

# The Democratic Sentinel

J. W. McEWEN, Publisher.

RENSSELAER, - INDIANA

## BIKES FOR SOLDIERS.

### TROOP OF 1,000 TO BE EQUIPPED WITH WHEELS.

Regular Army Men to Be Drilled on Bicycles and Assigned to Duties Requiring Rapid Transportation—Ohio Farmer Commits a Murderous Act.

Soldiers to Ride. With the approval of Congress, 1,000 soldiers will be equipped with bicycle outfits before long. A bill has been prepared for presentation to Congress authorizing the purchase of a sufficient number of bicycles to provide each foot and cavalry station with ten machines. The soldiers who show the best skill in the use of the wheel will be drilled upon the machine and assigned to duties requiring rapid transportation. At many of the posts bicycles are now in use, but they are either owned by the officers or hired from agents. Gen. Miles is an enthusiast on the subject. He has signified his willingness to allow a troop of United States cavalry to attend the bicycle carnival to be held in Madison Square Garden, in New York, and show what they can do in the way of a drill.

### BANK OF SPAIN EMBARRASSED.

#### Floating the New Loan Has Placed It in an Awkward Position.

The part played by the Bank of Spain in floating the new loan destined to provide resources for the continuance of the war in Cuba has placed that institution in a very awkward position. For, in addition to the immense sum which it has furnished to the government itself, it has advanced one way and another nearly \$40,000,000 to people who subscribed for the loan. The bank may therefore be said to have found the major portion of the money subscribed. Besides this, the bank is a creditor to the government under various heads to the extent of more than \$250,000,000. Inasmuch as the capital fully paid up of the bank, together with the reserve fund, only amounts to \$30,000,000, it will readily be seen that the strain to which this, the leading financial institution in Spain, is being subjected is tremendous, and cannot be continued much longer before disaster ensues.

#### SHOT WIFE AND STEPSON.

A Jealous Ohio Farmer Commits a Murderous Deed.

James Preston, aged 40, shot his wife, Amanda, aged 37, and the latter's son, William Bryant, aged 18, at the residence of Mrs. Preston, in Cincinnati. Preston is a farmer near New Richmond, Ohio. His wife left him some time ago and went to Cincinnati, taking quarters with her son and making a living by dressmaking. Preston followed his wife and tried to effect a reconciliation. He called at the house and a quarrel followed, during which he began firing. When the neighbors came, they found the three on the floor wounded and bleeding. Preston had evidently first shot his wife, then his stepson and then himself. It is evident that Preston was actuated by motives of jealousy, as he had in his possession a letter written to his wife by another man.

#### MURDERED BY ROBBERS.

Wealthy Missourian Slain by Desperados After His Money.

Alfred Wilson, aged 70, one of the best-known residents of Andrew County, Missouri, was murdered the other night by robbers at his home, one mile northeast of Avenue City. Wilson was a bachelor and was rich. Some time ago he became so embittered against banks that he drew out all his deposits and was supposed to have concealed the money about his home. A bloody footprint on a newspaper in the room is the only clew the officers have. It is not known whether any valuables were secured by the robbers.

#### Go Down in the Wreck.

Four more Chicago failures were recorded Tuesday as the result of the suspension of the National Bank of Illinois. The American Brewing Company, the George A. Weiss Malting and Elevator Company and George A. Weiss made assignments in the County Court. George A. Weiss is president of both corporations, and their business is closely connected. Weiss is a son-in-law of George Schneider, president of the National Bank of Illinois, and in the schedule of accounts made by the clearing house is shown to owe the bank \$100,000.

#### Fraud Is Alleged.

Warrants for the arrest of E. S. Dreyer and Robert Berger, members of the firm of E. S. Dreyer & Co., mortgage bankers, who closed their doors at Chicago Monday morning, were issued Tuesday afternoon on the sworn information of Frank Kennedy, who charged the bankers with receiving deposits when they knew the concern was insolvent.

#### Murder at a Dance.

At Thermopolis, Fremont County, Wyo., B. F. Hanson, deputy sheriff, owner of the town site and a wealthy man, a dance to which Thomas Bird, a wealthy cattlemen and rival magnate, came uninvited. Bird was promptly shot twice and killed by Hanson. The shooting was the result of a trivial quarrel.

#### Southern Pacific Hold-Up.

West-bound passenger train No. 20, on the Southern Pacific Railway, was held up by three masked men and three money packages stolen from the express car at midnight Sunday night, near Comstock, 208 miles west of San Antonio, Texas.

#### Mob Rule in Kentucky.

A part of the mob that hanged Jim Stone at Mayfield, Ky., went on the rampage again the following night. One hundred shots were fired into the residence of Tom Chambers, colored, and the house was afterward set on fire and burned, destroying three other buildings.

#### From Far California.

The signatures of over fifty prominent residents of Ukih, Cal., have been secured as members of a military organization to be known as the Cuban Volunteers of California.

#### "Jimtown" Is Visited by Fire.

The old mining town of Jamestown, famous in California literature as "Jimtown," was almost destroyed by fire Thursday. "Jimtown" was the supply station for an important group of mines. One thousand people are homeless. The town possessed no fire department.

#### Spain Hard Pressed.

The Spanish Government has decided to send 15,000 soldiers to re-enforce the troops now in the Philippine Islands. The cabinet council decided to purchase the English transport steamer, Prince of Wales, in order to expedite the transportation of troops to Manila.

### BRITISH ISLE SHAKEN.

#### Two Violent Shocks of Earthquake Thursday Morning.

Great Britain has been in the throes of a genuine and unprecedented sensation. An earthquake, the most violent ever experienced in that country, has shaken every shire from Durham to Surrey and from London to the Welsh coast. The subterranean disturbance was first noticed about 5:30 o'clock Thursday morning and lasted from four to thirty seconds. At many points two distinct shocks were experienced. The most severe shocks were felt at Cheltenham, Ledbury and Dean Forest. The earth-shaking was accompanied by a loud, rushing sound. Buildings were violently shaken, furniture was shifted, doors were thrown open and pictures and other ornaments were upset. The inhabitants were panic-stricken and fled from their houses. The earthquake also visited Birmingham and various other points in Shropshire, and was violent in Worcester and the country surrounding that city. Houses rocked and furniture was overturned. The shocks were followed by a rumbling sound. The greatest alarm prevailed everywhere. Chimneys were overthrown and windows, etc., were smashed. At Hereford one woman died of fright.

#### BOOTH-TUCKER'S SCHEME.

#### To Colonize Ex-Convicts on Small Farms Near New York.

The international meeting of the Salvation army at Carnegie Hall, New York, was attended by many dignitaries of the army, including Commander and Mrs. Booth-Tucker, Chief Secretary Higgins, Commissioner Higgins and Brigadiers Richard Holz, William Halpin, William J. Cozens, George French and Lieutenant Colonel Perry, all of whom occupied seats on the platform. After the preliminary exercises there was a procession of entry of foreign delegates, about thirty-five in number, dressed in the costumes of their respective countries. Some of the Spanish delegates were in a very awkward position.

The Cuban delegation was present to allow a troop of United States cavalry to attend the bicycle carnival to be held in Madison Square Garden, in New York, and show what they can do in the way of a drill.

them and shot the other to death. Arch killed two men, Doc and Aaron Crofton, of Adairville, Nov. 24, 1895, and the brothers were accessories. All have had three trials. The mob went to the jail at 2 o'clock in the morning, and after battering down the front door and forcing the jailer to give up the keys went to the cells for the Proctors. The oldest, Will Proctor, cursed the mob and was shot in his cell. The other two were taken out and hanged. The mob numbered about one hundred, and did the work quietly and with dispatch. Bill Proctor had been tried three times for murder.

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SENATORS FEEL PUGNACIOUS.

#### Action in Committee Looking Toward Cuban Recognition.

The Senate Committee on Foreign Relations, which is usually a very dignified and deliberate body, turned a double somersault Friday on the Cuban question, and against the protest of the Secretary of State, who argued with them for an hour and a half, unanimously recommended to the favorable consideration of the Senate a joint resolution as follows: "Resolved, That the independence of Cuba is acknowledged by the United States of America. Section 2. That the United States will use its friendly offices with the government of Spain to bring to a close the war between Spain and Cuba." It was not believed in public circles that President Cleveland would sanction the declaration, or that the House would support it. Should it become official, it is believed war with Spain would surely follow. But the Spanish minister did not look upon the matter seriously, though the friends of Cuba were extravagantly delighted.

the New York and sixteen six-pound rapid-firing machine guns.

Although the full complement of men is 500, there is room for the accommodation of 1,000. In time of war this feature would be of tremendous value at distant stations, enabling a considerable reserve force of enlisted men to be carried for any squadron of which she may be the flagship. There are two evaporators and two distilleries board which have a capacity of 10,000 gallons of potable water daily, and a refrigerating plant which will turn out 2,000 pounds of ice every twenty-four hours. Electricity will be used in lighting the new cruiser. The Brooklyn's coaling capacity is 1,750 tons of coal, or 470 more than that of the cruiser New York. Two hoisting engines, each capable of lifting 1,000 pounds at the rate of 300 feet a minute, will handle the coal aboard ship.

The Comptroller suggests the following amendments to the national bank act:

That the loans and discounts of banks to their executive officers and employees be restricted in amount and secured by proper collateral.

That no loan be made to a director, not an executive officer of the bank, except upon collateral security or a satisfactorily indorsed note.

That directors be required to make an examination of their banks once each year.

That in places having a population of less than 2,000 inhabitants national banks shall be permitted to be organized with a capital stock of not less than \$25,000, and with a corresponding reduction in the amount of bonds required to be deposited.

That national banks be permitted to establish branch banks in towns and villages where no national bank is established and where the population does not exceed 1,000 inhabitants.

That the semi-annual tax on circulation be reduced to 1/4 of 1 per cent.

Concluding, he says: "It is respectfully submitted that legislation by Congress, based upon safe and prudent lines, having in view the gradual payment and cancellation of the credit currency now maintained by the Government and the issuance hereafter of all such currency through the banks, with full responsibility therefor placed upon them, should be had at the very earliest practicable moment. The results which would follow

slaughtered, but would present a bill to the widow for professional services. After Maceo's death he "surrendered" himself to the Spaniards and was protected by them. It was on the information given them by Zertucha that the story sent out by the authorities at Havana was made up. The doctor, in telling how Maceo met his death, said that the general had a force of 2,000 Cubans who were attacked by 600 Spaniards. Maceo and his staff were in the center of the forces. In the battle that followed, Maceo and his entire staff were killed. The Cubans fled. Dr. Zertucha says the Cubans has been variable in his sympathies for years at one time holding to Spain, at another allying himself with the islanders. The doctor was formerly a surgeon in the army of Spain. Many years ago he went to Cuba and by political intrigues was made the mayor of the town of Melena in the province of Havana. He has been more or less intimately associated with every political party in Cuba. When the present revolution was sprung, Zertucha engaged into an outright rebel and offered his services to Maceo. He freely gave his services for the cause of liberty, but his alleged treason has made his very name odious throughout the world, and it is thought vengeful Cubans will never be satisfied until his body fills a dishonored grave.

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After the other night while looking out of a window at his home an August Bierman, a farmer, near Lawrence, Kan., was shot in the back by his wife and instantly killed. The woman then turned the revolver on herself and tried to commit suicide. Mrs. Bierman said she did not love her husband and that she had no regrets for what she had done.

Fire in a Playhouse.

The Casino Skating-Rink and Summer Theater, a magnificent pleasure resort in Schenectady Park, Pittsburg, was destroyed by fire. The loss will approximate \$500,000, on which the insurance is slight. The fire was caused by the explosion of an ammonia cylinder in the ice-skating plant. Almost immediately the entire building was a seething mass of flames, and in less than three hours the beautiful structure was in ashes. The noxious vapors which filled the interior prevented the firemen from entering the Casino. The Casino cost \$300,000 and its equipment more than \$100,000. The ice-skating plant, which was the first thing reached by the flames, alone cost \$30,000. In the rear of the second floor was stored the fine and costly scenery used in the summer theater, and this was also devoured. It cost \$40,000. Manager James Conant said the loss would exceed \$500,000. The building was insured for \$75,000, and there was a small insurance on the contents. A number of persons were slightly injured, but none seriously.

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