

THE PRESIDENT'S CUBAN MESSAGE.

ASKS FOR RELIEF.

President Sends the Much-Expected Document to Congress.

A special cabinet meeting was held Monday morning at which the draft of the president's Cuban message was read. It was submitted to congress soon after noon.

Special meetings of the senate and house committees on foreign affairs were also in session, and the wheels were all put in motion for acting promptly upon such recommendations as the president might make.

The message says official information shows that American citizens are in great destitution and the authorities are unable to relieve the distress.

Six hundred Americans are in this condition, and the sum of \$50,000 is recommended for relief. Part of it should be used for sending a ship to bring the destitute home.

The message as outlined above was read in the senate and then a resolution enacting his recommendations was presented by the senate foreign committee and was at once considered.

The message is as follows:

"To the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America: Official information from our consuls in Cuba establishes the fact that a large number of American citizens in the island are in a state of destitution, suffering for want of food and medicines. This applies particularly to the rural districts of the central and eastern parts. The agricultural classes have been forced from their farms into the nearest towns, where they are without work or money.

The local authorities of the several towns, however kindly disposed, are unable to relieve the needs of their own people, and are altogether powerless to help our citizens.

The latest report of Consul General Lee estimates that not less than 600 Americans are without means of support. I have assured him that provision would be made at once to relieve them.

To that end I recommend that congress make an appropriation of not less than \$50,000 to be immediately available for use under the direction of the secretary of state.

It is desirable that a part of this sum which may be appropriated by congress should, in the discretion of the secretary of state, also be used for the transportation of the United States citizens who desire to return to their homes, without the means to do so. WILLIAM MCKINLEY. Executive Mansion, May 17, 1897.

NAMES HIS TERMS.

The Porte Makes an Official Reply to the Powers.

The porte has replied officially to the note of the powers and declines to agree to an armistice until the following conditions are accepted:

The annexation of Thessaly, an indemnity of 1,000,000 Turkish liras and the abolition of the capitulations. The porte proposes that plenipotentiaries of Greece and Turkey meet at Constantinople to discuss the terms of peace and declares that if these conditions are declined the Turkish army will continue to advance.

The demand for the annexation of Thessaly based upon the fact that the province was originally ceded to Greece on the advice of the powers with the object of ending brigandage and Greek incursions into Ottoman territory, the porte believing at the time that the cessation would attain these objects, but the unalterable terms of cooperation reply to the hands of the powers, the sultan will yield to the inevitable within a day or two, especially as the capture of the Greek positions at Demokos will go far to satisfy the Turkish war party. An article telegraphed to Edinburg Post to cease hostilities probably indicates that the Turkish government is about to yield to the demands of the powers. It is further stated the porte is now disposed to enter into negotiations to bring about a permanent peace with Greece upon terms less onerous than those which have been heretofore demanded.

INCREASE IN LOANS.

Dun Argues Improvement in Business From This.

H. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says:

Unmistakable evidence of improvement comes in the general increase of commercial loans, mostly for eastern merchants, or companies, though some well-known houses in the middle West appear with considerable redoubts from the South. Not for a long time have commercial loans been given full the whole. The distinct change gives proof that business has been larger than many have supposed. Receipts of money from the interior exceed shipments \$1,500,000, mostly from the middle West. Exports of gold have no influence and only signify the gold needed. The excess of the merchandise imports to answer demands for half a year to come involves a greater excess of exports when the anticipatory movement ends and crops begin to move, which fact renders large cargoes of gold less likely and gives the country a stronger position in international markets. Meanwhile there is a continuing increase distinct, though gradual, in the volume of business in demand for products of manufacture and considering the year, in movement of grain and produce.

Wheat again cheated hopeful buyers and fell nearly 4 cents, closing 8 1/2c lower for the week. Corn was a shade weaker. Cotton once more hopefully advanced to 7 1/2c, but fell back to 7c, with a poor support here or abroad. Both the volume of stocks and the condition of domestic and foreign markets for goods hinder advance and inter-annual reports are better.

The iron industry has quite an increase in business. Part is due to the regularity of the steel beam pool and the fall in price from \$1.55 to \$1.25, nominally quoted, and some good structural contracts were at once secured. Part is due to a better demand for plates and for pipe, of which one large contract for Indiana stoves was placed, and part to growing needs for cars and vessels. There is also some increase in rods, though the season for wire and nails is nearing an end, because of an expected pool of rod mills. Low southern freight rates market a little more iron to the North, and eastern foundry is slightly lower, with gray forge only \$8.25 at Pittsburg. The Carnegie works are now turning out 3,000 tons rails daily, nearly all on old orders, and exports of finished products increased to 100,000 tons.

Sales of wool decreased, though still greater than when all the mills were busy, but manufacturers are doing scarcely anything, most of their possible demand for months ahead have been supplied. Western wool is better at 1 1/2c, and the lower than of late. Woollen goods are dull, but prices are firm. The strike of clothing hands somewhat restrict the new demand. Cotton goods are without change in prices, print cloths still at the lowest on record and the demand is still indifferent, with talk of temporary closing of mills at the South.

ALL DENOUNCE TURKEY.

London Newspapers Think the Porte's Stand Ridiculous.

The harmony of the European press on the subject of the conditions of peace is remarkable. The semi-official papers, the Times, the Novos Vremya, the Temps, the North German Gazette and the Fremde, all are as one in the vigorous terms in which they denounce Turkey's pretensions.

Now that the last obstacle to a speedy armistice is removed by Germany, which temporarily blocked negotiations, having instructed her ambassador at Constantinople, Baron von Sauerma-Jeltsch, to join the other ambassadors in pressing upon the porte the necessity of agreeing upon an armistice, it can be taken for granted that the unalterable terms of cooperation reply to the hands of the powers, the sultan will yield to the inevitable within a day or two, especially as the capture of the Greek positions at Demokos will go far to satisfy the Turkish war party. An article telegraphed to Edinburg Post to cease hostilities probably indicates that the Turkish government is about to yield to the demands of the powers. It is further stated the porte is now disposed to enter into negotiations to bring about a permanent peace with Greece upon terms less onerous than those which have been heretofore demanded.

SPANISH CLAIM VICTORIES.

They Also Say That the Claims of Cubans Are Untrue.

During a number of small skirmishes which have taken place recently in the province of Santa Clara, the insurgents had 30 men killed, an insurgent major and a subaltern killed and 65 armed insurgents were captured. In the province of Matanzas, Havana and Pinar del Rio, 24 insurgents were killed in recent skirmishes and is surrendered to the Spanish authorities. In these engagements, according to the official report, the government forces lost six men killed and 27 men wounded.

A detachment of troops commanded by General Molina, which was escorting a convoy from Manzanillo to Bayamo, in the province of Santiago de Cuba, has dislodged an insurgent force from the position which it occupied. The Spanish officials say that the stories published by a New York newspaper from Havana via Key West, announcing the defeat of Colonel Ruiz near Manzanillo with a loss of many killed and the defeat of Colonel Aguilar near Guines, Havana province, recently, by insurgent forces, are untrue.

WILL RECOMMEND \$400.

Senate Committee's Action on Armor Plate Contracts.

The senate naval affairs committee had before them Secretary Long, of the navy department, having under consideration the subject of armor plate for battleships. The committee decided to recommend that the price of armor plate manufacturers would willingly accept \$425 per ton, but it was believed that they would also accept the lower price.

A proposition to put the price at \$425 per ton was first considered, but Senator Tillman moved to substitute \$400. The recommendation is to cover only the armor for the three battleships in course of erection, and will not be made at all unless advance is received from the secretary that the price recommended will be accepted by the Bethlehem and Carnegie works. The proposition of the Illinois steel works was not regarded as practicable for the present.

IRON AND STEEL WORKERS.

Amalgamated Committee Fixes the Puddling Price at \$4.50.

The general wage committee of the Amalgamated Iron and Steel Workers' association has practically agreed that the puddler rate for the coming year shall be \$4.50 per ton, the same as the present rate. There is a perfect unanimity for a \$5 rate and the puddlers because they say that the Pennsylvania mill owners promised them an increase this year in the event of McKinley's election, and many of them express soreness over the poor outlook for any higher rate. It is probable that no change will be made in the muckmen's rate over last year's, which was an increase of 12 1/2 per cent over the puddler's rate. Detroit will doubtless continue to be the annual meeting place of the Amalgamated association.

A SIX-HOUR BATTLE.

Uruguayan Troops Defeat the Insurgents.

A battle lasting six hours has taken place between Uruguayan troops and the insurgents under Lamus and Saravia. The government forces were victorious, according to the official report. It is further stated that the revolution is dying out, owing to the insurgents lacking ammunition and on account of numerous desertions from their ranks.

THE LATEST FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

SAGASTA SCORES SPAIN.

The Liberal Leader Says the Situation Could Not Be Gloomier.

At a meeting of the Liberal Senators and Deputies in Madrid, Senor Sagasta, former Premier, made an important speech, in the course of which he said:

"We have 200,000 troops in Cuba, but we are not even masters of the territory trodden by our soldiers. At the same time Carlistism is organizing itself in the peninsula and menaces us with a new war, thanks to the impunity it enjoys, while the seeds of separation are germinating in some of the provinces.

"The picture could not be gloomier. We have war in Cuba and in the Philippines, and we have a Carlist war in the peninsula. The Government is not responsible for them, but it is unfortunate in its administration. Reforms in Cuba will not solve the Cuban problem.

Senor Sagasta severely reprobated the conduct of the Government in financial, political and diplomatic emergencies, and said:

"It is in this way that a new conflict has arisen with the United States. We wish to know what has become of the sixteen million the former loan, since eight millions are still due the army. In Cuba an important problem has been solved, and there has been only an aggravation of long-existing evils.

In the face of this situation, the Liberal party has decided to break the truce it has accorded to the Government during the last two years. The Government has existed until now because of the complaisance of the Liberals. Henceforth the Liberals will throw all the responsibility upon the Government.

The speech, which was greatly applauded, portends stormy sittings for both chambers. Many Liberals predict that Senor Canovas will be thrown from power within a fortnight. Political passions are thoroughly excited.

BIG LAKE STEAMER SUNK.

Florida Went Down in Lake Huron.—Members of Crew Saved.

The steamer Florida, of the Lackawanna line, bound from Chicago to Buffalo with grain and general merchandise, was sent to the bottom of Lake Huron, by a collision with the steamer George W. Roby, between Middle Island and Presque Isle. The crew of the Florida were all rescued by the Roby, which, badly damaged, turned back and arrived at Port Huron, Michigan, yesterday afternoon. The Florida was very foggy at the time of the collision. Captain Wm. Smith, in command of the Roby, states that when he sighted the Florida through the fog he stopped and backed his engines, but the two boats were so close together that it was impossible to avoid the crash.

The Roby struck the Florida on the starboard side about amidships. A hole 12 feet long was cut in that steamer's wooden side. It was instantly seen that it was only a question of a few minutes before the Florida would go down. The Roby steamed along side of the doomed boat and took off part of its crew. The remainder of the crew lowered the yawl boat and succeeded in getting free of the sinking steamer. They were picked up subsequently by the Roby.

In about two minutes after the crash the Florida went to the bottom, sinking stern first, and breaking in two about amidships. As it went down the imprisoned air in its hull blew off the cabins and upper works. The cargo of the Florida consisted of 50,000 bushels of wheat and about 500 tons of merchandise, mostly flour, shipped by Chicago and western millers. Between 30 and 40 mills on the cargo is estimated at about \$60,000. The bank's policy on the vessel was about \$100,000; insured for \$80,000.

MISSING WITH \$20,000.

A Boston Bank Messenger Disappears Most Mysteriously.

Albert M. King, a 19-year-old messenger of the Boylston National Bank, of Boston, is missing, together with about \$20,000 in cash and \$10,000 United States certificates not negotiable except between banks. King started for the clearing house at 10:15 Wednesday morning to settle the balance against the bank, and on the way, according to instructions, transacted other business involving something like \$45,000. King had been employed by the Boylston bank about two years and has carried as much as \$100,000 of the bank's money in his pocket on previous occasions and never lost a dollar.

IN JAIL.

One of the Sugar Trust Men Locked up for Refusing to Testify.

Elverton R. Chapman, the recalcitrant sugar trust witness, who refused to answer a senate committee's questions as to whether he had acted as a broker for any Senators in speculations in sugar trust stock, occupies a cell at the district jail in Washington, and will continue therein for 25 days. Chapman surrendered himself to United States Marshal Wilson in a sedan chair, and on standing previously reached. The commitment papers were given Deputy Marshal Cook, who in a private carriage escorted the broker, who was accompanied by Attorneys Wilson and Dittendorf and Broker McCaskey to the district jail.

The trials of Havemeyer and Searies, president and treasurer respectively of the American Sugar Refining company, for refusing to answer questions of the Senate sugar trust investigation committee has been postponed until Tuesday, May 25.

ANTHRACITE MINE CONDITIONS.

Company Stores and Immigration Among the Evils.

The legislative committee investigating anthracite mine conditions learned that great suffering exists throughout the Scranton region; the miners, since the first of the year, averaged \$9 to \$17 monthly and laborers less than company stores were maintained by all the smaller companies, at which exorbitant prices prevailed, but store managers swore no employees were obliged to trade there, and that there were twice as many openings for mines as necessary to produce coal needed for market.

T. V. Powderly, formerly head of the Knights of Labor, was the principal witness, and 20 men from the mines followed him. The latter condemned the docking system, the failure of the two weeks' pay law, the company store system, immigration laws, mine inspection laws and the industrial situation. They decided urged, as a remedy, the immediate passing of the tariff bill and the restriction of immigration. The committee will examine company stores and the docking system.

FIVE VICTIMS FOUND.

Sheriff Makes a Report on the Dead Indian Abvets.

The sheriff's posse has returned to White Hills from the chase after Abveto, the Flute Indian, who was reported to be the body of Judge J. M. Morton, was found in a cabin at Goldburg, seven miles below Eldorado canyon, shot through the head. Morton had lived thirty-six hours after being shot. Abveto was killed on Wednesday, in the Colorado river, thirty miles below the canyon. The bodies of five of his victims have been found.

TO CEASE HOSTILITIES.

Russia Palled the Wires in Bulgaria and Constantinople Had an Electric Shock.

The war between Turkey and Greece seems to be ended at last. The great battle at Demokos, another disastrous defeat for the Greeks, was the final clash of the drums and cymbals. The white flag of peace has been floated over the Turkish camps and the opposing commanders are arranging the terms of armistice.

The event conspired to force the Sultan to cease hostilities. These were the sudden decision of the Prince of Bulgaria to mobilize his army and the request of the German Ambassador at Constantinople that the killing should be stopped. The German Emperor was slow in making up his mind to join with his Christian neighbors in the interest of peace. It was announced from Berlin that the German Ambassador, Baron von Jeltsch, had finally been instructed to co-operate with the other Ambassadors in the efforts to secure an armistice.

The war was stopped, however, before noon, Tuesday. Telegraphic orders were sent to the Turkish commanders in Thessaly and Epirus to cease hostilities. Soon after a telegram from Arta announced that the Turks had displayed a white flag.

There was a sudden and unexpected change in the political situation at Constantinople shortly before noon. Russia quietly showed her hand and thereby forced Germany and Turkey out of the game to all intents and purposes. Tuesday night and early Wednesday morning Turkey supported by Germany was practically defying Russia, France, Austria, Great Britain and Italy, insisting upon the annexation of Thessaly, in addition to a huge war indemnity, and seemingly was determined to march upon Athens. The Ministers received official advice from Sofia Tuesday announcing that orders had been issued for the partial mobilization of the Bulgarian army, possibly at the instigation of Russia.

There was a hurried consultation of the Ministers. The war party was for further defiance, but in the end pacific counsels prevailed. At 11:25 a. m. orders were telegraphed to Edinburg Post, the Turkish Commander-in-Chief in Thessaly, to cease hostilities. The peace negotiations will now be undertaken in real earnest, and the Greeks will most likely be spared any further human suffering.

The officials of the British Foreign Office Tuesday evening confirm the report that the Turkish commanders have received orders to arrange with the Greek commanders for an armistice.

INTERSTATE COMMERCE.

The Commission Desires More Power to Regulate Rates.

The interstate commerce commission has sent to Senator Cullom, chairman of the interstate commerce committee, a letter regarding the pending bill to amend the interstate commerce act. Commissioners Morrison and Clements concur in their suggestion that if pooling arrangements are authorized the common carriers should first be required to specify their proposed rates for approval by the commission. The time of notice of increase or reduction of rates should be extended to 90 days, so as to prevent sudden changes. Messrs. Morrison and Clements oppose the proposed exemptions of offenders against the law from imprisonment. The commission should be empowered to determine what is or is not a reasonable rate and to enforce its decision.

Commissioners Yeomans and Prouty approve of these suggestions, except that they are opposed to the passage of any pooling bill until the commission is given full power to regulate interstate commerce.

TRYING TO SAVE DURRANT.

Affidavit Made That Pastor Gibson Was the Murderer of Blanche Lamont.

William T. Bryant, an inmate of the Soldiers' home at Monteville, Cal., made a sworn statement that Theodore Durrant, who is under sentence of death for the murder of Blanche Lamont in Emmanuel church, San Francisco, is not guilty of the crime, but that Rev. George J. Gibson, pastor of the church, is the murderer. His statement is as follows:

"My name is William T. Bryant. I am 63 years old. I have lived in California since 1849 up to March 1, 1896. I am familiar with the location of the Emmanuel Baptist church in which Blanche Lamont was murdered. I heard the church on the night of the murder. I saw Rev. J. George Gibson, with a woman in his arms, in the body of the church going toward the south corner of the church. I heard him say: 'This kills that evidence.' I know Rev. J. George Gibson perfectly well. I heard the woman cry a number of times as though in mortal agony. I make this statement as an act of justice to an innocent man. Theodore Durrant did not murder Blanche Lamont, but Rev. J. George Gibson did."

A FINANCIAL CRISIS.

President and Vice President of the Bank of Venezuela Resigned.

A financial crisis recently burst upon the market of Caracas. European exchange banks refuse all commercial operations. The president of the Bank of Venezuela, Mr. Ramon, and the vice president, Mr. Santana, sent in their resignations. It is said that the government intends to export gold in order to effect the payment of the Venezuelan debt, which is largely held abroad. The extent of this rise in the monetary demand of credits for Europe and the small crop of coffee, which will not permit drawing against Europe.

The commander of the Venezuelan artillery, General Gonzalez, was shot dead on Thursday, May 6, by a workingman, who passing along the streets. The murderer tried to commit suicide, but he only succeeded in wounding himself, and was dragged off to prison. No reason for the crime can be discovered.

Dr. Victor H. Zerpa has been appointed minister of the interior to succeed General Hoidan, who has resigned. Congress closed on May 20.

NOT "OFFICIALLY" KNOWN.

Senator Sherman Cannot Tell Why the Arbitration Treaty Was Rejected.

Secretary Sherman has formally notified the British government, through Sir Julian Pauncefote, ambassador at Washington, that the United States Senate having failed to ratify the treaty providing for general arbitration, that document has failed. The secretary was unable formally to inform Sir Julian of the reasons why the Senate had rejected the treaty; indeed, he is in the dark himself in that matter, for he has no notice save the statement of the vote in the Senate of which he must take cognizance. Of course, it is known why the treaty was objected to, but the absence of official objections prevents any attempt being made to meet the objections in an amended treaty.

An Anonymous Contribution.

The Princess of Wales fund, started at the suggestion of her royal highness to provide a dinner or some substantial meal during the week of the jubilee commemoration for the poorest of the London poor, beggars, outcasts and tenants of the slums, received an anonymous contribution of \$25,000. Lord Mayor Fauld Phillips has announced that with the receipt of this donation the fund is closed. The Princess of Wales headed the subscription with \$100.

SHUT UP A NATIONAL BANK.

The State National Bank at Logansport, Ind., was closed by National Bank Examiner George B. Caldwell.

NEWS FROM THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

STEWART'S TREASURY SCHEME.

He Embodies it in an Amendment to the Tariff Bill.

Mr. Stewart, of Nevada, gave notice in the senate Tuesday of an amendment which he would offer to the tariff bill, and which he asked to have read. It provides that there shall be at all times a reserve fund in the treasury of \$50,000,000; that whenever the available balance in the treasury exceeds \$50,000,000 it shall be the duty of the secretary of the treasury to invest the surplus over that sum in United States bonds, and that when less than \$50,000,000 he shall issue legal tender non-interest bearing treasury notes to make up the deficiency; that such notes shall be redeemable out of the first surplus over \$50,000,000; that in case insufficient coin to meet the coin obligations of the United States shall come into the treasury through the ordinary sources of revenue, the secretary shall exchange the silver certificates paid for the coin in the treasury for the coin which is the coin paid in, and obtained through the conversion of silver certificates, the coin obligations of the United States shall be discharged, and it shall be the duty of the secretary of the treasury to coin sufficient silver bullion purchased under the law, to supply the deficiencies in the supply of coin to meet and discharge all coin obligations presented.

The Report Attacked.

The Havana La Lucha editorially impeaches the accuracy of the consular reports as to the distress of Americans in Cuba, upon which President McKinley's special message to congress was based, and questions whether there are actually 600 hungry Americans in the island. The paper adds: "But, now that congress has voted the \$50,000 there will soon be 6,000 alleged starving Americans anxious to figure in the consular disbursements."

AN ARMISTICE DECLARED.

Turks and Greeks Agree to Stop Fighting For Seventeen Days.

The commanders of the Greek and Turkish armies in Epirus and Thessaly agreed to an armistice for seventeen days. Although it is not definitely settled, it is thought the peace negotiations will be concluded between Turkey and Greece direct and that afterwar, following the precedent of the treaty of St. Stefano, the terms will be submitted to a European conference, which will probably meet in Paris.

The correspondent of the Associated Press who was with the Greek army after its retreat from Demokos has arranged to attend the battle of Demokos, fought on Monday 14th, confirming the stories of the heroic conduct of the Greeks, but also furnishing confirmation of the complete breakdown of all the Greek military organization and the failure of their generalship. He says:

"On Saturday Crown Prince Constantine informed the British ambulance doctors (Red Cross society) that there would be no fighting and they had better abandon the hospital and ambulances. On my way to the front I found around Lamia 40,000 refugees, liberated from three days' incessant rain, having no shelter except a few blankets. Women were giving birth to children on the ground, and the rain continued to pour. The British ambulance men, with commissariat trains, composed of rickety country carts drawn by feeble horses. I heard a sad account of the army. The men had no tents in the heavy rains, and for days they lay in the trenches or on the ground. The weather was bitterly cold, the neighboring heights being covered with snow, and there was much fever and dysentery among the troops."

The correspondent then describes the battle of Demokos. In writing of the bravery of the Greeks, he refers especially to the young recruits and the Garibaldians who, in red shirts, caps and green trousers, did splendid work and inspired all." Continuing the correspondent says: "Suda was a vivandiere with a red jacket. She fearlessly attended the wounded under a hot fire, and during the confused retreat never lost touch with her wounded until she had them safe in the German ambulance hospital at Port Marzio. M. Babin, the Greek consul in Suda, in the course of an interview, said: 'The indemnity which Greece will pay to Turkey will be in proportion to the resources of Greece, and her financial position. The cession of territory is out of the question. Greece cannot accept a modification of the strategic frontier, which would render easy the raiding of Greek territory by armed bands, and which would compel Greece to maintain a numerous army in order to prevent such incursions.'"

Cuban Relief.

The resolution appropriating \$50,000 for the relief of suffering Americans in Cuba was signed by Speaker Reed. The secretary of state has directed Consul General Lee to Havana to draw for immediate purchase of supplies and medicines for the relief of American citizens and transportation of such as are without means and desire to return to the United States not to exceed \$10,000. He was also instructed to furnish to the consuls at Cuba at his discretion funds for this purpose. U. S. Consul Bryce at Matanzas has been instructed by the secretary of state to apply to Consul General Lee for funds with which to relieve American citizens there.

Valuable Horse Traced.

C. B. Page, a resident of Streetsboro, O., has finally learned what has become of a valuable horse which was stolen from him 13 months ago. He has received a letter from a woman in Niles who stated that her husband had confessed to the theft when he was dying. At the time the horse was stolen another man was arrested. He proved an alibi. Mr. Page was informed in the letter that the horse had been sold to a man living near Lodi, by the name of Ellis. Tracing the story out, he learned that the missing animal and the man who had bought it were killed in a railroad crossing accident.

Military Train Wrecked.

A train conveying a detachment of reserves from Westphalia to Metz at Greding, near Hildesheim and Gredingheim. Nine persons are known to have been killed and 35 injured. The accident was caused by the train breaking in two, the rear portion subsequently overtaking and crashing into the front part.

TERRE TELEGRAMS.

Bento Lopez, aged 70 years, was hanged at Folsom, Cal., for the murder of George Washburn.

Theophilos has purchased land near San Diego, Cal., on which they will erect a temple costing \$250,000.

Governor Black, of New York, has refused his signature to the graduated inheritance tax bill passed at the recent session of the Legislature.

Congressman Thomas H. Tongue, of Oregon, was painfully but not seriously injured by being knocked down by a cable car in Washington.

The Vitaseco pictures of the Corbett-Fitzsimmons fight will be barred from Canada by a law to be passed at the instance of the Canadian minister and the Dominion government.

Bert Jenkins, a young man living near Sharpville, Pa., was in the act of cutting his throat when two friends took the knife away, one of them receiving a bad gash across the wrist.

THE CONSULS' REPORTS.

Secrets That the State Department so Long Kept Hidden.

The secret archives of the state department, which have held the consular reports on the Cuban war from the public, were partially disclosed Wednesday, by Senator Foraker, of Ohio. Especially startling was the letter from Secretary Olney, in which this country offered mediation to Spain, and the refusal of that country to accept the proffered aid.

While one of the consular reports was read without the name of the author being disclosed, it is stated to be a communication from Consul-General Lee, which fully sets forth his idea of the condition that exists in Cuba.

The extract was quoted partly as follows, no date being given:

"I cannot understand the truth of the claim that all the provinces of the island are pacified, except that of Santiago de Cuba, because there are more insurgents under arms at this time than there were first reached the island, about ten months ago, and I do not think it a fair inference to draw from existing conditions that the war is approaching a termination, because, in pursuance of an established policy, the insurgents avoid as far as possible all serious encounters."

"I conclude that the war will drag its weary length along so long as the insurgents can dig sustenance from the ground on the one side, or money to be obtained by the other. With the continued result of untold human suffering, loss of human life, the number of innocent men, women and children by both sides, and the frightful havoc which disease makes in the ranks of the soldiers, particularly among the unacclimated Spaniards, the poverty and distress of the people are increasing, and the loss of property of all sorts daily is becoming more enormous. No one can fully appreciate the situation without being here in person. The number of poor, distressed, and starving children and old men of an advanced age, who have increased in this city within the past few weeks, while in other points on the island the suffering has been proportionately greater."

The letter from Secretary Olney to Spanish Minister de Lome under date of April 4, 1896, is the one in which intervention is suggested. In the letter Mr. Olney said:

"It is impossible to deny that the expectations you entertained of putting down the rebellion have not been completely disappointed. The insurgents seem to command a larger part of the island than ever before. It can hardly be questioned that the insurrection, instead of being quelled, is to-day more formidable than ever, and enters upon the second year of its existence with decidedly improved prospects of successful results. Whether a condition of things entitling the insurgents to recognition as belligerents has yet been brought about may, for the purpose of the present communication, be regarded as immaterial."

After explaining the interest the United States has in the case, Mr. Olney proceeds: "To find a way to co-operate with Spain in the immediate pacification of the island on such a plan as, leaving Spain her rights of sovereignty, shall yet secure to the people of the island all such rights and powers of local self-government as they can reasonably ask is the object. To that end the United States offers and will use her good offices at such times and in such a manner as may be deemed most advisable."

In closing he says the communication is prompted by the friendliest feelings toward Spain and the Spanish people, and adds: "The United States has no designs upon Cuba, and its designs against the sovereignty of Spain."

DISORDER IN CRETE.

Mohammedans Attempt to Assassinate the British and French Admirals.

The situation in Crete is most serious. There is a revival of excitement, both among the Mussulmans and Christians, in consequence of the departure of the Greeks. Some Baschi Bazzouks fired upon Admiral Ingham, the British admiral, and three British officers were killed. The British admiral was fired at by the French admiral while walking in Suda with his chief-of-staff.

Shots were also fired at a British signaller outside of Suda, and three insurgents attacked and disarmed a British lieutenant near Suda. Owing to this case the British admiral sent an ultimatum to the insurgents, demanding the return of the lieutenant's arms within 48 hours or action would be taken. The British admiral has been recalled to Suda Bay to be prepared for eventualities.

Brigandage is appearing among the insurgents. Two Mussulman children were kidnapped and one of them sent back with a demand for a ransom, which the head of the other would be returned.

A dispatch from Candia says: The Cretan insurgents have received instructions from Athens to accept an autonomous form of government, on condition that the Greek troops shall be withdrawn from the island. The insurgents appear to approve of this plan for the settlement of their grievances.

TRIPLE LYNCHING.

A Thousand Masked Men String