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FRENCH DEPUTIES FIGHT.

STORMY SCENES IN THE CHAMBER GROWING OUT OF GROUSSET'S SPEECH.

GENERAL STAFF SEVERELY CRITICISED—ANTI-DREYFUS DEMONSTRATIONS.

Paris, Dec. 12.—In the Chamber of Deputies M. Grousset, the Radical Socialist, interpellated the Government on the indiscretions of the general staff in the Dreyfus affair. He read extracts from newspaper articles alleged to have emanated from members of the general staff, which caused a violent uproar, during which the Deputies rose and rushed at one another and engaged in a series of fist fights.

M. Grousset continued his remarks in the midst of this tumult and recalled an article in the "Intransigeant," referring to letters from Emperor William and an interview between Count von Münster, the German Ambassador at Paris, and Casimir Perier, the former President of the Republic.

Count De Mun, the Conservative leader, here interrupted the speaker, and said he desired that the House be consulted as to whether the discussion should be allowed to continue.

The Premier, M. Dupuy, said that, as head of the Government, he protested with the utmost energy against the language of the speaker, who, he added, had not measured its possible effect. (Great applause.)

M. Déroulède, Revisionist, shouted: "Come off the Tribune!" This caused a redoublement of the uproar.

GROUSSET DRAWS PROTESTS.

When semi-quiet had been restored, M. Grousset continued speaking. He said the centre of resistance to the revision of the Dreyfus case was no longer the Ministry of War. It was elsewhere. As to the secret documents in the case, he pointed out that they had been ridiculed by Emperor William himself. (Loud protests.)

M. Deschanel, Republican, invited the speaker not to mix foreign sovereigns in the debate, any more than he would mix the President of the Republic in them.

M. Grousset, continuing, spoke of the articles in the newspapers, in which it was hinted that Russia and the Czar were mixed up in the Dreyfus affair, and he also alluded to the recent semi-official note relative to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, M. Delcassé, being obliged to explain certain statements to the German Ambassador (violent interruptions) relative to the latter's daughter. (Uproar and hoots.)

Austria, M. Grousset said, was also entangled in the affair.

The speaker said he pointed out these matters in order to show that a press campaign had been opened by certain interested persons to prevent the discovery of the truth.

M. Grousset concluded by demanding if the Government was disposed to permit the centre of resistance to the law to pass from the Ministry of War to the general staff of the military government of Paris; if it would any longer tolerate this attitude of the ringleaders, and if it would govern for the Republic or for the Jesuits. (Applause from the Extreme Left and violent protests elsewhere.)

MINISTER OF WAR'S REPLY.

The Minister of War, M. de Freycinet, repudiated M. Grousset's allegations. He said that if there had been some indiscretions it was unjust and imprudent to attack the whole army; unjust because the army was excellent, devoted to its duty, and incapable of the acts charged. The speech, he said, was imprudent because it was liable to lead to a disorganization of the military institutions.

The Minister of War concluded by vigorously protesting against the accusation brought against the general staff and the military government of Paris of resisting the law.

M. Dupuy asked the Chamber to close the discussion and adopt the order of the day, which was done by a vote of 403 to 78. The Chamber then adjourned.

As one of the results of insults exchanged in the debate in the Chamber to-day, Antied Boyer, Radical Socialist, has sent his seconds to M. Déroulède, Revisionist, and to M. Gauthier (de Clagny), Revisionist, who characterized M. Boyer as a "whitewashed Panamaist."

The Prefect of Algiers has suspended the Mayor of Algiers for a month on account of a speech made by the latter, who is a rabid anti-Semite, attacking the Governor-General. The Minister of the Interior has increased the suspension to three months. This is intended as a warning to the Algerian anti-Semites, whose recent violence and threats have been causing a panic among the Jews in Algeria, which has unsettled business.

ANTI-DREYFUS DEMONSTRATION.

M. Millevoye and the Comte de Ramel, both members of the Chamber of Deputies, headed an anti-Dreyfus demonstration this afternoon. They marched to the Cherche Midi Prison, where Colonel Picquart is confined, but they were stopped by a cordon of police and asked to retire. Thereupon M. Millevoye made a speech, in which he said they did not desire a conflict with "these brave fellows," pointing to the policemen, adding that they had achieved their object, of being able to shout "Conspuez Picquart," who could hear them from the window of his prison.

The crowd marched to the Hôtel des Invalides, the official residence of General Zurlinden, the Military Governor of Paris, cheering for the army and chanting monotonously "Conspuez Picquart." Meeting a lieutenant of cuirassiers on their way there, they gave to him an enthusiastic ovation, and the lieutenant replied theatrically: "I thank you in the name of the army!" This brought forth renewed cheers from the demonstrators.

The doors of General Zurlinden's house were closed, but the crowd gathered outside cheering for the army, and M. Millevoye harangued his followers, denouncing the "infamous monsters of the Court of Cassation," ending with calling for cheers for the "valiant General Zurlinden, who commands the army," and for "the tricolor flying over the Invalides."

The Comte de Ramel made a similar speech, concluding by saying: "The Court of Cassation is perverting justice, but we will not tolerate it. We are the majority. We are the power, and we, patriots, will rise against it."

At this the crowd cheered frantically and marched to the Chamber of Deputies, where MM. Millevoye and Ramel announced that they were going to apprise the Chamber of "their indignant protests." The crowd then dispersed.

Several thousand extra police and Republican Guards have been distributed about the city to cope with the anti-Picquart demonstrations which are expected in view of the reports that the Colonel is to be provisionally released to-day.

ESTERHAZY WANTS TO TESTIFY.

Paris, Dec. 12.—Count Esterhazy has written to M. Mazeau, president of the Court of Cassation, declaring his readiness, if granted a safe conduct, to appear before the Court, to be confronted with all the witnesses and to defend his own honor and that of the late Colonel Henry.

REDUCED RATES FOR STUDENTS.

The New-York Central will sell round trip tickets at reduced rates to instructors and students going home for the holidays. For information address M. C. Roach, General Eastern Agent, 413 Broadway, New-York; F. J. Wolfe, General Agent, Albany, or any New-York Central ticket agent.—Advt.

PARIS GREATLY EXCITED.

TROOPS UNDER ARMS—PICQUART'S RELEASE DELAYED.

Paris, Dec. 12.—The city is greatly excited to-night, and the troops are under arms.

Colonel Picquart's release is still delayed, owing to the judicial quibbles between the civil and military authorities.

M. Max Regis, the Mayor of Algiers, who was suspended by the Prefect for a month on account of a rabid anti-Semitic speech he made attacking the Governor-General, has resigned.

MORE MODERATE VIEWS.

Paris, Dec. 12.—At a meeting of a religious society of which he is president, the British Ambassador, Sir Edmund J. Monson, took occasion to-day to express his great sympathy for France and his profound conviction that she would unite herself with England and the United States for progress and civilization. "I hope," he said, "that at Christmas time there will no longer be any question of war between Great Britain and France."

FRANCE MAY TURN TO GERMANY.

Paris, Dec. 12.—Count von Münster, the German Ambassador, gave a dinner this evening at the German Embassy in honor of M. Delcassé, French Minister of Foreign Affairs. The newspapers to-morrow will make much of this incident. There is a strong feeling in favor of a Franco-German agreement as a result of the Fashoda affair.

REBEL SAVAGERY IN FORMOSA.

HOW AN OFFICIAL KILLED HIS WIFE AND CHILD RATHER THAN LET THEM BE CAPTURED.

San Francisco, Dec. 12 (Special).—Terrible atrocities are reported from Formosa. Two hundred rebels recently attacked a village, surprising the people and looting the place. They burned thirty-seven houses. A Japanese police inspector and six constables perished in repelling the attack. One constable was captured alive. The insurgents fastened on his back the bloody heads of his companions and drove him before them into the woods. Reinforcements were sent to the village where the mutilated bodies of the victims were found. One constable escaped. He gave a ghastly story of the massacre.

Inspector Kosake, as soon as he was aroused, ordered his wife and child to hide. He commanded his followers, in case of his own death, to kill his wife and child, rather than let them fall into the hands of the savages. While he was fighting the savages dragged the woman and child from their hiding-places. He rushed upon them, and, with two blows of his Japanese sword, killed them. Then he fell himself, covered with wounds. Though Japan has now had control of Formosa for four years, there is no security for life outside the large towns, and the whole northern part of the island is still savage.

UNION OF CHURCHES LIKELY.

TWO PRESBYTERIAN CONGREGATIONS MAY COME TOGETHER.

It became known yesterday that a proposition has been made to unite the congregations now worshipping at the Thirteenth Street Presbyterian Church and the North New-York Presbyterian Church under one pastor and in one church building. The Rev. Dr. John R. Paxton, who has been preaching at the North New-York Presbyterian Church, yesterday returned to the Presbytery the call which he received to that church on February 14, 1898, but which he had never formally accepted, although he occupied the pulpit several times last spring. It seems that the proposal to unite the two congregations under one pastor has been under consideration for some time, and consequently it must have been known that it was Dr. Paxton's intention to return to the Presbytery the call that had been extended to him. In case the union of the two churches takes place there is no doubt that the Rev. Dr. Walter D. Buchanan, pastor of the Thirteenth Street Church, will preside over the united congregations as pastor. Dr. Buchanan is a man who is widely known in the Presbyterian denomination, a man of exceptional energy and power, and is still under forty years of age. He preceded the Rev. Dr. John Balcom Shaw as Moderator of the New-York Presbytery, and presided over the deliberations of that body at the time Herman Warszawiak was on trial.

The building of the North New-York Presbyterian Church stands at Seventh-ave. and One-hundred-and-twenty-eighth-st. Its congregation has been for some time in doubt as to the course to be pursued regarding the church's future. There are members of the congregation who think the location of the church unfortunate, and this faction, if it may be so called, will doubtless favor the proposal that the united congregations occupy the building of the Thirteenth Street Church. Killaen Van Rensselaer, a trustee of the North New-York Presbyterian Church, yesterday confirmed the report that the consolidation of the two churches had been proposed and seriously considered. He said that to-morrow night the whole matter would be considered and determined at a meeting of the congregation of the North New-York Presbyterian Church.

Mr. Van Rensselaer added that another plan had been advocated by some members of the congregation, and that was to extend a call to the Rev. Dr. Duncan James McMillan, who has long been prominent in the Missions Board of the Presbyterian Church. If this course were not followed, Mr. Van Rensselaer had no doubt that the New-York Presbyterian Church would be united with the Thirteenth Street Presbyterian Church, under the pastoral care of Dr. Buchanan. In case of amalgamation, it is not certain which church building will be occupied, but the chances are in favor of the downtown building.

Dr. McMillan acted as Moderator of the meetings held by the congregation of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church to discuss the resignation of the Rev. Dr. John Hall last spring.

BRYAN IS OUT OF THE ARMY.

HIS RESIGNATION PROMPTLY ACCEPTED BY THE WAR DEPARTMENT.

Washington, Dec. 12.—All doubt respecting the intentions of Colonel William J. Bryan was removed by the receipt at the War Department to-day of a telegram from him saying that he had mailed his resignation of his commission as a colonel of volunteers, and that it was approved by the division and corps commanders.

The written resignation was received at the War Department this afternoon by mail, and was immediately accepted, notice of that fact being telegraphed to Colonel Bryan. It is supposed at the War Department that the lieutenant-colonel of Bryan's regiment will succeed him in command.

THE GENTLEMAN BURGLAR'S SENTENCE.

WILLIAM E. TRAVIS CONDEMNED TO NINE YEARS IN A CONNECTICUT PRISON.

Hartford, Dec. 12.—William E. Travis, the New-York burglar who robbed the house of Mrs. Juliette Sumner in this city, and who pleaded guilty in the Superior Court last week, was sentenced this afternoon by Judge Shumway to nine years in the State prison. Travis was happily married, and was believed by his wife and family, as well as by his friends and neighbors, to be a prosperous and respectable business man.

RICHTER IN THE REICHSTAG.

RADICAL LEADER'S SPEECH AND THE FOREIGN SECRETARY'S REPLY.

Berlin, Dec. 12.—In the course of the debate on foreign affairs in the Reichstag to-day, Herr Richter, the German Radical leader, expressed the opinion that Emperor William's tour of the Holy Land had left a mixed impression in the minds of Protestants.

Continuing, Herr Richter protested against the recent expulsions from North Schleswig as being unworthy of a great people, and expressed the hope that the negotiations with Great Britain for a commercial treaty were progressing well.

Regarding the references to Germany in President McKinley's message to Congress, he remarked: "I should be pleased if the American Government succeeded in convincing the German Government that the precautionary measures taken in America with regard to pig products are such as exclude all danger to health, and if, on the other hand, Germany, as the result of this, should see her way to facilitate American importations. If there be real danger of the introduction of disease, the interests of consumers must be temporarily subordinated.

He then advocated the new Army bill, but said it was of such proportions that it did not harmonize with the sympathy expressed in the speech from the Throne on the subject of the Czar's disarmament proposals.

In conclusion, Herr Richter severely criticised the treatment of the Lippe-Detmold question, and demanded that Emperor William's telegrams should be countersigned by the responsible Minister.

Count Posadowsky-Wehner, Imperial Secretary of State for the Interior, replied. Referring to the alleged general uneasiness as to the condition of public affairs, he said that, in his opinion, the situation both at home and abroad was favorable. In any event he could aver that there was no uneasiness among the Federal Governments of the empire, which were entirely of one mind on all important questions.

Regarding Herr Richter's allusion to Ministerial responsibility, he said that nothing was done in the empire without the responsibility of the Imperial Chancellor, and that during Emperor William's absence in the East public affairs had been continuously disposed of. The lateness of date for convening the Reichstag was due, he said, to the necessity of thoroughly preparing the proposed bills. Regarding the expulsions, he pointed out that the power vested in individual States for the performance of such acts could not be limited. He then explained the necessity for legislation to protect men who are willing to work against the intimidation of strikers, and concluded by declaring that the settlement of the Lippe-Detmold succession rested with the Bundesrath, which had not yet reached a decision.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS DISCUSSED.

Baron Von Bülow, the Foreign Secretary, dwelt at length upon foreign affairs. He said the Eastern question at the present moment was peaceful and much less threatening to the peace of the world, though he did not mean to imply that the problem was settled.

"It is like a sea serpent," he continued, "one bit appears after the other. None of those who hear me will live to see the final settlement. We must, after all, leave to our children's children a few nuts to crack. Germany does not aim at a selfish influence in the Orient, and in that fact lies the peculiarity and security of her position at the Golden Horn. The sympathies of the Turks with Germany rest upon the conviction that she means to uphold international law with reference to Turkey as well as to other nations."

Discussing Emperor William's recent tour, Baron Von Bülow said that its result had disproved all the stories disseminated as to adventurous plans and opposing claims. The German Protestants would allow no one to dispute their right to have a house of God in holy places. The desire of Emperor William, he asserted, to dedicate the Church of the Redeemer himself was an act of piety to his ancestors as well as a matter of personal religion. He was devoid of all antagonism to other creeds, and the proof of this was in the fact that all standing on common Christian ground might equally rejoice in the opportunity afforded by the journey of His Majesty, who, as Emperor of all the Germans, had given the Abode of the Holy Virgin to his Catholic subjects.

FRENCH INTERESTS NOT OPPOSED.

The journey also showed to other Governments, the Foreign Secretary continued, that Germany does not wish to injure the well-founded rights of others anywhere. Neither in the East nor elsewhere did Germany oppose French interests, though, of course, she had nowhere recognized a foreign protectorate of German subjects, the protection of Germans belonging only to the German Emperor—a right not now declared for the first time, but which existed on January 18, 1871 (the day King William of Prussia was proclaimed Emperor of Germany at Versailles), and had been exercised on several occasions since.

Referring to the expulsions from Prussia he said: "International relations will be in no way disturbed since the expulsions were an act of sovereignty which, in certain special cases, could not be avoided. Confidential friendly negotiations with Austria on the subject are proceeding. The Dreibund has not been shaken. That alliance was the result of an historic lifework of great statesmanship and still holds good, preserving the most complete autonomy at home with absolute independence abroad. The parties thereto are equally interested in its maintenance, and each would lose to an equal extent by the termination of the Dreibund."

With regard to Germany's relations to Great Britain, Baron Von Bülow said there were various matters in which Germany could proceed in company with England, and that willingly, without prejudice, with the fullest maintenance of other valuable relations. Then turning to Germany's attitude toward the Hispano-American war, he said:

REFERENCE TO THE WAR.

"Our duty has been to take care that German's relations with neither Spain nor America should be disturbed. Germany has no special interest in Cuba, and it was not for Germans to judge who was right or who was wrong. Therefore, the German Government has scrupulously observed a loyal neutrality. Never during the war did the Government show or even feel any inclination toward unwarranted intervention.

"In a straightforward manner, within the bounds of strict neutrality and without prejudicing our relations with either belligerent, we did everything in our power to prevent injury to German shipping and trade. (Cheers.) Various differences of principle existed in our commercial relations with America, but the negotiations that were stopped during the war will be resumed, and I may venture to believe that, with mutual goodwill, the friendly relations between Germany and the United States will be maintained in the field of commerce."

In concluding Baron Von Bülow said: "Governments everywhere are endeavoring to preserve the peace, and Germany hopes to succeed for a long time to come in avoiding serious conflicts. True to its historic traditions and the Emperor's great aim, the German Nation, while protecting to the full its right and interest and mindful that its future depends upon its strength and the sharpness of its sword, will nevertheless never fail when the universal aims of humanity or the maintenance of the world's peace and commerce are involved."

TO INCREASE ENGLAND'S RESERVE.

CIRCULARS ASKING NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERMEN TO ENROLL.

St. John's, N. F., Dec. 12.—Further evidence of the strained relations between Great Britain and France is afforded by the action of the British Admiralty in distributing circulars all around the Island of Newfoundland, inviting fishermen to enroll themselves in the Naval Reserve, for which special inducements are offered. The regulations require the men to enroll for a period of five years, in each of which they must put in twenty-eight days' drill in the shore batteries, together with six months on board a warship during the period of enlistment.

They will receive an annual retaining fee of $25, besides uniform, kit and 80 cents a day while drilling. If called out in wartime they will be paid the same as the regular bluejackets.

So desirous is the Admiralty to secure the colonial fishermen for this service that the drilling periods and the warship cruising are to fall in the autumn and winter months, so as not to interfere with the regular operations of the colony.

POLAND! POLAND! POLAND! POLAND

Pure, delicious and unsurpassed. Received daily "Poland," 8 Park Place, N. Y.—Advt.

BLOODSHED IN HAVANA.

THREE CUBANS KILLED AND TWO WOUNDED IN A SHOOTING AFFRAY.

FIGHT WITH SPANIARDS OVER AN ATTEMPT TO CLOSE THE TACON THEATRE—AMERICANS IN DANGER.

Havana, Dec. 12.—Three Cubans were killed and one Spanish officer and two Cubans were wounded last night in an affray between some Spanish officers off duty and a number of citizens and a party of Cubans who wished to close the Taçon Theatre on account of the death of General Calixto Garcia at Washington. The Spanish troops on duty intervened and restored order.

After the news of General Garcia's death spread through Havana early yesterday evening the Cubans wished to have all the places of amusement closed. They succeeded in closing two places frequented by Cubans, but the management of the Taçon Theatre, where there were many Spanish officers among the audience, refused to close the house. Thereupon Allegrette, a former captain of insurgent troops, got into an excited argument with the manager of the theatre, and Allegrette was escorted to the sidewalk by the police on duty. There Allegrette entered into a heated discussion with a Spanish officer, who struck him across the face with the flat of his sword. Then there was a collision between the Cubans and the Spanish military men, more blows were struck on both sides, and many persons from the cafés and park cheered for Spain, and brought crowds of people to the spot from adjacent streets and squares. Suddenly a shot was fired by a Cuban or by a Spaniard, intentionally or accidentally, and the Cubans retreated into the Hotel Inglaterra. More shots were fired on both sides, and Arturo Tuzet, a French citizen born in Havana, was shot and seriously wounded while sitting at a table.

CUBANS SEEK SAFETY.

More shots were fired and the Cubans ran through the hotel office and made their way upstairs. Jesus Sotolongo, a Cuban, fell wounded on the stairs, and another wounded man broke into the room occupied by Lieutenant Fitzhugh Lee, the son of the General and former Consul-General here, demanding protection.

General Greene and several members of his staff, who had been out on the balcony watching the crowd, heard the uproar in the hotel, and went into the corridor. As soon as the Spanish officers saw General Greene, who was in uniform, they stopped the pursuit of the Cubans, saluted and retired.

In the mean time Eastaquio Lemus had been fatally wounded in the streets, and Pedro Blesa and a man named Jiminez had been killed.

Shortly afterward the Spanish guards on duty swarmed in from the neighboring streets, and order was restored.

At the time the Cubans and pursuing Spaniards ran through the Hotel Inglaterra, General Humphreys was in the lobby talking with Major Martin, of General Greene's staff, and other men. A bullet shattered a mirror near which they stood, and two others splintered the staircase.

R. S. Howland, Editor of "The Providence Journal," and W. L. Riley a New-York contractor, were jostled by a sudden rush of shouting and fighting men. Julio Sanguilly was sitting at a table in the lobby. The violent scenes in the office and on the stairs lasted, however, for a few minutes only.

AMERICANS IN DANGER.

On the outside the Spanish soldiers were clearing the great square and the streets in the vicinity. The hotel was full of American officers and civilians, and some of them, with their wives, were standing on the balconies at the imminent risk of being hit by bullets fired at an upward angle to scare the crowds. From that point they watched the spectacle in the lighted square.

It is reported that, in addition to those killed and wounded who have been previously mentioned, fourteen are being cared for in private houses. Three arrests were made.

A few minutes after the shooting in the hotel frightened patrons and Cubans gathered around General Greene and asked if he would protect them. He assured them that he believed they were safe, but the only recognized authority in Havana was the Spanish executive. He then sent Captain Cole and Lieutenant Stevens to General Castellanos to inquire what was being done to preserve order. The latter replied that the cafés had been ordered closed and the streets cleared, while troops in sufficient numbers to keep the peace had been posted in the squares and thoroughfares. Two of the aids of General Castellanos called upon General Greene and gave him further personal assurances.

Telephone messages describing the occurrence were sent to General Wade in El Vedado, and General Greene sent a message to Washington giving a brief statement of the facts. What was taking place in the city was unknown on the American warships and transports in the harbor, nor did the news reach them until this morning.

MILITARY GOVERNOR OF HAVANA.

GENERAL LUDLOW APPOINTED BY THE SECRETARY OF WAR.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Secretary Alger this afternoon designated General Ludlow to act as first Military Governor of Havana City, with full powers to deal with all local questions. He will start for his post soon. General Greene will remain at Havana until relieved by General Ludlow, and then come home to be retired.

CUBANS TO BE KEPT OUT.

WILL NOT BE ALLOWED IN HAVANA UNTIL SPANIARDS ARE WITHDRAWN.

Havana, Dec. 12.—The United States Evacuation Commissioners and General Greene sent General Clous and Captain Hart at noon to-day to exchange views with the Spanish Commissioners. It was arranged that all the Cuban officers and soldiers, including Generals Julio Sanguilly and Lacret, should go to the Cuban camp near Mariana, and remain out of the city until the Spanish forces are withdrawn. Mr. Jerome, the British Consul, had already called at the palace on the same mission.

CASTELLANOS INJURED.

ROOF OF HIS BEDROOM FALLS AND WOUNDS HIM IN THE FACE AND SHOULDERS.

Havana, Dec. 12.—While Captain-General Castellanos was in his bedroom yesterday evening, the roof fell in and wounded him on both shoulders, the breast and face. His orderly was also wounded in the face.

CURRENCY REFORMS IN THE ISLAND.

Santiago de Cuba, Dec. 12.—Frank A. Vanderlip, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, arrived here from Jamaica on board the revenue cutter Gresham. He comes under special instructions from President McKinley to investigate the currency question. For some time this problem has been the cause of considerable trouble, owing to the fact that there is no settled basis of exchange for gold.

Mr. Vanderlip received a salute of fifteen guns from the United States cruiser Cincinnati. Immediately on landing he visited General Leonard Wood, with whom he had a long talk on currency matters. He has promised to send a large quantity of small change to Santiago, where it is badly needed.

LLOYD STEAMER CHARTERED.

Bremen, Dec. 12.—The North German Lloyd steamer Stuttgart has been chartered to repatriate Cuban troops.

THE TREATY OF PEACE.

TEXT TO BE PUBLISHED IN A RED BOOK BEFORE THE CORTES MEETS.

Madrid, Dec. 12.—The text of the treaty of peace will be published in a Red Book before the opening of the Cortes.

DINNER TO GENERAL PORTER.

AMERICAN PEACE COMMISSIONERS' ENTERTAINMENT—THE PRESIDENT TOASTED.

Paris, Dec. 12.—The United States Peace Commissioners gave a dinner this evening at the Hotel Continental to the United States Ambassador. The dining-room was festooned with American flags.

The company included, in addition to General and Mrs. Porter and all the Peace Commissioners and their wives, Miss Gray, John Bassett Moore, secretary to the American Peace Commission, and Mrs. Moore, John K. Gowdy, United States Consul-General, and Mrs. Gowdy, Henry Vignaud, First Secretary of Legation; E. T. Scott, Second Secretary of Legation; Lieutenant W. S. Sims, United States Naval Attaché; General and Mrs. Bates and General and Mrs. Whittier. The company toasted President McKinley, Ambassador Porter and the United States Peace Commissioners.

THE FATE OF THE CAROLINES.

London, Dec. 13.—Dispatches to the morning papers from Berlin and Madrid give conflicting reports regarding the Carolines, the former declaring that negotiations for the purchase of the Islands are at the point of completion, while the latter deny that Germany is negotiating for the Carolines, and assert that Spain has decided to keep the archipelago.

THE ISLA DE CUBA RAISED.

STARTS FOR HONG KONG UNDER HER OWN STEAM—FATAL SHOOTING AFFRAY.

Manila, Dec. 12.—The Isla de Cuba, one of the cruisers sunk by Admiral Dewey in the battle of Manila on May 1 last, and which he subsequently caused to be raised, started for Hong Kong this morning under her own steam. She is of 1,030 tons displacement and 2,200 indicated horse-power.

Captain Whiting, formerly of the Monadnock, has relieved Captain Glass, of the Charleston. The latter has gone home sick.

The Raleigh leaves for home on Thursday, by way of the Suez Canal.

As the result of an altercation before a fruit-stand yesterday, a Californian volunteer was stabbed and two natives were shot dead.

A fireman of the Buenaventura jumped into the river from a launch. His body was not recovered.

RETURN OF SPANISH SOLDIERS.

A FORMIDABLE TASK CONFRONTS THE WAR DEPARTMENT—RELEASE OF PRISONERS.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The Quartermaster's Department of the Army is now called upon to face the formidable task of transporting from the Philippines all the Spanish soldiers who constitute the garrisons of the islands. There are about 15,000 of them, according to the best information possessed by the War Department. All the Government transports in serviceable condition are required for the movement of the United States Army, so the War Department will be obliged to invite proposals from transportation companies to carry the men. The officials, from the Secretary down, have been so thoroughly convinced of the wisdom of the policy they pursued in the transportation of the Santiago prisoners that they are disposed to repeat the experiment, if suitable terms can be made. In that case the Spanish Transatlantic Company, a Government-aided transportation line, received the contract for carrying the troops to Spain. Though this course at the time caused some criticism from friends of the American lines, it soon became manifest that the War Department had relieved itself of an enormous responsibility. Placing the sick and unhealthy Spanish soldiers in the hands of their own people, it avoided any charge of ill-treatment of the men that almost certainly would have been made when the ships came into the Spanish home ports with the large number of dead and dying men aboard.

To carry the Santiago soldiers home cost $313,-800, and it is scarcely to be expected that the Philippine service can be rendered for much less than double that sum, owing to the great distance of transportation.

The authorities are about to send instructions at once to General Otis to seek once more through the use of his good offices to secure the release of the Spanish prisoners now held by the Filipinos. Until the final ratifications of the treaty are exchanged the technical title to the Philippine Islands does not lie in the United States, save in those portions—the territory in the vicinity of Manila—actually in the possession of the United States forces. Therefore there is a question as to the right of this Government to go outside of these limits to release the Spanish prisoners, supposing that Aguinaldo refuses to heed a peaceful application.

However that may be, the prisoners will be released in the end, for with the ratification of the treaty there no longer will be doubt as to the obligation of this Government to free them.

TO RELIEVE VOLUNTEERS AT MANILA.

SIX REGIMENTS OF REGULAR INFANTRY ORDERED TO THE PHILIPPINES.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The War Department has begun in earnest the relief of the volunteer troops now stationed at Manila by Regulars. This afternoon Secretary Alger signed an order designating for this purpose six regiments of United States infantry out of eight held in reserve for service in sub-tropical countries. The regiments are the 20th, at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas; the 3d, at Fort Snelling, Minnesota; the 12th, at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri, and Fort Riley, Kansas; the 17th, at Columbus Barracks, Ohio; the 4th, at Fort Sheridan, and the 22d, at Fort Crook, Nebraska.

They will go forward to Manila as soon as transportation can be provided. It is possible that the two regiments still held in reserve, the 24th and 25th Infantry, will join the others before they sail.

These regiments were selected in the reverse ratio to the loss sustained by them in the Cuban campaign. The volunteers in Manila will be returned in the order in which they reached that city.

GREETING FOR WARSHIPS.

CUBANS AT LIMA PREPARING TO RECEIVE THE OREGON AND THE IOWA.

Lima, Peru (via Galveston, Tex.), Dec. 21.—Cubans living here are preparing to give an enthusiastic reception to the United States battleships Oregon and Iowa on their arrival in the passage along the coast on the way to join Admiral Dewey's squadron at Manila.

AN AMERICAN MONUMENT AT MANILA.

PROPOSITION TO HONOR THOSE WHO DIED IN BATTLE OR FROM DISEASE.

San Francisco, Dec. 12 (Special).—According to advices by the City of Peking a movement is on foot in the Orient to have Americans in the Far East erect a monument at Manila in memory of Americans who fell in battle there or died of disease in the course of the campaign. United States Consul-General Platt, at Singapore, is behind the movement, and has forwarded the proposal to Military Governor Otis at Manila, for his approval. The plan is for all American residents of the Orient to contribute to a fund to be used in the erection of the monument. "The Singapore Free Press" states that it is already popular with Americans there, and that there will be no difficulty in raising funds for a memorial befitting the purpose.

AN EVER APPRECIATED CHRISTMAS GIFT.

Waterman's Ideal Fountain Pen. Suffer no embarrassment by giving an imitation when the genuine can be had of all dealers, or at 157 Broadway.—Advt.

SENATE AND PEACE TREATY

MR. VEST OPENS THE ANTI-RATIFICATION CAMPAIGN.

BUT FAILS TO WEAKEN OR DISCREDIT THE ADMINISTRATION'S POLICY—MR. PLATT WILL ANSWER HIM.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Washington, Dec. 12.—Mr. Vest, of Missouri, and the other Constitutional experts in the Senate of the "Joe" Bailey school, who stand prepared to oppose the ratification of the Peace treaty, are already breaking ground for a campaign of protest and argument. If, however, the guns trained on the Administration's policy of acquiring and holding as dependencies the islands surrendered by Spain carry no heavier pellets than those discharged by Mr. Vest this afternoon in his speech on the unconstitutionality of the colonial form of government, the friends of the Paris Treaty will not often have to run to cover behind the bombproofs.

Mr. Vest introduced a resolution in the Senate last week which declared that it was not competent under the Constitution for the United States to acquire possessions to be held and governed permanently as "colonies." At this harmless target of straw the Missouri Senator discharged his customary broadsides of contempt, denunciation and sarcasm, leaving numberless rents and scars on the straw man, but in no way weakening or discrediting the policy which was the real object of his attack. As the United States has never attempted to govern any of its territorial acquisitions as "colonies," but has encountered a fair degree of success in administering them either as organized or unorganized territories, Mr. Vest's resolution seems to have been drawn so as to avoid the real issue he raises, whether or not it has been constitutionally competent for the United States to govern Arizona and New-Mexico, for instance, as dependencies for the last fifty years. Besides, what does "permanent" mean in the lexicon of Mr. Vest's anti-expansionist eloquence? If the Federal Government still retains Arizona and New-Mexico in the subordinate condition of mere territories, after fifty years of possession, what limit is to be put on the period during which other acquisitions are to be deprived of the enjoyment of that "consent of the governed" without which, as the Missouri Senator seems to think, no community can exist as an integral portion of the United States?

Mr. Vest is always interesting, but when he begins to split hairs on the Constitution, he seems to be talking to quite another Senate—that shadowy gathering of almost forgotten colleagues, which held its last sessions in Richmond nearly thirty-four years ago.

SENATOR VEST'S SPEECH.

Mr. Vest said he did not propose to say anything that would cause a secret session, as he had no intention to discuss any treaty now pending, or which was hereafter to be offered. It seemed to him peculiarly appropriate to discuss the powers of the United States Government under the Constitution. "When the principal law officer of the Government," said he, "says that the Constitution is too small for the present conditions of our Government, it seems to me time to inquire what that Constitution is."

Mr. Vest said our forefathers had fought for years against taxation without representation. The Declaration of Independence had been drawn up with the idea that all governments derived their just powers from the governed. It was incredible that the founders of the Government could have looked forward to the time when millions of human beings could be held without their consent, merely as chattels, to be disposed of as the sovereign powers of the mother country might choose. It seemed to him the historic argument that the just powers of the Government were derived from the consent of the governed fully covered his position, inasmuch as it had been fully maintained by the courts. He then quoted from the Dred Scott decision of the United States Supreme Court in support of his proposition, and declared: "I assert now that not one tribunal or a single public man has contradicted that part of the Dred Scott decision until within the last six months, when the craze of expansion seems to have taken possession of the American people."

Mr. Vest thought it was the purpose of the expansionists to adopt the European system of colonization. He pointed out that Great Britain had in the mother country 120,979 square miles of territory, and in her colonies 16,967,071 square miles. The disproportion of population was about the same. He maintained that the fundamental principle of this Government was the granting of citizenship to all within the jurisdiction of the Government, except alone the Indians. The question, Mr. Vest thought, was the result of the efforts of desperate disputants who appear in the public press day by day and attack public men because they adhere to the Constitution and resist this new evangel. He did not believe that anybody would be reckless enough to say that Thomas Jefferson, who penned the words, "All governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed," was not accurate in the light of the Constitution. In the act of the cession of the territory of Louisiana from France to the United States is found a provision that the inhabitants as soon as possible shall be made citizens of the United States and the Territory of Louisiana be made a State of the Union. So it was, declared Mr. Vest, when Florida was acquired from Spain and when Alaska was obtained from Russia.

"When, where, how," he asked, "have we surrendered the great doctrine that this is a confederation of States? I cannot conceive it to be possible to point out any other form of Government under the Constitution."

DANIEL WEBSTER AND EXPANSION.

Mr. Vest declared that the United States Supreme Court had settled that question for all time. He maintained that the overwhelming argument of the expansionists was that the Constitution applies alone to the States of the Union. In favor of what he termed "this monstrous proposition," he said, the expansionists quoted Daniel Webster, for whose opinions he himself had the highest respect. The argument of Mr. Webster referred to had been made in a debate with John C. Calhoun, when slavery was the dominant issue. Mr. Calhoun had maintained that inasmuch as slavery was recognized in the Federal Constitution its extension into the territories acquired by the Union of States was constitutional. Then it was that Mr. Webster declared that the Constitution applied to the States alone.

"To say," declared Mr. Vest, "that citizens of a Territory are excluded from the privileges guaranteed by the bill of rights and are merely subjects of the arbitrary will of Congress is a monstrous proposition; but fortunately the Supreme Court has determined that question in many cases.

RIGHT TO ACQUIRE TERRITORY.

"I do not deny," continued Mr. Vest, "the power of the Federal Government to acquire territory, but I do deny its power to acquire territory peopled with millions without their consent and with no intention of conferring upon them citizenship. I may be answered that the point is not good, that it may be evaded by the taking in of vast tracts of lands peopled with barbarians to be held merely for commercial advantages. When the Congress of the United States shall become so degraded as this it is only a question of time until the end shall come.

"We are a great people," concluded Mr. Vest. "We are told that this country can do anything, Constitution or no Constitution. We are a great people, it is true, but we cannot do more than another great people did—a people that conquered the world, not with steel ships and modern cannon, but with bare swords and primitive galleys. The colonial system destroyed all hope of republicanism in the old time. It is an appendage of monarchy. It can exist in no free country, because it uproots and eliminates the basis of all republican institutions—that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed. I know not what may be done with the glamour of foreign conquest and