

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

ERDMAN BILL PASSED.

Small Opposition Makes the Author Confident of Senate Success.

It doesn't often happen that the majority party in the house of representatives accepts and passes an important bill formulated by a member of the minority and bearing his name.

Mr. Erdman explained briefly the provisions of the bill, stating that it embodied principles endorsed by the Republican and Democratic national platforms, and that it had the hearty approval of railroad employees as well as that of Carroll D. Wright, the United States commissioner of labor.

Practically the only open opposition came from Judge Maguire of California, the single tax advocate, who argued that striking railroad employees could not be seized by United States officers and compelled to return and continue in service against their desires.

The bill is practically the same one which Mr. Erdman put through the house in the fifty-third congress. He is hopeful that the senate will pass it.

TO STOP FIGHT REPORTS.

House Committee Instructed to Present Rev. W. F. Craft's Measure.

The preliminary newspaper reports of the coming Corbett-Fitzsimmons prize fight were brought to the attention of the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce by Rev. Wilber F. Crafts with result of speedy and radical action by the committee.

Mr. Crafts is secretary of the National Anti-Fighting League, a representative committee of the draft of a bill to stop sensational reports of prize fights, representing that most newspapers would be glad to omit the details of pugilistic events from their columns if they were not driven to publish them by their enterprising less scrupulous rivals.

The committee made some material changes in the bill and then by a practically unanimous vote instructed Representative McMillan of Illinois to report it to the house.

"Section 1. That no picture or description of any prize fight or encounter of pugilists under whatsoever name, or any proposals or record of betting on such contests, be transmitted in the mails of the United States, or by interstate commerce, whether in a newspaper or other periodical or telegram, or in any other form.

"Sec. 2. That any person sending such matter, or knowingly receiving such for transmission by mail or interstate commerce, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punishable by imprisonment for not more than five years, at the discretion of the court, or by a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

INDECENT JOURNALISM.

President Cleveland Refuses to Pardon an Indiana Offender.

The President has delivered a most scathing criticism upon indecent newspaper publications in denying a pardon to James B. Wilson, sentenced in December, 1895, in Indiana, to two years' imprisonment, \$250 fine and cost for mailing obscene papers. The President says:

"Denied. This convict was one of the editors and proprietors and a distributor through the mails and otherwise of a disgustingly vile and obscene newspaper. His conviction and sentence were an event distinctly tending to the promotion of public morals, and the protection of the children and daughters of our land from filth and corruption at a time when indecent newspaper publications are so dangerous and common.

Everybody in favor of cleanliness should encourage the punishment of such offenders and desire that it should be more frequently imposed.

"While I am much surprised by the number of respectable people who have joined in urging clemency in this case, my duty seems so clear that I am not in the least tempted to interfere with the just and wholesome sentence of the court."

The rigid order prohibiting all smoking in the Capitol will, it is hoped, help save the statue of Daniel Webster from further deterioration. For some reason or other, it is usually determined to mar the effigy of the "God-like Daniel." Two men were recently arrested and fined \$10 each for this. One struck a match on the coat-tails of the statue, and the other on the boot.

Chewing gum is quite a habit at the Capitol nowadays, since the edict from the speaker prohibiting smoking in the corridors went forth. In the House restaurant there is a divinity who presides over the gum jar. She is very busy. Formerly one jar of gum used to last the members a week. Now the girls dispose of about three jars a day.

TEACHERS' RIGHT SUPREME.

Parents Cannot Dictate to a College Faculty.

The full bench of the Massachusetts' supreme court handed down a decision in the famous Lazell seminary case. The seminary is a victorious, the court ruling that its officers had the right to control the students and refuse them the privilege of a leave of absence, even at the request of the parent of the pupil. This was an action brought by Mrs. Elizabeth Curry of Ironwood, Mich., to recover damages for breach of contract on the defendant's part in refusing to furnish board and tuition to the plaintiff's daughter.

The plaintiff placed her daughter as a pupil in the boarding school of the defendant corporation under a contract. At the end of six months the plaintiff asked that her daughter be permitted to spend two days with her away from school. The request was denied, but the girl was nevertheless taken away. The Lazell authorities then refused to allow her to stay longer at the institution. Proceedings were then instituted for damages.

Greece Will Hold Fast.

King George and his government reiterate that it is impossible for them to retreat from their decision in regard to Crete, which is supported by the whole nation.

Italian and Russian warships have gone to Sulina to take off the beleaguered Musselmans, the Christians having agreed thereto.

It is stated that King George has sent the prince of Wales an open wireless telegram, saying that the recall of the Greek forces from Crete by an ultimatum of the power is impossible.

Charleston, W. Va., Flooded.

The Kanawha river reached the height of 41 feet. Charleston was nearly all flooded. The water reached the second-story of the buildings in the lower part of the city. The state capitol buildings is surrounded by water, and there was no session of the legislature Tuesday. All of the towns in the Kanawha valley except those on high ground are flooded. The track of the Kanawha and Michigan railroad is under water.

SWEPT BY FLOODS.

Several States Inundated by Overflowing Rivers.

The Monongahela, Allegheny and Ohio rivers were at flood height Tuesday. The greatest damage was done on the Monongahela and Youghiogheny rivers. The tin plate works at Bennington were under water and work suspended. Almost all the manufacturing on the river along the Baltimore & Ohio railroad between McKeesport and Pittsburg was flooded with water, and work could not be resumed until the river subsided.

The Monongahela river reached a maximum stage of 29 feet and 6 inches at Pittsburg at 11:30 o'clock Tuesday night, and commenced to fall shortly after midnight, and at 1 p. m. the gauge showed 26 feet 3 inches and receding slowly. The river did not reach the stage attained February 18, 1891, when 31 feet 3 inches was recorded on the Market street gauge.

Devastation and ruin mark the flooded districts about the two cities and throughout the Monongahela and Ohio valleys. The cold wave which arrived last night added to the misery of the hundreds of families in the submerged districts who have been rendered temporarily homeless by the flood. The temperature recorded 18 degrees above zero at 7 a. m., which tended to make suffering much more severe.

This was a fall of 14 degrees in about six hours. A heavy coating of ice has been left in all districts, as well as large deposits of mud. It is almost impossible to estimate the amount of damage which has been sustained, but conservative rivermen placed the amount at \$500,000. This amount includes the loss to wage-earners who were rendered idle by reason of the mills shutting down on account of the high water.

McKeesport interests suffered severely from the flood, while the homes of many districts were partially inundated, causing great loss. All the mills and factories in the lower districts were submerged. The National Tube works was compelled to close for the first time in its history, and the loss to this one concern will amount to \$30,000.

SURRENDER OF CRETE.

Turkey Agrees That Greece Shall Annex the Island.

The foreign vice consuls at Retimo announce that the Turks declare that they will accept the annexation of the island of Crete to Greece. The announcement has caused a great sensation.

NEW COURT FOR WEST VIRGINIA.

The State Requires More Facilities for Federal Cases.

A bill will be introduced in the next Congress to give West Virginia an additional United States court. At present there is but one, which meets at Wheeling, Parkersburg, Charleston, Clarksburg and Martinsburg. Of these Charleston is the only town in the Southern part of the State, and as this is a section whence comes a great part of the litigation, much inconvenience and expense ensue. A bill was introduced at the last session but failed of passage, to provide for sittings of the court at Welch, McDowell county, and Huntington, Cabell county. Should the bill now proposed become a law the State will be divided into the Northern and Southern districts, the courts sitting at Wheeling, Clarksburg, Parkersburg and Martinsburg in the former and Charleston, Welch and Huntington in the latter.

It is claimed that the business, as well as public convenience, warrants the creation of an additional court. At the end of the last fiscal year there were 336 cases in the West Virginia district, or as many as came up in New York, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Ohio, Iowa and Connecticut, although these states have among them 12 judicial districts. A great many of the West Virginia cases arose from violations of the internal revenue laws in the mountain counties. It is claimed the economical saving in traveling expenses of the judges, jurors, officials and witnesses would exceed the cost of an additional court. Its creation will also give the State another United States judge, district attorney and marshal.

Senator Elkins and Congressman Miller and Dayton favor a new court, and the latter will make a strong fight for its creation.

WOMEN CANNOT VOTE.

The Helen M. Gougar Case Disposed of by Indiana Supreme Court.

The supreme court of Indiana has affirmed the case of Helen M. Gougar against the election of officers of her precinct in Lafayette, in which she claimed the right to vote at a general election, and brought suit against the election officers to compel them to receive and count her ballot. In pronouncing the opinion of the court Justice Hackney said that the question presented in the case is whether women have, under the existing laws in the state of Indiana, the privilege of suffrage, and whether she is a qualified elector upon the right to vote for public officers. He then proceeded to show that under the constitution women can not vote, and that this provision of the constitution is not in conflict with the constitution of the United States.

Cleveland Children Moved. Mrs. Cleveland, her mother, the three children and their nurse, left Washington on the 11 o'clock train over the Pennsylvania on Tuesday morning in President Thomson's private car for Princeton, N. J. After Mrs. Cleveland sees the children safely installed in their new home, she will return to Washington and remain with the President until after the inauguration of McKinley.

Corn for India Hauled Free.

The Union Pacific has agreed to transport free of charge 500 tons of freight, designed for the relief of India's starving people. The Burlington agrees to transport 100 tons, and the Elkhorn also agrees to haul relief supplies for the famine-stricken people. The freight at Ogden, Utah. From there the Central Pacific agrees to haul 1,000 tons to San Francisco free.

CAPITAL NOTES.

Among the bills passed was that pensioning Gen. Cassius M. Clay of Kentucky, at \$50 per month.

Secretary Herbert announces that he will open a law office in Washington. He will practice before congressional committees.

Gen. Russell A. Alger, McKinley's secretary of war, has leased the Lafayette Square house now occupied by Secretary Lamont.

Captain William R. McElroy, a well-known Ohio river pilot, has been sentenced by the United States court to serve a sentence in the Cincinnati workhouse for vagrancy.

President Cleveland has rescripted until March 23 the Barrage gang, who were sentenced to be hanged at Santa Fe, N. M., thus throwing the responsibility for their ultimate fate upon Maj. McKinley.

It is now estimated that the rural free delivery would cost \$40,000,000 per year. Before it was experimented with the estimate of cost was \$20,000,000.

The president has signed the act authorizing the secretary of the navy to arrange for the transportation of contributions to relieve the famine sufferers in India.

A diamond badge is to be presented by Postmaster-General Wilson to President-elect McKinley March 4, on behalf of the Signs Alpha Epsilon fraternity.

The President commuted to five years the sentence of eight years' imprisonment imposed upon J. E. Grandall, late President of the First National Bank of Johnson City, Tenn. Grandall was convicted of making false entries.

COLLISION OF RAILROAD TRAINS.

SEVEN DASHED TO DEATH.

Only One Member of the Woodward Family Escaped.

An incoming train on the Southern railway struck a wagon at Avondale crossing, four miles from Chattanooga, Tenn., and killed seven of its occupants. The dead are Mrs. William J. Woodward; her daughter, Mrs. Lizzie Woodward Montgomery, aged 20; Mrs. Montgomery's two months old child; George Woodward, aged 23; Della Woodward, aged 19; Mary Woodward, aged 15; Daisy Woodward, aged 10. The last two named lingered several hours after the accident.

No limbs were broken, but it nearly every case the skull of the victims were crushed to fragments, each body seeming to describe an ellipse through the air and falling upon its head, 75 to 100 feet from the scene. Lizzie Montgomery descended on the pilot of the locomotive and still held her two-year-old sister, who escaped with a few bruises. She was the only one saved, in her helpless arms. The unfortunate were the family of a well-known farmer living near Kings Point, Tenn. They were returning home from Chattanooga in a wagon, and George Woodward, the son, was driving. Nearing the crossing the young man heard the danger signal and tried to check his team, which became unmanageable and dashed on to the track. Fifty yards from the place Abraham Laird, reversed his lever, having given the usual danger signal, but too late to do any good. Every window in the coaches was broken, and the engineer's pilot demolished.

TERRIBLE SPANISH LOSSES.

Over 1,000 Troops Lost in Two Battles When Gomez Led.

A special from Havana, via Key West, Fla., says: The advices from Santa Clara are that in the battle at Cienfuegos the loss of the Spaniards under Gen. Weyler amounted to 500 killed and wounded. In one battle at Calabazas and Cabigan the Spanish losses are reported to have been equally as large, but the Spanish dead and wounded were sent to Santa Clara, and their names cannot be obtained. In these two battles Gomez commanded in person.

The fighting has been continuous on Weyler's march through Santa Clara, and the Cuban patriots have scored numerous victories. The Spanish army has been driven to a complete rout for the Spanish commander by Gen. Leguerra. He was met by the patriots under Gen. Carrillo and Col. Mirabal, and his two battalions were held in check and then forced back, the Cuban charging with their machetes. One bold piece mounted on an emulgence, did terrible execution. Gen. Leguerra reformed his forces with two new battalions and again charged the Cuban forces and was again repulsed with heavy loss.

SPRUNG A SURPRISE.

Investigating Committee at Denver Makes an Unexpected Report.

The committee of five, Senator Reuter, chairman, appointed by the Colorado legislature to investigate the Leadville strike, submitted a report which was, to say the least, a great surprise to the mine owners. E. J. Dewar, secretary of the Leadville miners' union, says the committee's conclusions are eminently satisfactory to the miners.

The committee recommends that a board of arbitration be appointed to deal with the question, two to be chosen by the mine owners, and two by the miners, the fifth to be chosen by the four. Whatever decision the board of arbitration in force shall render shall be binding on both sides and an agreement to that effect must be signed before hand, according to the report. To facilitate this most desired end, the committee submits an agreement in full, which provides that the board of arbitration shall arrive at a decision on the strike which shall be binding on the mine owners and shall remain in force until the board of arbitration shall have arrived at a decision.

FOR CRETE'S AUTONOMY.

Austria and Russia Submit a Proposal to the Powers.

Austria and Russia have submitted to the powers a proposal looking to the autonomy of Crete, which, it is suggested, should be made subject to a unanimous resolution to be communicated to Turkey and Greece.

The enthusiasm in Paris in favor of the Greek cause is increasing. Meetings are held nightly, and the demonstrations are expressive of how the people feel on the situation. In the chamber of deputies Tuesday Prime Minister Hanotiau made a fiery speech in which he declared Crete will be freed from the Sultan's rule.

SIX BLOWN TO PIECES.

Explosion of Dynamite in Kentucky Brings Death to Negroes.

A premature explosion of dynamite at a gravel pit at Murray, Ky., Tuesday, killed six negro laborers and wounded as many more. The names of those killed are: Tom Bell, Major Gardner, William Morris, Will Orr, Hardy Jackson and Homer Patterson.

The names of the wounded are: Tom Guthrie, Wash. Tucker, Frank Harding, Jim Gardner, and W. Waterson. Two of the wounded will die.

200 INSURGENTS KILLED.

Bloody Fight Said to Have Occurred in Manila Streets.

Advices received from Manila say that insurrection broke out there Thursday. Bands of Tagalogs and natives attacked the barracks of the revenue officers and four Spanish soldiers and the troops restoring order, killing 200 insurgents, and arresting many others.

The object of the rising was to prevent the troops from attacking Cavite.

Boston Wool Market.

While the sales in the wool market show a considerable diminution, the market bids firm with prices strong. Territory wools are still meeting with some sale, but about the same basis of prices, but no advance in value can yet be noted. For offerings of fine medium and fine 30s to 32s can be obtained on the secured basis, while choice staple lots call for 34s to 35s. Piece wools are in moderate supply, with values strong, although sales are only moderate. Australian wools received a boom in sales during the past ten days. The following are the quotations for leading descriptions: Ohio and Pennsylvania, 21s to 22s; No. 2 combing, 21s to 22s; XX and XX above, 19s to 20s.

Victims of the Floods.

Dispatches from river points show deaths resulting from the flood as follows: Pineville, Ky., two mountaineers and a revenue man drowned; Grafton, W. Va., William Tate, Baltimore & Ohio fireman, and Perry's wife, 34 years old, drowned; Keokuk, Iowa, four children drowned; Keystone, W. Va., Wade, druggist, drowned; Sparta, Ky., Charles Holton, bank clerk, drowned; Bell county, Ky., two men drowned; Bluefield, W. Va., Hyatt's street, lumberer, drowned in Clear creek; Donkeyville, Ky., Jonas Tyree, drowned in Powell river.

TRADE REVIEW.

Impulse Given to Trade and Many Thousands Men Secure Work.

B. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade Says:

Genuine improvement in business does not come with a rush, like the breaking of a great dam. The growth for some weeks has been encouraging because it nearly all lines it has been gradual and moderate.

The rupture of the steel rail and other combinations in the iron business has brought out a vast quantity of trade which had been held back and has set many thousands of men at work, while the slow but steady gain in other great industries has given employment to many thousands more; but the full effects will not appear until the increased purchases by all these swell the distribution of goods. Meanwhile it is substantial ground for confidence that months which were regarded by many in the money market with serious apprehensions have passed without disturbance and with steady gain in the position of the country and the treasury.

The breaking of bonds which has restricted many branches of the iron industry has been followed by an enormous increase in demand and in orders booked, and by the starting of many works. The rapid increase in the coke output in the Pennsylvania region, which is now over 100,000 tons, gives prospect of moderate cost for fuel. Purchases of rails are estimated at 1,000,000 tons within two weeks, whereas the production was only 1,100,000 tons, and the sales of iron and steel, important contracts for export foreign in tin plates by 75 cents, and are selling cotton ties below 75 cents, for which \$1.10 was charged for the same by importers a year ago.

Failures for the week have been 290 in the United States against 278 last year, and 50 in Canada against 58 last year.

TARIFF BILL DELAYED.

Dingley Won't Report His Bill Until the Extra Session.

Chairman Dingley of the ways and means committee, who is to report to the house the new tariff bill, which probably will bear his name, before the beginning of the extra session of congress, to be called for March 15. There would have been little to be gained by reporting the bill to the house in this session if it was possible to do so. It would have to be re-introduced in the Fifty-fifth congress, but the Republican members of the ways and means committee will not be able to finish the bill before the end of this congress. They have been working every day for several weeks on the bill, but a member said that they would be obliged to work very hard to finish their task by the beginning of the extra session. The past few days have been spent by the tariff makers principally in studying the language of those schedules of the bill in which they have agreed upon the rates. Several of the most important features of the bill are yet practically unconsidered. These include the wool, cotton and sugar schedules, and the free list. The first of these schedules gives the most trouble because of the failure of the wool growers and manufacturers to reach any agreement on rates. In order to complete the bill, the Republican members of the ways and means committee will stay in Washington after congress adjourns and devote their time to the work. It is expected that as soon as the extra session meets Speaker Reed, who will undoubtedly be re-elected, will appoint the same members to the ways and means committee who are now serving and the bill will be reported to the house.

Lee Resigns.

The resignation of Consul General Lee, forwarded from Havana by mail has been received. General Lee cabled to the President his resignation, and the State Department, refusing to withdraw his resignation. A similar notification was given to Secretary Olney. Secretary Olney cabled to General Lee that his resignation would not be accepted, outlining the reasons for his refusal.

INCREASED TARIFF ON FRUIT.

Committee Proposes that the Home Growers Shall Have the Market.

A material increase in the rate of duty on certain tropical fruits raised in this country was made on Tuesday morning by the Republican members of the Ways and Means committee. A duty of 20 cents a cubic foot was placed on oranges, lemons and limes, whether imported in bulk or in packages, and which places the duty at 30 per cent. ad valorem. The present duty is 8 cents a cubic foot. In the McKinley law it was less than 12 cents. This increase was made in compliance with the appeals of the California fruit producers, who complained that the present duty is a serious injury to them. A similar notification was given to Secretary Olney. Secretary Olney cabled to General Lee that his resignation would not be accepted, outlining the reasons for his refusal.

ARMOR PLATE PRICE \$400.

The Senate Committee Positively Fixes the Rate.

The senate committee on appropriations in special terms fixes \$400 per ton as the maximum price to be paid for armor plate and providing that in case the plate cannot be procured at this price the government shall establish a plant and make its own armor.

McKinley's Washington Suit.

Major McKinley's inaugural suit was shipped from Washington to Canton. The wool from which it was woven was donated by Hon. John McDowell, of Buffalo township, Washington county. The cloth, which is black, was woven by Thomas Oak, Bloomfield, N. Y., and the suit was made by Henry Kobel, Cleveland, O., the tailor whom Major McKinley himself requested should cut and make the suit. Every part of it is of American material, thread, buttons, etc., tribute to the protection sentiments of the President-elect.

Tank Steamer Goes Down.

The German tank steamer Diamant, Capt. Wischhausen and thirty-five men was probably lost with all hands, 280 miles southeast of Halifax, February 17, or else she has been drifting at the mercy of the elements ever since. Capt. Forth says he sighted the tank steamer February 10, showing distress signals, having lost her propeller. The steamer was taken in tow, but the next day she broke away. She was repeated until the 17th, when she disappeared altogether. The Galileo had towed the Diamant 680 miles. Capt. Forth cruised around nearly a day, but saw no trace of the steamer.

NEWSY NOTES.

At Gloucester, Mass., the Webster block was destroyed by fire; loss \$70,000.

The village of Chlambo, Central Africa, where Dr. Livingstone is buried, has been deserted.

John Jacob Astor, a \$5,000,000 hotel, which is in course of erection next to the Waldorf, will be called the Astoria.

A bill making it a punishable offense to wear a high hat at a theatrical performance in Colorado passed the assembly by a vote of 42 to 15.

August Belmont & Co. deny emphatically the Louisville story that they are in scheming to consolidate the Kentucky distilleries to the amount of \$15,000,000.

The North Dakota legislature has decreed that all railroads shall be assessed for taxation at not less than \$5,000 a mile regardless of their cost or earnings.

The children of John Cain, a farmer living near Perry, O., set fire to the grass in their dooryard. The clothing of Nora, aged 4, and of a boy aged 2 caught fire and both were burned to death.

PROGRESS OF THE WAR IN CUBA.

WHY SANGUILY WAS FREED.

Because It Was Solicited in a Friendly, Confidential Way.

In publishing the royal decree pardoning Julio Sanguily, the Madrid Gazette explains that clemency was shown in this case because the American Government "solicited the liberty of the convict in a friendly, confidential way and Sanguily solemnly promised both Governments that he would not take part in any hostile acts against Spain."

The decree sets forth that circumstances have so changed since Sanguily's arrest as to justify clemency.

El Imparcial and many other newspapers evince great displeasure because Congress and the American press exhibit hostility to Spain. Fear is expressed that the advent of McKinley will be seized as a pretext for altering the cordial relation existing under the Cleveland-Olney regime. Premier Canovas is still confident that he will be in a position to settle satisfactorily all foreign claims.

The Government has cabled to Havana for information as to be able to reply to three American, two English and two French demands, all substantially alike. The cases are of long standing, and the Governments mentioned have them settled promptly. One French case has been pending 14 months. It is for unwarranted arrest and damage to property. Premier Canovas is determined to compel the authorities in Cuba to act quicker and properly in future.

A SHOT AT THE DAUNTLESS.

United States Dynamite Cruiser Stops the Fullbuster From Sailing.

The first shot ever fired by the dynamite cruiser Vesuvius to stop a vessel was fired Friday afternoon when the dardevil steamer Dauntless attempted to slip by the cruiser and the revenue cutter Boutwell. The owner of the Dauntless, W. A. Bishop, had been refused clearance by the collector of customs, and the following letter was then addressed to that official:

"I hereby demand of you that you allow the steamer Dauntless to proceed to sea on her lawful business. We are willing to make affidavits that we will not violate any of the laws of the United States. Will you kindly reply in writing whether you will or will not allow said steamer to depart?"

Receiving no reply Mr. Bishop started down the river on the Dauntless. The Vesuvius and Boutwell both gave whistle signals to the Dauntless to stop. As she was apparently passing the cruiser without obeying, a solid shot from one of the rapid fire guns was dropped in front of the fullbuster. The Dauntless immediately stopped and was boarded by the lieutenant of the Vesuvius and ordered back to her dock. The owner will now sue the commander of the Vesuvius for illegal detention. The Vesuvius has been ordered to leave Jacksonville and join the Marblehead at Key West.

170 MINERS PERISH.

Awful Calamity in a Deep Mine at Zacatecas, Mex.

At Zacatecas, Mex., fire broke out in Sana moro mine, one of the properties of the Somberete Company, and communicated to the San Francisco mine. The principal shaft in the former is 3,000 feet deep, and a resulting party went down to the bottom, but were nearly suffocated by the smoke. The Cornish miners displayed unusual heroism in attempting the relief of the imprisoned men. The bodies have been taken out and all show signs of asphyxiation. There is no longer any doubt 170 miners perished. The city of Zacatecas is a scene of mourning and consternation, this being the greatest calamity in its mines during modern times.

KING GEORGE IS SURPRISED.

Action of the Christian Nations Against Him Is Deplored.

A dispatch from Athens says: During an interview with King George the king said: "I cannot but express my profound astonishment and grief upon learning that the representatives of the great Christian powers not only permitted the Turkish forces to employ a military base at Salona, but also taken under their protection in order to impose upon it neutrality and peace, but also positively caused their cannons to be fired upon Christian people driven by outrage and massacre to struggle for life, liberty and religion. Nothing in the world till these events occurred would have induced me to believe in the possibility of such an act."

Turkish War Preparations.

War preparations are actively proceeding in Turkey. Quantities of Mauser rifles and munitions of war have been dispatched from Constantinople to Salonica and Adrianople, the consignments to the latter place being for the Musselmans on the Bulgarian frontier. Similar measures are being taken on the Serbian frontier.

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The committee struck out the house provision requiring that the steel material used in the construction of the naval vessels shall be of domestic manufacture. The amendments entail an increase over the total of the house appropriation amounting to \$3,000,000 and bring the total of the bill up to \$35,728,234.

McKinley's Washington Suit.

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