assembled, do hereby declare that we are opposed to the signing of any such or entering into any contracts by state or districts.

President Penna told the convention that if the resolution was adopted they would have no organization by the close of another year.

A scale committee was appointed as follows: Patrick Dolan and Paul Timmer; Pittsburgh district: W. T. Evans and T. L. Lewis; Ohio: W. S. Knight and John Kennedy; Indiana: James G. Connor and John Carson, Illinois. A resolution was referred to the committee, setting forth that that the miners had been content to accept existing conditions and since they had everything to gain and nothing to lose, they should demand 85 cents a ton for mining all coal over three feet, and \$1 for all coal under that thickness; that 2,000 pounds make a ton, and that no coal be sold at the mines for less than \$1.60 a ton.

## GLASS WORKS WRECKED.

### Hurricane Does Much Damage to Property at Anderson, Ind.

Sunday afternoon there was a hurricane through the central part of Indiana, doing damage at various points. The greatest was the destruction of factory No. 4 of the Anderson window glass company. The roof was carried away and the walls fell in on fired furnaces, and but for prompt work of the factory firemen, a big fire would have occurred. Insurance covers the loss. Fifty skilled men will be out of work for some time.

The west wall of the old three-story opera house block, burned out recently was also blown down, and streets leading to it were blocked by debris.

Unusually heavy winds were experienced all over Michigan Sunday. At Marquette, conditions developing into a severe blizzard in the northern region. At Marquette the temperature fell 22 degrees in 10 hours, and two feet of snow fell. In western Michigan gales and snow storms prevailed. At Jackson the roof was blown off the malt house of Haehnie's brewery, doing \$1,000 damage and leaving 10,000 bushels of malt exposed.

## Gained Strike and Union.

The strike of the 300 workmen of the Great Western Fire Clay company, of Toronto, O., which began two weeks ago, was ended Friday by the management sending for the men to return to work at the old wages.

# THE CUBAN ARMY WINS A VICTORY.

## CAPTURED A CAPITAL.

### Santa Clara Seized By the Cuban Leader Gomez.

The New York Press contains a Cuban story to the effect that Gomez has captured Santa Clara after a desperate battle. The commander at Santa Clara was the governor general of the province, Gen. Luque. He had a garrison of 2,000 men. Gomez had 8,000 men, but arms for only about 6,000. On January 5, Gomez decided to invest the town. The infantry, under Gen. Rabi, were sent to the west of the town. The cavalry of which there were four thousand under General Bandera, were sent to the other three sides.

Gen. Rabi led out his men in the gray of the morning. It was to be only a cover. They opened fire, and keeping under cover crept closer and closer to the city. Behind stockades and earthworks, the Spaniards returned the fire earth, but those who looked to the east could see the horses of the cavalry officers galloping from battalion to battalion.

There was the clatter of horse's hoofs deepening into a roar. On they went, two long rows of horsemen, each striving to be first to the outworks. Spanish rifles began to crack here and there along the line of fortifications. Then the shots came faster and faster, until a line of flame appeared in front of each work. Now the cannon belched, and up in the citadel the galling gun hurled its leaden rain.

In the face of the hot fire not a Cuban faltered. Bandera kept in the lead. His horse leaped over the nearest earthworks. He slashed at the fleeing garrison with his machete. His men were right behind him. Suddenly Bandera's machete fell from his hand. He swayed for a moment and then toppled over.

Earthworks, fortifications, barricades gave way under the furious charge of the 24,000. Many Cubans dropped on the way, but the ranks were instantly closed, and the onslaught continued. In 15 minutes after Bandera fell, the victorious Cubans passed the last obstruction.

Most of the Spanish garrison and Gen. Luque escaped to the south. Many fell at the hands of Gen. Rabi's men. The sun was not up when the victorious Cubans were in possession. Gomez took the quarters Luque had occupied and received reports of the battle.

The losses were: Spanish, estimated killed and wounded, 300; Cubans, 700; captured, 18; battle standard, 4; rifles, 10; in the Spanish arsenal, 5,000; worth of ammunition, Cubans killed and wounded, 1,500, which is 600 more than the Spanish loss.

N. B. Borden, one of the best known men in Florida, is said to have landed in Cuba at the head of a large expedition and joined the insurgents. Mr. Borden, formerly of Miami, Fla., 10 days ago on the yacht Minnie, the yacht put in at Biscayne bay and took on 30 men, and arms and ammunition. The munition consisted of 600 rifles, 100,000 rounds of cartridges and one dynamite gun. The yacht effected a landing on the coast of Cuba Sunday night.

Lois Somellian, the naturalized American citizen, who has been found guilty of conspiracy against the Spanish government, has been sentenced to be imprisoned for life in chains. Somellian's lawyer will appeal to the supreme court at Madrid.

## A POSITIVE DENIAL.

### The United States and Spain Have not Reached an Agreement.

It is positively and authoritatively denied that the United States and Spain have practically concluded an agreement regarding terms to be offered the insurgents for the settlement of the Cuban rebellion. It is denied also that a special envoy of Spain has been or is to be sent to the United States, shortly as a private negotiator with special instructions from Senor Canovas, the Duke of Tetuan. It is said that this latter report probably arises from the fact that Senor Solar arrived in Washington recently to succeed one of the secretaries of the legation. Senor Solar was formerly the secretary of the Duke of Tetuan, and when his coming was first announced a report similar to the present one was circulated and officially denied.

Senor Quesada declares there is absolutely no truth in the reports of a pending compromise on a basis of home rule for the Cubans and says: "The Cubans are determined to fight to the last drop of blood, and with onward resolve by entering into and accepting any agreement which would mean the abandonment forever of the high ideal of complete emancipation. To all such projects the Cubans will respond now and always with their motto: 'Independence or death.'"

## CUBAN REFORMS SOON.

### The Spanish Cabinet Decides to Promulgate Them on the King's Fate Day.

A dispatch to the Pall Mail Gazette from Madrid says that at a cabinet meeting just held, the Queen Regent presiding, it was agreed to introduce reforms in the island of Cuba, and a royal decree on the subject will be published on the King's fate day.

It is added that it is possible that Julio Sangulillo, the American citizen recently sentenced at Havana to imprisonment for life on the charge of conspiracy against the Government, will be granted a free pardon.

The fete day referred to is May 17, and is the King's christening day. His birthday is on the 23d of this month.

The Spanish Premier, in an interview, declares that absolutely no negotiations are proceeding between the United States and the United States on the subject of Cuba. He explained that he is ignorant of the source of the rumors and only desired to state that they are completely unfounded.

On the other hand, it is declared that early in February the Government will publish a decree providing for Cuban reforms, allowing as much autonomy as the sovereignty of Spain will permit.

## Killed By Moonshiners.

Deputy United States Marshal W. A. Baird was killed in Breaslet county, Ky. Baird had been riding to the moonshiners' den, and was riding to Jackson with Nease on the horse behind him. Jacob Nease and Dan Farley, relatives of the prisoner, overtook the marshal and demanded that Nease be released. Nease rolled off the horse and his relatives began firing on the officer. Baird turned the fire, but Nease shot him through the breast. Baird then shot Nease in the leg, when his horse plunged into the river and swam across. When the animal reached the bank, Baird fell off, dead. This was the third attempt that the moonshiners have made to kill him.

## Consolidated.

It is said the details are now being arranged for the formation of a corporation with a capital of \$5,000,000, which will include three of the large iron concerns of Youngstown. They are the Youngstown Iron Company, the Union Iron and Steel Company, and the Mahoning Valley Iron Company, and they will be under one management. During the week representatives of the three companies have been inspecting all the property and assessing its value. It is understood that the Ohio Steel company is interested in the combination and will furnish steel billets to the new company at prices which will enable it to compete in the market with all comers.

# BETTER DAYS IN SIGHT.

### Business Improvement Has Been in Progress for Two Months.

H. G. Dan & Co., say in their review of trade: "It takes time for new conditions to reach through money markets, large orders, resuming mills, expanding employment, and larger distribution, to the results which make still greater and lasting gain possible. Such gradual and steady improvement has been in progress for months.

The output of pig iron has gained 41.6 per cent since October 1. The output of wire has increased 63.7 per cent since October 1