AN END TO THE HORRORS OF WAR.

PEACE DECLARED.

The United States and England Agree to Arbitrate.

Secretary Olney, in behalf of the United States, and Sir Julian Pauncefote, on the part of Great Britain on Monday affixed their signatures to a treaty by which for a term of five years, the two English-speaking nations agree to abide in peace and without a resort to arms, all possible questions of controversy being referred to a court of arbitration, with the single exception that neither nation surrender its honor or dignity to the judgment of arbitration. Later in the day President Cleveland sent the treaty, and a message earnestly approving it, to the Senate.

The following is the text of the President's message transmitting the general treaty:

To the Senate:

"I transmit herewith a treaty for the arbitration of all matters in difference between the United States and Great Britain. The provisions of the treaty are the result of long and patient deliberation and represent concessions made by each party for the sake of agreement upon the general scheme.

"Though the result reached may not meet the views of the advocates of immediate, unlimited and irrevocable arbitration of all international controversies, it is, nevertheless, confidently believed that the treaty cannot fail to be everywhere recognized as making a long step in the right direction and embodying a practical working plan by which deputies between the two countries will reach a peaceful adjustment as a matter of course and in ordinary routine.

"It is eminently fitting, as well as fortunate, that the attempt to accomplish results so beneficent should be initiated by kindred peoples, speaking the same tongue and joined together by all the ties of common traditions, common institutions and common aspirations. The experiment of substituting civilized methods for brute force as the means of settling international questions of right will thus be tried under the happiest auspices. Its success ought not to be doubtful, and the fact that its ultimate ensuing benefits are not likely to be limited to the two countries immediately concerned should cause it to be promoted all the more eagerly. The example set and the lesson furnished by the successful operation of this treaty are sure to be felt and taken to heart sooner or later by other nations, and will thus mark the beginning of a new epoch in civilization.

"Profoundly impressed as I am, therefore, by the promise of transcendant good which this treaty affords, I do not hesitate to accompany its transmission with an expression of my earnest hope that it may commend itself to the favorable consideration of the Senate.

"GROVER CLEVELAND."

"Executive Mansion, Jan. 11, 1897."

The 12 articles constituting the treaty deal with the subjects which are to be submitted to arbitration, and the manner in which the court of arbitration is to be constituted. The language used in embracing subjects before the court has been chosen with the greatest care, the purpose being to make the terms so comprehensive that no question can arise in the ordinary dealings between the two Governments which will cause a resort to war. The article which makes an exception in the case of an insult to the national honor also was so carefully framed that ordinary questions, which to some extent involve a nation's honor, could not be brought within it. In short, the terms of the 12 articles are believed by Mr. Olney and Sir Julian to cover every usual contingency by which a difference could arise between the United States and Great Britain.

Throughout the negotiations the desire of both the Secretary and Ambassador was to make the language so broad that when a controversy arose it would be accompanied by the inevitable knowledge on both sides of the water that arbitration, not war, would result.

The London Chronicle said in an editorial: "We announce this morning the event of the Nineteenth century," and follows this with the preamble and the text of 15 articles of the general arbitration treaty, signed at Washington between the United States and Great Britain.

The treaty, as drawn and agreed to by Mr. Olney and Ambassador Pauncefote, cover these points:

First—It establishes a high court of arbitration. The commission is composed of three members of the supreme court of the United States, to be chosen by the president, and of three members of the high court of appeals of Great Britain, to be selected by the prime minister.

Second—The treaty is to be operative for a period of five years from the date of the exchange of ratifications.

Third—The court of arbitration shall have exclusive jurisdiction over all questions between the two countries on which differences are now pending, or which may arise during the life of the treaty, with the exception of the Bering sea question and the Venezuelan dispute.

Fourth—No dispute involving national honor sovereignty is to be submitted to the arbitration commission.

WEST VIRGINIA LAWMAKERS.

The General Assembly Convened and Organized.

The State Legislature convened at noon Wednesday. The Republicans have a big majority in both branches and organized the House and Senate. Nelson A. Whitaker, a Wheeling manufacturer, was elected president of the Senate, and Silas B. Hanen, a Marshall county farmer, Speaker of the House. The reading of Gov. MacCorkle's message was postponed until Thursday.

One of the most important bills to come before the Legislature will be one to create a new county in the northern part of the State. It is proposed to have it contain 406 square miles, and portions are to be taken off four counties, namely: Monongalia, 85 miles; Marion, 168 miles; Wetzel, 125 miles; Harrison, 206 miles. Mannington is to be the county seat and the name suggested is Augusta. If formed it will increase the number to 56.

TWO ROADS CONSOLIDATE.

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

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

An enormous sum of money will be expended for improvements on the line between Conneaut and Cranesville and the harbor. The harbor and docks will be operated by the Conneaut 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 ore and coal handlers. Ten miles of track will be laid around the dock.

A Fight in Church.

Official advices from Jerusalem show that there has been further throuble among the worshippers at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre. It appears that the Roman Catholics were opposed to the members of the orthodox Greek church entering the church by a certain door on the evening of January 6, the day observed by the orthodox church as Christmas.

The latter insisted upon their right to enter, and the result was that the two factions became involved in a serious fight, which did not end until the Turkish authorities intervened to restore order. Some of the combatants were badly injured, but it is not known whether anybody was killed.

FLED FROM DEATH.

The City of Bombay Deserted by Half Its Population.

Over half the population of Bombay, estimated to amount to about 900,000, 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 clime. 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 800,000 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 burying 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 been found in the streets.

The official returns show that up to Wednesday evening there were 3,394 cases o bubonic plague and 1,925 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 not acted upon yet is the following:

"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.

J. A. Cairns, ex-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:

"That said 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 freights 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 Mass 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 and Canada, rejoices in the prospect of the early ratification by their respective Governments of the general treaty of arbitration and respectfully urges prompt confirmation of the same."

West Virginia Legislature.

Both branches of the Legislature met in joint session Thursday and canvassed the returns of the November election for State officers. All the Republicans were declared duly elected, the vote being as follows: For Governor, Atkinson, Republican, 108,729; Waits, Democrat, 94,154; Johnson, Prohibition, 1,202; Fitzgerald, Populist, 1,129. For State Auditor, Lafollette, Republican, 106,231; Boggs, Democrat, 93,929. For Treasurer, Kendall, Republican, 105,135; Tucker, Democrat, 93,845. For State Superintendent of Free Schools, Trotter, Republican, 105,316; Lewis Democrat, 93,921. Attorney General, Rucker, 105,432; Riley, 94,060.

The reading of the Governor's message was completed in the House this afternoon and begun in the Senate, and will be finished Saturday, until which day the Senate adjourned.

No Credit to Britain.

The London Globe says it sees no reason for Britons to rejoice at the conclusion of the arbitration treaty with the United States, adding:

"Great Britain's experience in arbitration with America has always been futile and ridiculous. It is no particular triumph for the Marquis of Salisbury's statesmanship, and most self-respecting Englishmen would like to forget the circumstances leading to it. The passage in our history beginning with the Venezuelan trouble and President Cleveland's gross insult, and ending with the conclusion of the treaty, contains nothing to be proud off, and a great deal which most of us would be glad to obliterate."

CONDENSED ITEMS.

Crather & 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 seminary 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.

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 ¼ 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. Fairchild was the next speaker. He spoke of the recent election as being a great test of 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 27 per cent of the mortgage indebtedness of the United States was upon 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. Harsen 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. Peat, 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 declaring in favor of the national debt, retirement of greenbacks, a more expansive 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 convention, 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 cancellation of United States notes and 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 provision should be made for 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 view of securing such a distribution of the loanable capital of the country as will 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 national suspension of 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.

Offer of the Red Cross.

Secretary Pullman, of the Red Cross Society, has furnished the following for publication:

"In view of the deep interest manifested by the people of the United States in Cuban affairs, it is, perhaps, proper that it be stated that the American National Red Cross was officially tendered for service, in Cuba, by its President, a month ago, and later Miss Barton offered the individual services of herself and assistants, the same as in the relief expedition to Turkey, the two necessary conditions being that acceptance and entry be afforded by the Spanish Government, and the funds needed to supply such relief be provided, as was the case in the Armenian relief, by the American people.

"It is but just to add that up to the present time, not a dollar from any source has been offered, and the Spanish Government is still holding the Red Cross proposition under advisement."

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 Opekiskie, the third at Holttown and the last at a point a little above Morgantown. Representative Dayton, of the Morgantown district, says he is determined the contract shall be let and work begun at the very earliest moment practicable.

Killed By Moonshiners.

Deputy United States Marshal W. A. Baird was killed in Breathitt county, Ky. Bird had arrested Sam Neace for moonshining, and was riding to Jackson with Neace on his horse behind him. Jacob Neace and Dan Farley, relatives of the prisoner, overtook the marshal and demanded that Nance be released. Nance rolled off the horse and his relatives began firing on the officer. Bird returned the fire, but Jacob Nance shot him through the breast. Bird then shot Sam Neace in the leg, when his horse plunged into the river and swam across.

SCARED BY A SUN SPOT.

Negroes Confessing Their Sins and Preparing for Judgment.

The appearance of a large black spot near the center of the sun has caused a panic among the negroes of Alachua, Levy and Lafayette counties, Florida, which is spreading to other sections. The negroes believe the spot is a warning that judgment is near and they have quit work and are preparing by prayer and confession of sin to meet their Maker. The spot seems to have been first discovered four days ago by Rev. James Mabry, a negro preacher, who told his flock that the spot was a sign that God would soon come to judge the world. This interpretation drove the negroes wild with fear and they have since been preparing for the end. Mabry's explanation of the meaning of the spot has spread so rapidly that in the counties named, work has been almost entirely suspended. The negroes are gathered at their churches, singing and praying and confessing their sins. Many of them are refusing to eat, claiming that food would render them unfit for translation. Mabry is traveling in other counties pointing to the blemish on the sun and warning the negroes to flee from the wrath to come. Seeing the spot, the negroes believe and immediately fall to praying.

The craze promises to spread over the entire State unless the spot soon vanishes. One result of the craze has been the clearing up of several mysterious crimes in Alachua county. Under the influence of the fear that the world is soon to be destroyed, three negroes near High Springs have confessed that they murdered a peddler who disappeared about a year ago. The spot can be seen during the entire day, but is more plainly visible early in the morning and late in the afternoon. No scientific explanation has been offered.

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 13 years; George Matthews, aged 6; Sadie Matthews, aged 14. 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.

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 "Commonweal" 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. Streetor, 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 regret were received from a large number of sympathizers in different sections of the country, among them being Paul Vandervort, of Omaha; Ralph Beaumont, 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 good 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 procedure through the American "Trionomic" ballot system, and adds 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 legal tender money to do the business of the United States. This was discussed until a late hour.

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 enforce 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 scale or entering into any contracts by states 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; Pittsburg district; W. T. Evans and T. L. Lewis, Ohio; W. S. Knight and John Kennedy, Indiana, and James O'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 thick 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.

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 strike originated in a cut of 20 per cent proposed by the management. Since the strike the employes have formed a union, which embraces all grades of work, and with the Toronto union as a foundation a national organization is under way. Before the strike began the day workers had never been organized.

Four Men Killed.

A horrible accident has occurred in the Adit Mining Company's tunnel near Ward, Col. John W. Glover and Harry Glover, contractors, and T. A. De Garmo and John Schreiver were killed by the explosion of 35 pounds of giant powder. The bodies of the men were terribly mutilated, the walls of the tunnel being covered with shreds of human flesh for many yards.

Crushed to Death.

Four men were crushed to death at the Wadesville colliery of the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron Company, Pottsville, Pa., by the breaking of a rope attached to a cage.

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 deperate 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 feint. They opened fire, and keeping under cover crept closer and closer to the city. Behind stockades and earthworks, the Spaniards returned the fire cheerily, 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 horses' 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 works. Now the cannon belched, and up in the citadel the gatling 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 $4,000. 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, 900; prisoners, 700; cannon captured, 18; battle standards, 4; rifles, in the Spanish arsenal, 5,000, with plenty of amunition. 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 the insurgents. Mr. Borden left Fernandina, 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 fail like men rather than shamefully and with cowardice renounce 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 Fete Day.

A dispatch to the Pall Mall 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 fete day.

It is added that it is possible that Julio Sanguilly, 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 preceding between Spain 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.

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 knew who the other members of the cabinet would be.

Senator Sherman will be 74 years of age on May 11, and will have served continuously 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.

$200,000,000 for Cuba.

Representative Spencer, of Mississippi, introduced a bill which follows: "The secretary of state is hereby authorized to offer to the government of Spain a sum of money not to exceed $200,000,000 for the purchase of the island of Cuba. The sum of $10,000 or so much thereof to defray the expenses of pending negotiations is hereby appropriated."

Into His Head.

John M. Gossler, cashier of the Lebanon Pa., National bank, attempted to commit suicide by shooting himself in the head.

BETTER DAYS IN SIGHT.

Business Improvement Has Been in Progress For Two Months.

R. G. Dun & Co., say in their review of trade: It takes time for new confidence 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 improvment has been in progress for months.

The output of pig iron has gained 41.6 per cent since October 1. The output of coke has increased 68.7 per cent since October 1. Sales of wool have again become large. Money markets feel a steady increase in the demand for commercial loans. Additional works have gone into operation each week in January, and the working force is larger than at any time for six months. The gain may be ascribed to the deliberate judgment of the ablest and most prudent men in business. It is no time for high prices. Many who are anxious to get early hold on the markets are making for the moment lower prices than they could afford to.

With the increase of the outpoot of pig iron to 159,720 tons weekly, against 142,278 last month, the price is a shade lower at the East and Chicago, but heavy purchases already advance Bessemer a shade at Pittsburg. Steel bars have been reduced to 1 cent and some other finished products $1 per ton, but the demand is on the whole steady. The coke output has risen from 50,600 to 94,342 tons weekly, and minor metals are a shade stronger.

Textile manufacturers are not encouraged by the demand for goods, though more print cloths were sold than for many weeks. Though woolen goods do not improve, there have been purchases by large mills which cover for two weeks of January 11,110,600 pounds at the three chief markets, against 11,617,600 last year. Clearing house exchanges for the month thus far are less than 1 per cent. below last year's, though still 25.2 per cent smaller than 1890, the year of greatest prosperity.

The railroad tonage for January is light, owing to Western storms, but December returns cover $38,586,912 on roads in the United States, only 2.3 per cent. less than last year. The Pennsylvania and some other roads have commenced to buy rails and several costly improvements have been ordered, the Columbia bridge alone calling for 7,000 tons of steel and a terminal improvement for the Erie will cost $1,000,000.

The money market has been disturbed by a combination of large bankers not to lend on call below 2 per cent., which invites all sorts of financial institutions to take the market, caused payment of bank loans for some millions and left supplies of funds so heavy that time loans were sharply marked down. More was done in commercial paper, though offerings increased but moderately. Last week's imports fell 1 per cent. below last year. Failures for the week were 455 in the United States, against 395 last year, and 71 in Canada, against 81 last year.

BIMETALLISM THE OBJECT.

The Senate Republican Caucus Agrees to the Resolution.

The Republican Senatorial caucus decided to leave the text of the resolution providing for an international monetary conference as previously submitted to the conference. It was reported to the Senate by Mr. Chandler on Monday, who, in the absence of Mr. Wolcott, the chairman, is acting in his behalf. It was thought inadvisable to insert the word "unlimited," as applied to the coinage of silver, for the simple reason that it would tend to confuse and possibly mislead European delegates.

The resolution as adopted by the caucus is as follows:

"That whenever, after March 4, 1897, the President of the United States shall determine that the United States should be represented at any international conference called by the United States or any other country with a view to securing by agreement a fixity of relative value between gold and silver as money by means of a common ratio between these metals with free coinage at such ratios, he is hereby authorized to appoint five or more commissioners to such international conference; and for compensation of said commission and for all reasonable expenses connected therewith to be approved by the Secretary of State, including the proportion to be paid by the United States of the joint expenses of any such conference, the sum of $100,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary is hereby appropriated."

300 MILES OF GOLD.

A Long Belt of the Precious Metal in Alaska.

An interesting report made by Director Wolcott of the geological survey, showing the presence of an enormous gold belt in Alaska, has been forwarded to the House of Representatives by the Secretary of the Interior. The report tells the story of an expedition sent out by the geographical survey to determine the gold and coal deposits along the line of the Alaskan coast. A second expedition followed in May, 1895, going to the gold fields on the Yukon river to investigate the report that there was large placer deposits along the stream beds. The party traversed the valley of the Yukon from the British boundary on the east to the mouth of the river on the west. All the well-known placer deposits were examined, and the origin of the gold in them was traced to the quartz veins along the head waters of the various streams entering the Yukon. Sufficient data were secured to establish the presence of a gold belt 300 miles in length in Alaska, which enters the territory near the mouth of the Forty-Mile creek, and extends westward acros the Yukon valley at the Ramparts. Its further extent is unknown. It is the opinion of the geologist in charge of the expedition that it is entirely practicable to prosecute quartz mining throughout the year in this region. He also discovered along the river areas of considerable extent of rocks containing hard bituminous coal. The director thinks, in view of these facts, that a reconnaissance map should be made of the gold and coal areas, in order to secure an intelligent conception of the resources of the interior of Alaska, and for this purpose he asks an immediate appropriation of $25,000.

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 states designated by him, the troops so drawn to be counted as forming a part of the quota of troops from the state called for by the United States.

Sherman Will Accept.

The Associated Press is able to positively announce that Mr. McKinley has tendered the state portfolio to Senator John Sherman of Ohio, and that the distinguished Buckeye statesman has accepted and will be the premier of the incoming administration.

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 Brown-Bonnell 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.