

# THE PORTO RICO TARIFF

### Amended to Prevent Its Defeat in the National House.

#### ONLY A TEMPORARY MEASURE.

#### Changes Agreed to Limit the Operation of the Tariff to Two Years and Reduce the Duty Imposed From Twenty-Five to Fifteen Per Cent.

Washington, Feb. 27.—About 125 Republican members attended the second conference on the Porto Rican tariff bill in the hall of the house of representatives last night. The leaders had been in consultation during the day discussing plans for allaying the opposition to the bill and bringing the recalcitrants into line. So much had been made by the kickers of the alleged opposition of the president to the measure that the managers were particularly desirous of being able to offer some assurances that would remove all objections to the measure on that score and in the afternoon the Republican members of the ways and means committee, with the exception of Mr. McCall, of Massachusetts, the dissenting Republican, called on the president at the White House.

The Republican members of the ways and means committee, together with Speaker Henderson, remained at the Capitol canvassing the situation during the interim between the adjournment of the house at 5 o'clock and the assembling of the conference at 8. Chairman Cannon presided over the caucus. As soon as it had been called to order Mr. Payne, of New York, the floor leader, submitted two amendments which he said the ways and means committee were prepared to offer to the bill. One of them changed the title of the measure to make it a bill for temporarily raising revenue for Porto Rico. The other added a new section to the bill, limiting its operation to March 1, 1902, unless sooner repealed.

General Shattuck, of Ohio, opened proceedings with a plain statement to the effect that he was willing to defer his own opinion in this matter to the wishes of the president, although he was convinced that his constituents favored free trade with Porto Rico.

He demanded to know, however, and he wanted no equivocation about it, whether the president believed the bill was constitutional and whether he favored the measure. If he did not Mr. Shattuck announced that he would not be bound by the action of the caucus. This brought Mr. Payne to his feet. He said he had seen the president during the afternoon, and he announced emphatically that the president was convinced that the bill was constitutional, and that he would sign the measure. Mr. Corlies, of Michigan, backed up Mr. Payne with the statement that he had seen the president since the house adjourned and that the president desired the bill to pass.

Mr. Grogan, of Pennsylvania, the venerable ex-speaker of the house, said that the amendments proposed made the bill an emergency measure, against which the question of constitutionality ought not to be raised, and Mr. Marsh, of Illinois, earnestly appealed to the recalcitrants to rally around the Republican standard and bury their dissensions. This drew statements from Mr. McCall and Mr. Littlefield, the two leaders of the Republican revolt. Both spoke in good temper, but abated not one jot their individual opposition to the measure. They announced that they would oppose the bill to the end.

Mr. H. C. Smith, of Michigan, then offered an amendment to reduce the duty imposed by the bill from 25 to 15 per cent. This was agreed to by a vote of 105 to 11.

As a result of the conference the Republican leaders claim that the bill will have the support of all the Republicans except Messrs. McCall of Massachusetts, Littlefield of Maine, Lorimer of Illinois and Crumpacker of Indiana, and this loss will be offset by affirmative votes of the opposition. They claim the passage of the modified bill is certain.

# TERRIBLE TALE OF CANNIBALISM.

### Balekas From the Congo Have Obliterated a Dense Population.

London, Feb. 27.—Some of the morning newspapers publish a remarkable interview with E. S. Grogan, who has just returned to England after a two years' journey in Africa. Mr. Grogan, who traveled over 6,500 miles and represents himself to be the first European who has traveled through the continent from the Cape to Cairo, says that after leaving Lake Tanganyika, with eight porters, he entered a region of active volcanoes, where he encountered "enormous lava streams, forming a veritable sea, 40 miles by 60, and a hundred feet deep." This whole region he found devastated, forests and herds of elephants being buried in the liquid fire.

The neighboring country, he says, was occupied by some 5,000 Balekas, ferocious cannibals from the Congo, who live by man hunting. His guides told him that the country, covering 500 square miles, had been until recently densely populated, but that the people had virtually been killed and eaten by the Balekas.

Everywhere he found evidences of cannibalism. The very paths in the jungle were marked out by lines of human skeletons. The streams were all of decomposing remnants of humanity, half eaten and horribly mutilated. He entered some of the habitations and saw "cauldrons full of liquid, with floating human skulls and the bodies of infants."

On one occasion the savages attacked Mr. Grogan's party, but he opened upon them with rifle fire. This angered the cannibals, as they had never before seen a gun or a white man. Mr. Grogan shot two, and the rest retreated.

### Our Porto Rico Soldiers.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Secretary Taft is so well satisfied with the record of the troops recruited from Porto Rico that he has determined to increase the number now in service. There is now a full battalion of these troops, and the secretary is looking for the enlistment of 1,000 more.

# THE KENTUCKY CONTROVERSY.

### State Contest Board Awards Minor Offices to the Democrats.

Frankfort, Feb. 27.—The state contest board yesterday awarded certificates of election to all of the Democratic contestants for minor state offices. Immediately afterwards the contestants were sworn in and repaired to the state house in a body, where they made a formal demand on the Republican incumbents for possession of the offices, but the demands were not acceded to.

The Democratic contestants sworn in are: Secretary of state, C. B. Hill of Clarke county; attorney general, Robert J. Breckenridge of Boyle county; auditor, Gus G. Coulter of Graves county; treasurer, Wilbur Hager of Boyd county; superintendent of public instruction, H. V. McChesney of Livingston county. Clerk of the Court of Appeals Shackleford administered the oath of office to all the contestants for offices other than governor and lieutenant governor.

The installation of the Democratic officials will have the effect of tying up tightly every branch of the state government pending a decision of all the contests by the courts.

# FOUR MINERS' TERRIBLE FALL.

### Thrown Headlong to Death From a Descending Mine Carriage.

Scranton, Pa., Feb. 27.—Four men were killed yesterday by being thrown from a descending carriage in the Mt. Pleasant shaft of the Fuller Coal company, in west Scranton. The victims, all of whom lived in Scranton, are: Frank Woodward, aged 24 years, drill machine operator, married; John Reagan, 35, laborer, leaves wife and three children; Thomas Williams, 33, laborer, leaves wife and two children; William Gilbert, 43, driver, leaves wife and six children.

Ten workmen had entered the carriage to be lowered into the different mine workings, six of whom got off at the Dunmore vein. When the carriage began its further descent towards the foot of the shaft it struck one of the fans at the Clark vein, which are used to hold the carriage when cars are being run in and out of the opening.

There was a crash, and the floor of the carriage was separated from its holdings on one side, throwing the occupants into the shaft, all of them falling headlong to the bottom.

# Bride of an Hour Drank Poison.

Baltimore, Feb. 27.—Just an hour after her wedding yesterday Mrs. Mary Kraeb, 25 years old, swallowed a quantity of chloroform, and is at Johns Hopkins hospital in a critical condition. After the marriage ceremony the bride and groom, the latter a drug clerk named Emil Kraeb, drove to a boarding house on Patterson Park avenue, where he formerly lived. Mrs. Jansen, the bride's aunt, ordered Kraeb to leave the house, and after assaulting him and scratching his face ejected him. He returned later with a patrolman, and while the latter was hearing Mrs. Jansen's side of the story Mrs. Kraeb drank the poison. It is feared she will die.

# Soldiers Cannot Purchase Discharge.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The war department has found a means of escape from the necessity which apparently confronted it of deciding at this time whether or not a state of war exists. The question was brought forward by the applications of a number of enlisted men to purchase their discharges. The judge advocate general declares that the law relative to the purchase of discharges was not mandatory, but discretionary. The secretary of war "may" in time of peace discharge a soldier who wishes to purchase his discharge. It is probable all of the applications will be rejected.

# Weavers' Strike Declared Off.

Philadelphia, Feb. 27.—The upholstery weavers' strike, which was begun about 12 weeks ago, was declared off last night by the weavers. The men asked for a general advance in wages of about 24 per cent. They were offered an increase of 12 per cent, which they refused, and then struck. Last night, however, the strikers reconsidered the manufacturers' offer, and concluded to go back to work at the figures named by their employers. The men will receive, in addition to the 12 per cent increase, ten cents more an hour for all overtime work. The strike cost the men \$150,000 in wages.

# Cuba's Revenue Receipts.

Havana, Feb. 27.—The internal revenue collections in the Island of Cuba for the six months ending Dec. 31 were \$413,448, derived from the following sources: Inheritance and conveyance tax, \$187,610; corporation tax, \$42,056; tax on railroad freight and passengers, \$140,864; forest privileges, \$555; redemption of rent charges, \$220; interest on rent charges, \$8,534; interest on interest arrears, \$324; rent of government land, \$2,363; sale of condemned property, \$147; sale of public lands, \$675; sundry revenues, \$28,592; refunds for undue payments, \$503.

# Brokers Backed Syndicate Swindlers.

New York, Feb. 27.—The World says: Twenty-five men will be indicted by the special grand jury now in session as a result of the investigation into the recent bear movement against the Brooklyn Rapid Transit. The grand jury has found that not only have well known persons in Wall street been back of the raid on Brooklyn Rapid Transit stock, but that they have also been connected with the 520 per cent syndicates which have been exposed recently.

# An Alleged Chicago Usuricide.

Chicago, Feb. 27.—Mrs. Eyrill E. Synon was found dead in her home last night. Her skull had been crushed by heavy blows from some blunt instrument and there were several gashes on her neck. Michael J. Synon, husband of the woman, is under arrest. The need of money, which he wished to use for gambling, and which he knew his wife had, is thought by the police to have been the motive for the murder.

# To Build Locomotives For France.

Philadelphia, Feb. 27.—The Baldwin locomotive works, of this city, has received an order from the Paris and Orleans railway, of France, for 30 ten wheel passenger engines. This is the first locomotive contract ever placed by this railway in America.

# THE CARNEGIE COMPANY

### Charged With Conspiracy Against H. C. Frick Coke Company.

### SUIT AGAINST COKE COMPANY.

### The Board of Directors, Under the Control of Carnegie, Charged With Working to Cheat the Coke Company in Interest of Steel Company.

Pittsburg, Feb. 27.—John Walker, guardian of Andrew Carnegie Wilson, S. L. Schoonmaker and John Pontefract, on behalf of themselves and such other stockholders of the H. C. Frick company as may choose to join in the suit as plaintiffs, filed the much talked of bill in equity to annul the coke contract held with the coke company by the Carnegie Steel company, limited, in common pleas court No. 2, yesterday afternoon. The bill names as defendants the H. C. Frick Coke company, a corporation; Thomas Lynch, H. C. Frick, George Lauder, D. M. Clemson, Andrew M. Moreland, James Gayley and Thomas Morrison composing the board of directors of said corporation, and the Carnegie Steel company, limited.

The action is remotely connected with the trouble now existing between H. C. Frick, former chairman of the Carnegie Steel company, and Andrew Carnegie, and was precipitated by the filing of Mr. Frick's bill to secure an accounting of the affairs of the Carnegie Steel company.

In this case the plaintiffs seek to restrain the defendants by injunction from selling, shipping or delivering any coke to the Carnegie Steel company under a contract dated Jan. 1, 1899, at a price of \$1.35 a ton, the contract to run for a period of five years, and from settling with the steel company for coke already delivered under the contract. It is also asked that the court annul the contract and order an accounting. The plaintiffs allege fraud in the obtaining of the said contract, and accuse a majority of the board of directors of the coke company of working solely for the interests of the Carnegie Steel company, with the purpose of cheating and defrauding all stockholders of the coke company not members of the steel company.

It is also claimed that if the contract is carried out the Frick Coke company will have to refund to the steel company \$596,000 on account of coke sold to said steel company during the year 1899, and during the year 1900 it will cause a loss to the coke company of not less than \$4,000,000. The bill sets forth that at the time the grievances complained of happened Schoonmaker owned 556 shares of the capital stock of the coke company, Walker 4,096 shares for himself and 116 shares as guardian of Andrew Carnegie Wilson, and Pontefract 556 shares.

The Carnegie Steel company, it is stated, was the owner of 59,104 shares of the capital stock of the coke company, and Carnegie was likewise holder of 51,213 shares, which together constituted more than a majority of the coke company's capital stock. This, it is claimed, enabled the Carnegie Steel company and Carnegie to elect their nominees as directors of the coke company and dominate and control their action.

### Admiral Dewey's Prize Money.

Washington, Feb. 27.—The United States court of claims yesterday rendered an opinion on the claim of Admiral Dewey, his officers and men for naval bounty for the destruction of the Spanish fleet in Manila bay May 1, 1898, the court holding that the claimant has a right to recover for each person on board the enemy's ships the sum of \$100. This decision is upon the basis that the admiral's fleet was superior to the Spanish fleet, excluding the shore batteries, the torpedoes and the mines in Manila bay. The admiral claimed \$200 for each man belonging to the enemy's fleet. Under the decision Admiral Dewey is personally entitled to \$9,570. He will probably appeal.

### Turley Opposes Quay.

Washington, Feb. 27.—Formal discussion of the right of former Senator Quay to a seat in the senate as a member from Pennsylvania was begun yesterday by Mr. Turley (Tenn.). He presented a constitutional argument against the seating of Mr. Quay, which was given close attention by his colleagues. He will conclude today. Consideration of the Hawaiian government bill brought out a lively discussion between Mr. Tillman (S. C.) and Mr. Spooner (Wis.), in which the former admitted that ballot boxes had been stuffed and negroes had been shot in the south to maintain white domination.

### A Protest From Porto Rico.

Washington, Feb. 27.—A memorial of "protest and petition from the people of Porto Rico" to the congress of the United States was presented to the senate and house yesterday. The petitioners ask that the military be withdrawn, that Porto Rico be declared an integral part of the United States, that unrestricted free commerce be established between the United States and the island, that American money be substituted for Porto Rico money and that a commission be appointed to codify the laws and consider insular interests. The petition is signed by the Porto Rican delegates in this city.

### Flour Trust in Receivers' Hands.

Milwaukee, Feb. 27.—Judge Jenkins, in the United States court yesterday appointed three receivers for the United States Milling company, otherwise known as the flour trust. The receivers are Daniel Thomas of New York, Charles E. Kirball of Summit, N. J., and Albert C. Loring of Minneapolis. The collapse of the company was due, it is said, to its inability to float its securities on the open market.

### Cole's Alleged Heavy Embezzlement.

Boston, Feb. 27.—The case of Charles H. Cole, charged with embezzlement and misappropriation of \$900,000 from the Globe National bank, will be presented at a special sitting of the grand jury of the United States court tomorrow. The December grand jury was summoned for the purpose. It is expected that the testimony will take several days.

# TO RESIST INVADERS.

### Boers Are Assembling in Force Near Bloemfontein.

### MEANTIME ORONJE FIGHTS ON.

### He Has Engaged the Corps of Lord Roberts For Ten Days, While Thirty Thousand Boers Have Been Getting Together Elsewhere.

London, Feb. 27.—The Boers are assembling an army near Bloemfontein, with which to dispute the invasion of Lord Roberts. This intelligence comes from Pretoria by way of Lourenco Marques. The commandoes are described as "hastening from all quarters of the two republics." No estimate is made of their numbers, but the withdrawal of the Boers from most of the places where they have been in contact with the British, except the district near Ladysmith, may raise the resisting force to 20,000 men. This figure assumes that the Boers have between 60,000 and 70,000 men in the field.

The gathering of this army across the path of Lord Roberts gives significance to General Cronje's steadfast defense. He has engaged the corps of Lord Roberts for ten days now, and whether he is relieved or not, he has given time for the dispersed Boer factions to get together and to prepare positions to receive the British advance when Cronje is overcome and Lord Roberts moves forward.

It is difficult to conceive that the Boers are strong enough to take the offensive and to rescue General Cronje from his precarious situation.

The war office had nothing after midnight to indicate his collapse, and he may hold out for a few days. The correspondents seem to have no exact information respecting his resources. Some say he has plenty of food, but is short of ammunition. Others assert that he abandoned his food supplies, but kept abundant supplies of cartridges.

General Buller on Saturday faced the last and strongest positions of the Boers who bar his way to Ladysmith. The strenuous fighting indicates a battle between armies, rather than rear guard actions protecting a retreat.

On Thursday and Friday Buller lost 43 officers killed and wounded, representing probably a total loss of from 400 to 500.

General White's guns worked on Saturday upon the Boer position, and a helicopter from Ladysmith reported that the Boers were retreating and that larger rations were being issued in view of the fact that relief seemed at hand.

Nothing has been heard from Mafeking since Feb. 12. The movement on the veldt away from the railway is becoming increasingly difficult for large bodies of troops, as the grass is burned up. General French has to wagon forage for his horses, and even the infantry finds the long marches harder than before, as forage for the transport animals must be carried. This requires the formation of garrisoned depots.

The ordinary campaigning season is over, and the sickly season for both men and animals has set in. Technical military writers take these things into consideration in forecasting events.

### Revolution in Mechanical Economics.

Washington, Feb. 27.—What amounts to a revolution in mechanical economics is reported to the state department by Consul General Mason, at Berlin. Professor Josse, of the royal technical high school at Charlottenburg, has succeeded in advancing the efficiency of the best type of modern compound steam engine 50 per cent. This is effected by the absorption of heat from the exhaust steam through sulphurous acid, which, being evaporated, drives an auxiliary engine. In this way a 2,000 horse power central station engine should, according to Mr. Mason, furnish power to drive an additional 1,000 horse power engine.

### Five of a Family Killed by a Train.

Geneva, N. Y., Feb. 26.—Shortly after Saturday midnight the midnight express on the Lehigh Valley railroad struck a carriage containing seven persons at Turtles Crossing, about 25 miles east from Rochester, instantly killing five occupants, fatally injuring another and badly bruising the other. The dead are Mrs. Amy Smith, 48 years old; Bert Smith, 23 years; Miss Miranda Smith, 24 years; Glee Smith, 14 years; Catherine Smith, 8 years. Injured: Poster Smith, husband of Mrs. Smith, and father of the other victims; Gardner Smith, 21 years old.

### New York's Rapid Transit Tunnel.

New York, Feb. 27.—The rapid transit commissioners yesterday passed resolutions authorizing the board of estimates and apportionment to appropriate the \$35,000,000 needed for the building of the rapid transit tunnel. This resolution also included \$1,500,000 for terminals and real estate. The commission adopted a resolution instructing the chief engineer to investigate and report as to the practicability and the cost of an extension of the rapid transit railroad from the city hall to South ferry, and thence under the East river to the borough of Brooklyn.

### A Bill Against Faith Curists.

Trenton, Feb. 27.—A bill making it illegal to treat sick persons by the methods of Christian Scientists and faith curists will be introduced by Assemblyman John J. Fallon, of Hoboken, as a result of the death of Grace Clarke in Jersey City Sunday. No legal action will be taken in the case, as physicians in good standing had attended the child at her mother's request before Christian Scientists were called in, and there was little chance of saving her life.

### Explosion Betrayed Counterfeiter.

Joplin, Mo., Feb. 27.—The explosion of a gasoline stove brought an alleged counterfeiter to grief here yesterday. The man under arrest is Oscar Ramsey and his mint was in the upper story of a private residence. After the fire had been extinguished Deputy United States Marshal Means gathered in the counterfeiting outfit and several spurious dollars upon which Ramsey was working.

# A WEEK'S NEWS CONDENSED

### Wednesday, Feb. 21.

William H. Beard, the artist, died in New York, aged 75.

Leander J. McCormick, of the famous harvester machinery firm, died in Chicago, aged 81.

Marechale MacMahon, widow of the famous French marshal and president, died in Paris, aged 71.

Leslie E. Keeley, inventor of the Keeley cure for drunkenness, died at Los Angeles, Cal., aged 68.

The receipts of "Napoleon" Miller's Franklin syndicate for less than four months exceeded \$2,000,000.

Olga Nethersole, the actress, was arrested in New York, her acting in "Sapho" being declared "indecent."

Maryland's senate refused to pass a bill compelling Baltimore street railroads to sell six tickets for 25 cents.

Judge Henry Caldwell, of Arkansas, will probably be nominated by the Populists for vice president, with Bryan for president.

### Thursday, Feb. 22.

Ex-Congressman Charles C. Comstock died at Grand Rapids, Mich., aged 82.

New Jersey's legislature passed a resolution to investigate the State Industrial School for Girls.

Benjamin Wood, ex-congressman and publisher of the New York Daily News, died in that city, aged 80.

Charles Curtis was arrested at Marysville, O., charged with stealing a horse and buggy in which he eloped with a wealthy girl from Rootsville, Pa.

The receipts of the American board of foreign missions for the first five months of the fiscal year show an increase of \$25,261 in donations and \$26,203 in legacies.

The new law school building of the University of Pennsylvania was dedicated with elaborate ceremonies at Philadelphia yesterday and last night. Justice Harlan was the principal orator.

### Friday, Feb. 23.

The Democratic national convention will be held at Kansas City, Mo., July 4.

Indiana Populists nominated a state ticket headed by A. G. Burkhardt for governor.

Washington's birthday was generally observed throughout Porto Rico. In San Juan the school children took part in the exercises.

At Williamsburg, Ky., Organizer G. W. Purcell, of the United Mine Workers, has been acquitted of the charge of leading a riot.

For the second time in recent years the business portion of Glen Hazel, Pa., was wiped out by fire. Loss \$30,000, insurance \$6,000.

The tablet presented to the Annapolis Naval academy by the Maryland Society of Daughters of the Revolution was unveiled in the chapel at the academy yesterday.

### Saturday, Feb. 24.

Stringent measures have about effected the eradication of the plague in Japan.

The next annual meeting of the Democratic clubs will be held at Indianapolis Sept. 5.

Sculltown, Pa., had its population of 100 increased to 125 on Wednesday. The increase was born.

James P. Buck, of Vineland, N. J., who, in the opinion of physicians, was hiccoughing himself to death, has been cured by a plum.

Hugh Kennedy, Harry Griggs, Frank Reynolds, Harry Parker and James Gray were indicted for manslaughter for causing the death of May Bibbhaus in a Philadelphia opium joint.

### Sunday, Feb. 25.

In the northwest there is a great scarcity of labor.

L. F. Laffin, the wealthy powder manufacturer, died suddenly in Chicago.

Consul Canada reports from Vera Cruz that the corn crop there is short and the shipments from America may be profitable.

The barge General Wiley foundered in a gale off Narragansett Pier, R. I. Captain Eli Harold and his four young children were drowned.

Accused by her husband of infidelity and locked out of her rooms, Mrs. Martha Dittmeyer, 20 years old, drank carbolic acid and died, at New York.

Because recognition of their union was refused 600 machinists struck at the works of Frazer & Chalmers and of Crosby & Co., at Chicago.

As a result of a secret meeting at Cincinnati, O., of the Woodenware association, it is said there will be another advance in prices of all woodenware articles.

### Tuesday, Feb. 27.

Smallpox seems to be spreading at Morristown, N. J.

The California supreme court upholds the trust clause in Senator Fair's will.

James Johnson, aged 73, was found frozen to death near his home in Pomeroy, Pa.

United States supreme court denied the appeal of Captain Oberlin M. Carter for a new trial.

The appellate court in Chicago decided that property owners may sue elevated roads for depreciating values.

Antonio Ferraro was electrocuted at Sing Sing for the murder of Lucaine Muelro in Brooklyn April 4, 1898. Five shocks were administered.

Wilson Wakely, prominent farmer near Brock, Neb., murdered his wife, ex-president of the Nebraska W. C. T. U., and then suicided on the grave of his first wife.

### GENERAL MARKETS.

Philadelphia, Feb. 26.—Flour weak; winter superfine, \$2.96; Pennsylvania roller, clear, \$3.15; city mills, extra, \$2.96; Rye flour quiet at \$3.15; 49 per barrel. Wheat slow; No. 2 red, spot, in elevator, 74¢; No. 2 red, spot, No. 2 mixed, spot, in elevator, 39¢; No. 2 yellow, for local trade, 41¢. Oats quiet and steady; No. 2 white, clipped, 31¢; lower grades, 28¢. Hay firm; choice timothy, \$17 for large bales. Beef steady; beef hams, \$21.50; Pork steady; family, \$14.50. Lard easy; western steamed, \$6.10. Butter steady; western creamery, 26¢; do. factory, 16¢; New York creamery, 19¢; imitation do., 14¢; New York dairy, 18¢; do. creamery, 26¢; fancy Pennsylvania prints jobbing at 27¢; do. wholesale, 26¢. Cheese firm; full made, fancy, large and small, 13¢; choice grades, 12¢. Eggs firm; New York and Pennsylvania, 15¢; southern, 14¢. Potatoes steady; Jersey, \$1.50; New York, \$1.50.

# KEYSTONE HAPPENINGS.

### News Items of Interest From All Parts of the State.

### FATAL FIRE IN PHILADELPHIA.

### One Woman Killed and Several Persons Injured in a Half Million Dollar Blaze—Self Confessed Murderer Commits Suicide.

Philadelphia, Feb. 24.—One woman was killed, several other persons were severely injured and property valued at \$500,000 was destroyed by a fire which broke out last night in the heart of the wholesale millinery district. The burned area covered nearly two acres.

The woman killed was Clara Cohen, aged 23 years, a seamstress in the employ of Harris and Bernard Cohen. She met her death by jumping from the fifth floor of the building in which the fire started. Among the most seriously hurt were Clara Ulor, who fell from the third floor of the same building, and George Sweeney, a fireman, who was badly hurt about the hip by flying debris. Several other girls had hands burned, and a colored man received severe sprains by attempting to catch the young woman as they dropped from the end of a rope which was suspended from a window.

Rowe His Own Executioner.

Lebanon, Pa., Feb. 23.—Leopold Rowe, who a few days ago confessed to having murdered a man at Campbelltown, Lebanon county, in 1891, committed suicide in his cell in the county prison yesterday by hanging. Nobody was arrested for the murder confessed by Rowe. Not being identified, and under the supposition that it was a case of suicide, the body was buried by the county authorities. Nothing has since that time developed to lead to the identification of the stranger. Rowe was 52 years of age.

### Unconstitutional Legislation.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Feb. 24.—Hon. Stanley Woodward, president judge of Luzerne county, in an opinion handed down yesterday, declares the act classifying townships into two classes, passed by the last legislature, unconstitutional. There are 1,522 townships in the state and only about 22 are affected by the act. Judge Woodward says this method of classification excludes 1,500 townships from the provisions of the act, and it is therefore special legislation and clearly unconstitutional.

### Death Sentence Commuted.

Harrisburg, Feb. 24.—The board of pardons yesterday commuted the death sentence of Joseph Morrison, of Millifield county, to life imprisonment. The application of Frank J. Krause, of Lehigh county, who was to have been hanged next Monday, was held until adjournment. When Governor advanced the board's action he reported Krause until March 27.

### Denounced His President.

Philadelphia, Feb. 24.—Denunciations of President McKinley were in order at the anti-imperialist meeting in this city yesterday. After each burst of eloquent castigation there was thunderous applause. The climax of the debate was reached when George Frank Stephens, of Philadelphia, characterized President McKinley as a butcher and murderer. The resolutions adopted breathe the same spirit.

### Murdered His Landlord.

Scranton, Pa., Feb. 24.—John Davis yesterday shot and instantly killed Martin Allen at Moosic, near here. The latter owned a house in which Davis was a tenant and went there to collect the rent. They got into a dispute over something, and Davis went into a side room, got a shotgun and fired the load into Allen's head. Davis was arrested.

### Baby Died From Her Burns.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., Feb. 27.—A house occupied by Michael Wentz, in the village of Alden, caught fire from an overheated stove yesterday. The family, in making their escape through the flames, were badly burned. A 4-year-old daughter died from her burns shortly after being taken out of the