FATAL EXPLOSION OF FIRE DAMP

FIVE INSTANTLY KILLED.

Two White and Three Celored Men Loss Their Lives.

By an explosion of fire damp in the Choe taw, Oklahoma, and Gulf railway company's mine at Alderson, I T., two white and three colored miners were killed outright and twenty others entombed. The dead are:

Joe Cox. Martin Roy. Simon Petty. T. C. Curry. William Bisbop.

As soon as the smoke had disappeared a number of miners, under the leadership of the superintendent, entered the slope and penetrated the workings to the point where operatives had been engaged, coming across the bodies of the two white miners first—Cox and Boy—frightfully mangled by flying lumps of coal and dead. Ten rods further on the bodies of three colored men were reached.

reached.

Then the seachers pushed forward toward Then the seachers pushed forward toward the chamber where some twenty miners were at work, their progress being necessarily slow and as many tons of debris had to be removed from the gangway before they could proceed. After three hours hard work, the imprisoned men were reached and brought out in safety. The explosion is supposed to have been caused by the fire boss unscreaning his safety lamp, which ignited the gas.

WAS \$60,000 SHORT.

A Baltimore Bank Cashier Upon Being Discovered Commits Suicide.

Richard Cornelius, Cashier and for fortytwo years connected with the National Farmers and Planters Bank in Baltimore, Md., of which Baoch Pratt was president up to the time of his death, was discovered to to the time of his death, was discovered to be short in his accounts to the amount of about \$40,000. Monday Mr. Cornelius was notified of this discovery and left the bank. At 1:15 o'clock Monday afternoon his dead body was found in the duck pond at Druid Hill park. He had committed suicide by drowning. On Saturday last, the attention of the bank officers was called by the bank examiner to an irregularity in the accounts of a country bank, for which the National Farmers and Pinnters bank was correspondent, and the officers immediately began a quiet investigation of the cashier's accounts.

When Mr. Cornelius arrived at the bank When Mr. Cornelius arrived at the bank Monday morning he was summoned before the beard of directors. Mr. Cornelius, it is understood, claimed that he could make a satisfactory statement, and he was allowed to go into another part of the bank to get a certain paper. He did not return, and after the lapse of some time, the directors ascertained that he had left the building. Detectives were at once summoned and they traced Mr. Cornelius to Druid Hill park, where in a short time his body was found in the pond.

in a short time his body was found in the pond.

Mr. Cornelius began his career with the the National Farmers and Planters bank forty-two years ago as messenger boy and worked his way up to the position of eashier. Until Saturday there had nover been even a susp cion against his integrity. He was never known to speculate and lived very frugally.

A CHEAT RIVER ROAD

Ten Miles of Right of Way Secured From One County

L. H. Hamilton, of Philadelphia, a representative of the West Virginia Northern Railroad Company, whose principal office is at Philadelphia, has secured from the court of Preston county ten miles of right of way for the proposed railroad down Cheat river. The court granted the company the use of an abandoned country road, provided work be commenced at once. Mr. Hamilton assured the cont that his company would at once commence the work on this road, which is to connect with the Baltimore and Ohio at Bowlesville, thence down the river to some point near Fairchance, Ps. The road will be nearly 50 miles in length and will pass through a hitherto undeveloped section of valuable timber and coal lands.

J. J. Stoer and J. F. Stoer, of Philadelphia, are known as being large stockholders in the company, and other Philadelphia people are interested. The Messrs. Stoer are owners of valuable timber and mineral territory along the Cheat river and own several large lumber mills in operation in this county.

A railroad down Cheat river has been considered for a number of years, and another the proposed railroad down Cheat river. The

A railroad down Cheat river has been considered for a number of years, and another company has had a charter for several years. It is known as the Cheat River Railroad Company, of Pittsburg. The correspondent has been informed that this company is also ready to build, and will do so if the Philadelphia parties do not keep the franchise alive that they acquired by beginning work. The only practical route for the first nine or ten miles of the road proposed is upon the county road, which has a natural grade. The level shore along the stream is not wide enough for more than one-half, hence the right of way along the county road here is a valuable one.

WAGES HEAVILY SLASHED

High Officials, as Well as Workingmen, Will Be Reduced.

The 3,500 employes of the Illinois Steel company, at the South Chicago mills, were company, at the South Chicago mills, were notified that their wages would be cut on February 1, probably about 20 per cent. The salary of every head of department which is now more than \$100 per month will be reduced from 15 to 50 per cent. "This is simply the result of poor business," said President Gates. "During the past year the price of steel rails has been reduced \$3 a ton, and this means a loss of over \$1,000,000 to the Hilinois Steel company."

The cut in wages does not apply to members of the Amalgamated association, who have a contract with the company that does not expire until spring.

ADVISED BY THE CZAR

The Sultan W: sed That He May Lose His Throne.

The Crar has sent a message to the Sul mending him to seriously consider the advice necessary for the Empire and adding has if he does not do so he will expose the asset to the gravest consequences, you foreign intervention. The Car further any that the Suitan's acceptance of this advice is an indispensable condition to the integrity of his empire and the maintenance of 2800.

An Awful Death Rate.

The Times of India says that owing to the rodus on account of the plague, the popution of Bombay has been reduced one-half, he weekly mortuary is 200 per 1,000, and tone shops are closed than open in the native quarters.

The piece goods market has been closed on account of the plaque. It is officially announced that 1,950,000 persons are now engaged in the relief work and it is added that the number will probaty reach 2,000,000 during the coming week, public meeting has been called under the residency at the vicercy, the Earl of Eigin, peaking the state and measures to re-

A BOILER LETS CO.

One Man Killed and Several Injured. The Building Destroyed.

A terrible boiler explosion occurred at Hazelhurst, a small lumber town, in McKean county, Pa. Charles Cole, aged 28 years, was killed, and Martin Delmage and three other men were injured. Delmage injuries are fatal. This explosion occurred at M. J. Healy's shingle mill. The man who was killed, and those injured were employes of the mill. The fireman had left the boiler and gone to a boarding house, and Cole and his companions were attending to their duties in the mill, when suddenly the house exploded, a detenation which shook the houses in Hazelhurst.

The mill was demoished by the force of the explosion, lumber and shingles being hurled in every direction, and nothing remained of the mill but a pile of splintered boards. Charles Cole was found lying about 100 feet from where the boiler had stood. His body was terribly mutilated, and he lived but a short time.

Martin Delmage was found partially burned in a pile of rubbish. His skull was fractured, and his body badly incerated by flying missiles. He is in a dying condition. Three men, whose names have not yet been learned, were also badly injured, but are expected to recover.

The boiler, which was a 30 horse-power. Hazeshurst, a small lumber town, in McKean

The boiler, which was a 30 horse-power one, had the rear portion torn off, and was buried a distance of 200 feet. A part of the front of the boiler was also blown off. The cause of the explesson will never be known.

THREE BANKS CARRIED DOWN

Deposito . Porce the Closing of Three St Paul Institutions.

The Gormania, the Allemania and Wes side banks, of St. Paul, all State banks, clos-

The Gormania, the Allemania and West Side banks, of St. Paul, all State banks, closed their doors Monday. The failure of the Bank of Minnesota December 22, caused unrest, and depositors withdraw their money from the three banks anmed to such an extent that they were forced to the wall because they had not funds enough to meet the demands. Each of the the three, however, is solvent, and all will reorganize. The Germania is in the hands of P. M. Kerst, as assignee, and the other two are in the hands of Bank Examiner Kenyon.

The closing of the Germania was in pursuance of the action of the directors on Saturday night, who concluded to protest their depositors by suspending. President Willins prepared a statement in which he attributed the suspension partly to the circulation of faise reports concerning the bank by people who are 'a veritable pest and deserve the contempt of the community.' The bank had paid out nearly \$225,000 in nine days preceding Saturday, and aithough it had still on band over \$100,000, the directors concluded it was wisest to suspend.

The Aliemania closed with a crowd of depositors ciamoring at the paying teller's window for their money. President Schoffer said the failure was due to the large number of withdrawais, and the fact that most of the depositers withheld their deposits. The suspension of the Germania caused the depositors to come down like a herd of wolves. The West Side bank cleared through the Allemania, and fol owed it into co lapse.

Public funds were on deposit in all three of the closed banks. The State has \$10,546 in the Germania, \$35,302 in the Allemania, and \$3,646 in the Germania. The countries of the closed banks. The State has \$10,546 in the Germania.

of the closed canks. The State has \$10,546 in the Germania, \$35,302 in the Allemania, and \$3,046 in the West Side bruk. The county treasurer had deposited \$9,235 in the Germania, \$25,215 in the Allemania, and \$7,564 in the West Side bank. C ty Treasurer Horst had on deposite try funds in the Germania to the amount of \$40,193; in the Allemania \$15,1456, and in the West Side bank \$21,894. There was a considerable run on the three savings banks, but all gave depositors notice that they must give 60 days' notice before withdrawing funds.

The City bank of Nora Springs, Ia., suspended.

pended.
The United States court appointed William F. Fuller, of Hartford, Conn., receiver of the lowa Mortgage company, which negotiates loans and securities and guarantees

payment.
The Merchants' National bank, of Devil's The Morenants National bans, of both Lake, N. D., did not open its doors Monday morning. A number of depositors withdrew their deposits Saturday. The last statement showed: Deposits, \$47,000; bilis payable, \$7,500; discounts, stocks and securities, \$55,-000; cash, \$12,500.

WEYLER TO BE RECALLED.

The Spanish Government is Not Satisfied With Results in Cuba.

News has been received by the Cuban Junta from Washington to the effect that the Spanish government has positively determin-ed to recall Capt. Gen. Weyler. Gen. Frime de Rivera, it is said, will succeed Gen. Wey-ler in Cubu. He is a captain general in the Spanish army and in favor with the Canovas

government.

Minister Taylor, it is said, informed Secretary Olney several days ago that the authoritary of the said of the sa ties at Madrid were on the point of relieving Gen. Weyler of his command in Cuba and of appointing as his successor Capt. Gen.

of appointing as his successor Capt. Gen.
Rivera.

Reasons were given in brief why a change
was deemed advisable, and a statement was
made as to the probable time when the orders would be promulgated. It is learned
that the Madrid government is displeased at
the fact that Gen. Weyler, with about 200,000 troops, has not put down the Cuban revoit. He has expended large sums of money,
but so far has made no decided headway in
accomplishing his main object, that of que iing the insurrection and restoring peace
and good order in Cuba. His troops have
been victorous on occasions. But they have
also met defeat, and the total result, considering Spain's outlay in life and treasure, is
far from satisfactory.

Nashville Has a Big Fire.

A fire that started in the business section of Nashville, Tenn., at 11:15 Saturday night was not subdued until 3 o'clock Sunday morning. Fourteen business houses on Market street and the public square were burned out, causing a damage of \$600,000, about half covered by insurance. Large individual losses are Lebeck Bros., \$125,000; Burns & Co., \$50,000; Lieckhart & Co., \$25,000; Abernathy, Langham & Shook, \$23,000.

Wild Bear Causes a Runaway.

Wild Bear Causes a Runaway.
While Lewis Weber and sister were drivacross Iron mountain, near Cumberland, Md., in a buggy a large black bear jumped out of the woods into the road aheas of the buggy, which so frightened the horse that it ran off. The vehicle was upset and the occupants thrown to the ground and seriously injured. A party of hunters went after the bear, but failed to capture it.

CONDENSED ITEMS.

Tom Johnson, the Cleveland street car magnate, completed a deal in Detroit which practically gives him entire control of the lines in that city.

The last official act of Gov. Uisham, of Wisconsin, was to pardon Rose Zoldeske, who has already served four years of a life sentence for the murder of Etta Maley.

New York police say Belle Morgan, the Cincinnati suicide, has a record all over the country as a thief under the names Mary Stuart, Mabel Stanley and Mabel Millet.

Stuart, Mabel Stanley and Mabel Millet.

The Chilean government is sending thirty families to colonize the island of Juan Fernandez, which the skipper said he saw disappear some time ago. It is there all right.

It is reported that 2,500 union miners in Oursy and San Miguel counties. Colorado, are about to strike on account of the importation of non-union men.

United Sinter Senator-elect Money greated excitement at Havana by remaining away from his hotel for several days. He ratings to say where he was, and was closeted with Consul General Lee on his return.

SEVEN NUNS PERISH IN A FIRE.

TRYING TO SAVE OTHERS.

A Terrible Disaster In a Canadian Con-Vent.

The lives of seven Ursuline sisters were lost in a fire that destroyed the convent of Our Lady of Lake St. John, at Roberval, Lake St. John, Quebec. The establishment was

St. John, Quebec. The establishment was controlled by the Ursnitges of Quebec, a cloistered order, and the oldest religious sisterhood in Canada.

The names of the dead are as follows: Miss Elba Gosselin and Miss Rose Gosselin, St. Jean Chrystostome: Misses Emma Lestourneau, Quebec; C. Garneau, St. Foye; Laura Rudou, Herbertville; Bouille Deschambault, and Louse Girard, Roberval.

When it became known that the convent was on fire there was consternation in the village. Ordinarily in that institution there were almost 50 young ladies under tuition, besides a number of nuns, novices, etc., making a total of almost 100. Most of the students were away, however, on their holiday vascation. The utmost confusien prevailed at the scene of the fire. Nuns and pupils rushed from the place. All the young ladies, so far as could be learned, escaped. They are quartered comfortably, and so far none are reported missing. With the nuns, however the case was different. Theirs was the especial care of looking after the young girls, and when the roil was called, seven devoted women did not answer. They were overtaken by flames and smoke and perished. The loss is estimated at ₹75,000, with only about \$13,000 of insurance.

A CUBAN RETREAT.

Insurgents Cut Crops as They Took the Back

Track.

Advices from Havana show that at 4 o'clock on the afternoon of January 3, the insurgent force commanded by Juan Delgado, opened fire on the forts at Calabazar, province of Havana. The military governor, Maj. Justiz, had charge of the troops in the garrison and they resisted the attack of the insurgents so briskly that the latter were obliged to retrest. On the following morning the insurgents renewed their attack simultaneously on forts No. 5, No. 6, No. 7 and No. 8, with a lively discharge of musketry, which was answered by the garrison. At the same time the insurgents burned the fine dwelling of Senor Fernando Garcia, situated near the railroad station. The flames from the burning building brightly illuminated the city, causing great alarm among the people in the town.

The buillets flew thickly, many of the missives ponetrating dwellings and the store of fire on the forts at Calabarar, province of

The built-is flew thickly, many of the missives ponetrating dwellings and the store of Pedro Barcens was pierced in twenty different places. The Spanish forces finally compelled the insurgents to retreat. While the Cubans were retring they destroyed with their machetes all the tobacco that had been planted in the vicinity.

Advices received confirm the report that Calisto Garcia, with 5,000 well armed insurgents, after an engagement and upon the arrival of Gen. Bosch's convoy at Bayamo, marched toward Iguani, which place they best-ged for a space of five days. It is said that the garrison of the town heroically resisted the attack of the insurgents until the arrival of the column of Gen. Bosch, when Callsto Garcia and his men were compelled to retreat towards Santiago de Cuba, countermarching afterwards in the direction of Holguin.

One hundred and fifty-six wounded Spanish soldiers arrived at Hayana from the province of Pinar del Rio Tuesday last.

A BURNING VESSEL.

It was Seen for a Time, But Drifted Fron View Off Southport.

What appeared to be a serious fire at se was discovered by inhabitants of Southport, Conn., early Wednesday. About one mile Conn., early Wednesday. About one mile off shore a vessel of some kind was burning florcely, and in about half an hour it was apparent that the vessel would be burned to the water's edge. At daylight the weather began to thicken and the burning vessel soon drifted from view to the westward. Owing to the darkness and thick weather it was impossible to tell the character of the vessel, but from the volume of flames it was believed it was either a three-musted schooner or a sound steamer.

A tug put out toward the scene from a point west of Southport.

SIX PERSONS DROWNED

Five Children of One Family Among the Victims.

One man and five children were drowned by the floods in Texas county, Mo .. Thos. Wilson, accompanied by his daughter, Mrs. Kinnery, and her five children, attempted to ford Prairie Creek. The team became unmanageable and lost their foothold. The wagon sank and the whole party were thrown into the water. Mr. Witson and Mrs. Kinnery succeeded in getting to the shore, but the others were drowned. Daniel McGlotheran was drowned the same day while trying to cross Mill creek.

to cross Mill creek.

The town of Mill creek is flooded by the Osage river, and a steam ferryboat is making regular trips through the streets.

DIED FROM THE PLAGUE.

Pugitives From Bombay Carry the Contagion into the Country.

Dr. Monzer, senior physician of the principal hospital in Bombay, died from the bubonis plague, which is epidemic there. The authorities of the Indian government, at Calcutta, have sent Dr. Cleghorn, the director general of the medical service of the government of Bombay, to investigate and report upon the increase of the plague in that city. Despite the panic which prevails there, many victims of the plague refuse to accept medical treatment, regarding the disease as a visitation of God.

It is estimated that in the aggregate 35,000 persons have fied into the country from that city carrying the contagion to places where it did not previously exist, or where there were only a few cases of the disease. pubonic plague, which is epidemic there.

Coke Trade Still Improving. The coke trade is still improving. The

week ending Saturday shows a production week ending Saturasy shows a production of 99,504 tons, nearly reaching the 100,000 ton mark, which has not been attained since last July. There are now 18,551 overs in the region, a number having recently been added by the completion of the 220 new ovens at Mt. Braddock, the new ovens at Eim Grove and at Humphreys, the new plant partially completed by the Bassemer Coke company, 58 of whose ovens are now in active operation. There are 9,764 acrive ovens in the region, and 8,687 idle.

Confessed to Killing Arbuckle.

Fred K. Bauman, who says he is an actor, and who is held in Louisville for forgery and obtaining money under false pretonses, made a sensational confession in which he he asserts that he and David Edmunds, another actor, of Evanston, ill., murdered Frank P. Arbuckle, of Denver, who was found dead in Hariem, N. Y., about six weeks ago.

Gov. Matthews' Message.

The last message of Governor Claude Matthews, of Indians, was submitted to the Legislature Friday. After making a detailed report of the condition of the various state institutions, cortain recommendations are

PIRACY ON THE SEAS.

This is the Charge Uncle Sam Brings Against the Three Friends.

The announcement of the probable purpose of the United States government to prosecute the alleged fillbuster, Three Friends, and the men who fitted her out for her last expedition to Cuba on a charge of piracy has caused a sensation. The liber is a lengthy document. The third count, which is the meanning one, describes the fitting out of the Three Friends with munitions of

is the menancing one, describes the fitting out of the Three Friends with munitions of war to assist those engaged in armed resistance against the king of spain.

It is significent that in the libel no particular section of the revised statues is epecified as inving been violated by the Toree Friends. This libel also differs from previous ones filed against the vessel in that the persons are named in connection with fitting out the allege expedition. These charges, and the further fact that the Three Friends is reported to have used her Hotchkiss guns against a Spanish gunboat, are responsible for the impression that the government intends to proceed against the vessel and those who fitted her out on a charge of piracy. The date named is the day on which the Three Friends is said to have fired on the Spanish gunboat.

It should be understood that so far only the vessel has been taken in custody by the government. The men named in the libel are still at liberty, and will not be arrested until indicted by the United States grand jury, which is now in session. But, while nominally at liberty, the men are closely watched by the government detectives, and would be immediately arrested if they should attemp to leave the city.

It is hinted that by playing on the fears of one of the men who accompanied the Three Friends on her last expedition, District Attorney Clark has induced him to turn state's evidence, and his testimony is mainly relied upon to secure indictments against the men and their subsequent conviction.

The district attorney is said to be acting under special instructions from Washington, and he is said to be in constant telegraphic communication with Attorney General Harmon. In this connection, it was learned that the libel was prepared upon inces prepared by the attorney general himself.

DEATH TO TRAIN ROBBERS.

Governor Stone, of Missouri, Urges Extreme Penalties for the Crime

Governor Stone has this to say of train robbery in his annual message to the legisla-"During the last three years several of these crimes have been committed. Trains of these crimes have been committed. Trains have been stopped and express cars rifled, and on one occasion a conductor was shot and seriously wounded. I care neither more nor less for railroad and express companies, than for other corporations or citizens, but the crime is one which calls for more than ordinary attention, and the necessity for its suppression is so great that it should be visited by the most extreme punishment. It is a crime penetrated by maked desperadoes, who go prepared to commit murder if it is necessary either to succeed or escape.

"It surpasses all other crimes in its detri-"It surpasses all other crimes in its detrimental effect on the state. When such crimes occur with frequency an impression becomes widely current that life and property are unsafe within the jurisdiction where they previl. It is a crime which should be absolutely extirpated. That cannot be accomplished by penitentiary sentences. The thirty-eighth general assembly, alive to the importance of the subject, made the crime a capital offense. The infliction of capital punishment, however, was left to the discretion of the jury. Several convictions have been had since the enactment of the law referred to, but only penitentiary sentences were pronounced. In my opinion the men perpretrate these crimes should be hanged, and I believe that the law should be so amended as to provide that every person convicted of it should suffer death. The governor should also be authorized to offer a reward of at least \$1,000 for the arrest and conviction of any person guilty of the offense The measure I propose is severe, but the conviction of any person guilty of the arrest and The measure I propose is severe, but the crime should not be permitted in the state, and the milder remedies will not be sufficient to prevent it."

LABOR AGAINST PROPERTY.

Workmen Who Want Better Conditions Thrown Idle.

Wales has become recently the scene of a ost interesting struggle of labor against he uttermost rights of property. Lord Penhe uttermost rights of property. Lord Fenhyn pettishly shut down his slate quarries, rather than, as he says, "establish a precedent for outside interference of my private affairs." He first dismissed 71 men, because they formed a committee to secure better conditions of labor, whereupon 2,700 men left work. The board of trade, under the voluntary conciliation act, offered friendly wountary conclusion act, othered friendly mediation, but Lord Penrhyn d-clined angrily and closed the quarry, throwing 5,000 men out of work in the depth of winter. Lord Penrhyn is almost without support in the press. The London Chronicle opened a national fund for the defense of the right to combine.

To Limit Judicial Power.

To Limit Judicial Power.

The bill limiting the power of judges to punish for contempts of court which Representative Ray of New York framed as a substitute for a bill, passed by the senate last session, was acted upon favorably by the house committee on judiciary.

By a vote of eight to four the committee decided to report favorably the bill to the house, those voting for it were: Republicans—Henderson, of Iowa; Ray, of New York: Broderick, of Kansas; Updegraff, of Iowa; Gillette, of Massachusetts; Connoily, of Illinois; Burton, of Missouri. Democrats—Miles, of Maryland.

Those voting against: Bepublicans—Baker, of New Hampahire. Democrats—Culberson, of Texas; Terry, of Arknass; DeArmend, of Missouri.

The provisious of the bill have been published heretofore.

Large Sum for a Patent

Grant Bramble, of Sleepy Eye, Minn., who invented and patented a wonderful re-tary engine, has transferred the right to

tary engine, has transforred the right to manufacture and seil the engine to Henry Francis Alien, representing the Alien syndi-cate, of Engiand, for \$3,100,000.

This sale is for the United States only, England, Germany, France and the rest of Europe haying been previously sold for over \$4,000,000. The inventer yet controls the engine for Mexico and the Canadian prov-

NEWSY NOTES.

Bir Henry Irving's illness will keep him off the stage for several months.

Word comes from Panama that a scheme is on foot to revive the Panama Canal Com pany.

In Kansas City two elevated electric cars
collided and five people were badly hurt;

The majority of the Illinois Democratic central committee put through the Altgeld siste against Hecrichsen.

Mrs. Lansing Rowan, who once challenged Cornett to a fight, is to marry Maurice de Vritz, the opera baritone. John Krause tried to drown himself at Lincoln park, Chicago, but desisted when a policeman threatened to shoot.

James Chius and Charles C. Chappell, were drowned from the tug boat Job T. Wilson in Cheespoake bay, by a collision with the steam-er Howard.

PROGRESS OF THE CUBAN WAR.

GOMEZ PROPOSES PEACE.

Gen. Weyler's Recall the First Thing Demanded.

A dispatch from Washington says that ositive statements are made, based on information from Spanish legation sources, formation from Spanish legation sources, that Gomez, the Cuban commander-in-chief, has submitted a proposition for peace to senor Secasta in Madrid. The recall of Weyler, the insurgents insist, shall be preliminary to all negotiations. It is also stated that Campos Isast, or Pando will be necepted in Weyler's place.

The proposal was submitted to the junta December 29. General Gomes begins with a vehement declaration that the insurgents will continue the fight as long as life lasts.

will continue the fight as long as life lasts, and until the island is laid in ruins, unless their demand for practical home rule is compiled with. General Gomez names seven terms or conditions of treating with Spain.

rey are: First—The recall of General Weyler.

First—The recall of General Weyler.
Second—Restriction of the present almost autocratic power of the governor general, sent by Spain to rule in Cuba.
Third—Election of all mayors and municipal officers of the island by the people by popular vote.
Fourth—A new postal system.
Fifth—A new system of internal taxation, the money derived from internal taxas to be spent, within reasonshie limits, in Cuba and for the isensit of the people. An abatement of tariff taxes, especially in the case of flour, for which Cuba is dependent upon the United States, with provision for freerer commercial intercourse with the United States.
Sixth—An increase in the Cuban representation in the Spanish cortes commensurate with the population, wealth and revenues supplied by the island.
Seventh—An embodiment of the concessions in the form of a treaty with the United States government as a guarantee that they will be carried out after the insurgents lay down their arms.

States government as a guarantee that they will be carried out after the insurgents lay down their arms.

Setor Quesada, of the Cuban junta, in Washington, made the following statement in regard to the published report that Gen. Maximo Gomez, commander-in-chief of the Cuban army, had sent through an intermediary to Senor Segasta, Liberal leader in Spain, the conditions on which the Cuban insurgents were ready to treat with Spain.

"The whole story is a lie, given out by the Spanish legation, in their aim to divert public opinion. In the first place, Gen. Gomez has no authority to do such a thing; in the last war he held the same position as now and did not take any part in the treaty of Ei Zanjon, saying that that was not within his jurisdiction. We can emphatically say that it is a lie that any such letter has been received by the junta, on December 29, or on any other date.

SINKING OF THE COMMODORE

The Cuban Filibuster Goes Down at

The steamer Commodore, which left Jackonville, Fla., with a crago of arms and ammunition valued at \$10,000 for the Cuban in

munition valued at \$10,000 for the Cuban insurgents, sprung a leak at sea, 20 miles off New Smyrna and sank. She struck on the bar inside of St. Johns river and was helped off by the revenue cutter Boutwell, but the accident of grounding is supposed to have opened her seams so that she afterward foundered.

There is great indignation over the action of the Treasury department in refusing to allew the Three Friends to proceed South to save the castaways of the Commodore until too late to do any good. A telegram was received announcing the loss of the Commodore and requesting that the Three Friends be sent south to search for eight sailors who left the vessel on a raft. Collector Bisbee refused to allow the Three Friends to leave even on a life saving mission without orders

left the vessel on a raft. Collector Bisbee refused to allow the Three Friends to leave even on a life saving mission without orders from Washington. J. M. Barrs, owner of the Three Friends, wired the facts to Becretary Carlisle, asking for permission to send the boat south. Senator Call visited the secretary and urged that the Three Friends be allowed to go. The Becretary however, issued no orders, and he was again appealed to. This time he consented, after the men bad been at the sea's mercy for 26 hours. It is now believed that the eight men perished, and there is a disposition to hold the secretary responsible for their death. It is believed that all of the 22 men who sailed on the Commodore have been accounted for save the eight mentioned. Stephen Crane, the novelist, C. B. Montgomery, Capt. Edward Murphy and William Higgins were rescued in an exhausted condition. Higgins died soon after being rescued. The Cuban agent says the vessel was undoubtedly scutted by a Spanish spy who secured passage. C. B. Montgomery, one of the survivors, has telegraphed a Cuban leader, saying: "There was treachery and I have the proofs." was treachery and I have the proofs.

TO TEST THE NEW NAVY.

Admiral Bunce's Fleet Will Try a Blockade of Charlesten.

Admiral Bunce's squadron of evolution is to blockade Charleston early in February. The scheme involves the maintenance of a strong blockading fleet off Charleston harbor and the assignment of one or more fast vessels, including the Vesuvius, to do as blockade runners. The fleet will be the most powerful gathered in recent years, including the battleships Massachusetts, Indiana, Maine and Texas; the cruiser- New York, Brooklyn, Columbia, Newark, Raiel-h, Montgomery, Marblehead and Castine; the ram Katahdin monitors. Puritan and Amphithrite; torpedo boats Cushing and Ericsson, the dispatch boats Doiphin and Vesuvius and the transport Fern. The scheme involves the maintenance of a

Looking to Bimetallism

Senator Chandler has practically made a canvass of the senate on the proposition for canvass of the senate on the proposition for an international conference on sliver, and concludes that there will be no opposition worth the name. Still the bill will not be introduced in the senate until it is accepted by the republican caucus, as the committee was instructed to report to the caucus. The bill as prepared provides for the appointment by the president of five or more delegates to represent the United States at any international conference arranged to secure bimetallism. An appropriation of \$100,000 has been provided.

Big Mortgage Satisfied.

Big Mortgage Satisfied.

As a result of the foreclosure proceedings and reorganization of the Reading railroad company, a mortgage for \$60,000,000 entered in Lancaster county and heid by the Fidelity insurance, trust and safe deposit company, of Philadelphia, was marked satisfied and a deed filed for record to the Philadelphia & Reading company, the price being \$40,000,000. There was also entered a mortgage against the company in favor of the Central trust company, of New York, as trustee, for \$50,000,000.

Nobel's Gift.

Alfred Nobel, the Swedish chemist and inventor, who died recently, left \$2,000,000 as a fund, the interest of which is to be divided into prizes to be given annually to persons making the most important discoveries in chemistry, physics and physiology, and the person making the best literary contribution on physiology or medicine, and the person doing the most for the promotion of peace throughout the world, Competition for these prizes is open to the world.

ONE BIG ADVANTAGE.

Dun Sees Something Good in the Outlook For 1897.

R. G. Dun & Co,'s review of trade says: "The year 1897 begins with one clear advantage; the past year has swept out of the way a great number of unsound concerns, which any time of activity would have been dangerous to business. Of the 15,286 commercial and banking failures in 1896, with Habilities

and banking failures in 1896, with Habilities of \$278,816,749, a large share represented eripping losses in previous years, or the violence of peculative storms in 1895, or the first half of 1896, while thousands more resulted from the fury of the political formato has fail. Banking failures amounting to \$50,718,915 during the year averaged \$256,-156 each and were 144 per cent larger in 1886. Commercial failures amounted to \$226,006,738,915 during the year averaged \$256,-156 each not were 144 per cent larger in 1886. Commercial failures amounted to \$226,006,834, a little over \$1,000,000 having been added by the last day of the year, but the average of tiabilities, \$14,992, was smaller than in some years of great prosperity.

The failures of brokerage and "other" commercial concerns averaged \$58,418 each, increasing 183 percent over 1895, whils manufacturing failures averaged \$28,808 each, and increased 34 per cent and trading failures increased 18 per cent and averaged only \$9,606 each. Over four-lifths of the increase in manufacturing and trading failures was in lumber manufacturing, 170 per cent; dry-goods, 50; woolen manufacturing, 161; elothing trade, 20; shoe trade, 87; leasher and shoe manufacturing, 76; milling, 117; furniture, \$9,500 machinery, 70; milling, 117; furniture, \$9,500 machinery, 70; milling, 117; furniture, \$9,500 machiners, the liabilities were smaller than in 1895.

While banking failures have not ceased at the West, apprehension about them has almost wholly subsided, and no serious influence upon general trade is now expected. Many sound concerns were doubtless caught by the epidemic, but practically all the important failures are traced to disregard of law and of banking sense at periods somewhat distant. It is feit at the West that all business will be the sounder after its purging, and the return of money to New York has exceeded shipments to the interior by \$2,00,000 for this week.

Wheat rose to 92 cents on Monday, but has declined again at 894 cents, with western receipts a million

MURDERED FOUR PEOPLE.

Simon Cooper Swings a Deadly Az in South Carolina.

Simon Cooper went to Lynchburg, S. C., to force a young colored girl to marry him. She and her mother escaped and ran intethe swamp. A posse started in pursuit of Cooper, missed him, and next morning he came out of the woods, went to the house of a colored man named Boyle, took his horse and compelled Boyle's son to accompany him.

him.

A mile further on he went to the house of Benjamin Wilson, killed him, his wife and his son, Wesley. Cooper harnessed the horse to Wilson's buggy and meeting a negro named Smith on the road he killed him also. When the bodies of the Wilsons were found the old man was sitting up in bed with a shotgun in his hand; his son Wesley was in another bed with his head split, while on the floor lay the body of the woman, her head smashed in and her throat cut.

woman, her head smashed in and her throat cut.

A later dispatch from Sumter says: Simon Cooper the negro outlaw, who murdered three members of the Wilson family and a colored servant, was lynched near here. Cooper was captured by the sheriff's posse and was being taken to Sumter when the mob decided to hang him. The deputy sheriff, aided by two men, resisted the lynchers, but were overpowered. A rope was thrown over the limb of a tree and as the man swung upward the body was pierced-by more than 150 builets. One cut the rope and the corpse fell to the ground, where the coroner found it some hours later, when he went to hold an inquest.

PHOTOGRAPHIC COUNTERFEITS.

Arrests Made in Detroit and a Big Sensetion Promised.

United States secret service officers have arrested Al Soper, the third man charged with implication in the forgeries of notes of the National Bank of Commerce of New York and the Union National Bank of De-troit. Soper was an employe of the Hotel Cadillae barber shop at Detroit, as was Lep-per, the alleged principal in the crime. The officers claim to have found further incrimi-

nating evidence and other arrests are expected.

Detective Burns said that a large amount Detective Burns said that a large amount of photographic counterfeit money is in circulation all over the United States. He says the process was first employed about two years ago, and it has steadily improved in character until it has become very dangerous. For two years the officers of the government have been trying to locate the

counterfeiters, "Before we get through with this case," said he, "we will have a big sensation. Yeu can rest assured of that."

CAPITAL NOTES. The House Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds has favorably reported the bill, which has already passed the Senate, providing for the erection of a public building at Washington, Pa., at a cost of \$75,000.

The House Committee on Commerce authorized for each the committee of the commerce authorized for each the commerce authorized for ea

the House Committee on Commerce au-thorized a favorable report upon Congrue-man Daizell's bill permitting the Union Rail-way company to construct a bridge across the Monongahela river, between Allegheny county and Miffin township, Pa.

The House Judiciary committee made a favorable report on the Senate bill, as amended, relating to contempts of court. In its present form the bill provides that any attempt in the presence of the court may punished by the court alone, but any attempt outside of the court, except the refusal of witnesses or jurous to attend, must be tried by a jury if the accused so demands.

An English Scandal Suit.

The representative of one of the great historic families of England, Earl Russell, and the satisfaction of sending his mother-in-law to prison for cicht menths, that being the sentence imposed on Lady Scott for criminal libel. It was a nasty bit of scandal all around. The cass is a sequel to the divorce proceedings between the Bussells. The wife, who is a daughter of Lady Scott, petitioned for divorce in 1801 on the ground of cruelty on the part of the noble earl, and also making other odious charges of a very revolting character. She failed to make out her case and was sentenced to pay the costs of the suit, amounting to \$25,000. Following this the mether-in-law caused libelous charges to be printed against the earl, and for this the lengthy trial being closed by the plea of guilty, she has been sentenced to a term of eight mooths without hard labor.

Robert Laughlin was hanged at Brooks-ville, Ky., Saturday for the murder of his wife and nices.

H. C. Benham, a private banker, was ar-rested at Hatavia, N. Y., on the charge of polsoning his young wife.