

The Independent

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PLYMOUTH, INDIANA.

INTO AN OPEN SWITCH

FIVE LIVES THE PENALTY OF CARELESSNESS.

Express Train Dashes Into a Freight at Full Speed—United States Bonds for the People—Close to a Crisis in Havana.

Five Are Killed in a Wreck.
At 11 o'clock Saturday night two freight trains stood on a switch at Schooley's Station, seven miles east of Chillicothe, O. The first train pulled out, and the conductor, thinking that the second one would follow, left the switch open. Fifteen minutes later the east-bound express came along at forty miles an hour, and, running on to the switch, collided with the train standing there. Both trains were badly wrecked. The dead are: George Addis, fireman freight train; J. H. Cox, fireman express train; Jesse King, brakeman; Thomas Michaels, engineer of express train; Leon Mathers, fireman. The injured: J. E. Edington, postal clerk; Fitzsimmons, engineer; J. D. Murphy, postal clerk. Conductor Tom Brown of the express had to walk two miles to telephone the news to the city. Conductor Hendershot of the freight is responsible for the wreck, as he left the switch open. The passengers in the express were badly shaken up, but none were seriously injured.

Alaskan Boundary Line Drawn.

Gen. Duffield, chief of the coast and geodetic survey, does not hesitate to express the opinion that there can be no serious dispute between the United States and Canada over the Alaskan boundary. He said: "The line is as plain from the treaty as if it had been recorded by deed and map." Gen. Duffield is confident that the British can find no grounds upon which to base a claim to the gold fields of the Yukon river, since a British engineer, Ogilby, in 1883, after careful observations, marked the banks of the Yukon and Forty-Mile Creek where these streams are crossed by the 141st meridian and his marks were verified by the United States survey. The only possible ground for contention which Gen. Duffield foresees is furnished by that phrase of the Russian-British treaty that at no point shall the boundary be more than ten marine leagues from the shore. The United States Government interprets this to mean continental leagues, while Great Britain might contend that ten leagues from the island shore was contemplated.

Martial Law in Havana.

The Spanish authorities confess the grave condition of affairs by proclaiming martial law for the provinces of Havana and Pinar del Rio, Cuba. Maximo Gomez has declared his purpose to penetrate into the province of Pinar del Rio. Although his forces have not reached the borders of that province, the action of the authorities is understood to indicate they have no hopes of preventing him from carrying out his threat. The insurgents are apparently making a swift advance directly upon Havana. The advance guard of their cavalry, under Gen. Laerz, was at latest accounts at Lapata, which is only eighteen miles from Guanabacoa, the latter being but a suburb of Havana.

Rejoicing in Mormondom.

The President on Saturday issued his proclamation in conformity with the act of Congress, stating that the people of Utah have complied with all of the requirements of the law providing for the admission of Utah to the Union, and declaring that the territory has passed out of existence and that Utah is admitted to the family of States. The people of Utah showed an intense interest in every step made at Washington, and Private Secretary Thurber was importuned to telegraph immediately to Salt Lake the first news of the signing of the proclamation, and to preserve as a valuable historical relic the pen with which President Cleveland affixed his signature to the document.

Failures of 1895.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says: "The commercial failures during the complete year 1895 number 13,197, against 13,885 in 1894, but the aggregate of liabilities is slightly greater, \$173,196,000, against \$172,992,856, so that the average per failure is \$13,121, against \$12,458 in 1894. The bright promise offered by a large decrease in the first quarter was followed by a small increase in the second and third quarters and a large increase in the last quarter of the year. In that quarter also the deferred liabilities to each firm in business increased, and also the proportion of deferred liabilities to payments through clearing houses."

Bonds for the People.

Speculation concerning the amount and character of the new bond issue was set at rest Monday when Secretary Carlisle made public a circular on the subject. The loan will be a "popular" one, and the circular gives notice that the Government will sell \$100,000,000 thirty-year 4 per cent coupon or registered bonds dated Feb. 1, 1895, for which purchasers will be required to pay in gold coin or gold certificates.

BREVITIES.

At Grafton, O., two Italian brothers who slept together in the same bed were awakened by three masked men, two of whom held one of the brothers while the third stabbed the other brother to death. Robbery does not seem to have been the motive for the crime, as several hundred dollars in the house was not touched. It is believed the deed was instigated by the Mafia. The three men escaped.

Another startling discrepancy has been discovered in the accounts of Omaha City Treasurer Bohn, whose downfall occurred last May. His bondsmen then discovered the shortage to be nearly \$33,000. Expert accountants, who for months have been checking up the books, have reported to the Council finance committee an additional shortage of \$77,000.

At Millersville, Ky., a boy named Walters, while playing, secured a revolver and shot his two little cousins, two girls, aged 4 and 8. A third was also injured. The boy then sent a ball through his own head. He and his two little cousins will die.

EASTERN.

Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt is to marry Oliver H. P. Belmont, son of the late August Belmont.

The New York World advocates popular subscriptions for the forthcoming issue of Government bonds, and offers to subscribe for \$1,000,000 of them.

The Baltimore, Md., grand jury will be asked to investigate the disaster at the Front Street Theater. It is learned that, in addition to the mutilations practiced on the women who were killed in the panic in order to obtain their jewels, the box office was robbed of the entire night's receipts.

William J. Weeks, of Yonkers, L. I., aged 73 years, has issued a challenge to all persons over 70 years of age to skate him from fifty to 500 miles. He is a well-known skater and will allow any competitor one mile in every ten. Weeks has also come out with a challenge to any person in the world to contest with him in fancy figure skating and writing.

At Newark, N. J., fire broke out late Monday night and destroyed the Kinney Block and its contents. The building was occupied by the Western Union and the Postal Telegraph companies, the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western, the Erie, and the New York and Greenwood Lake Railroad companies, Haworth, Engle & Clark, clothiers; Chas. Charles, etc.

Herman P. Gerold, cashier of the Brookfield, Mass., Savings Bank, has disappeared. It is believed he is a defaulter for between \$100,000 and \$150,000 and his disappearance strengthens this belief. About three weeks ago George W. Johnson, president of the bank, was appointed receiver. He discovered that Gerold's accounts were wrong. Attachments have been placed upon Gerold's property in Brookfield and in Hampden County.

The Pittsburgh tugboat Harry Brown ran aground at Glasshouse Ridge, Brimley's Island, Monday morning. The pilot attempted to back into deeper water to release the tug, when a heavy cable parted, the ends striking Jonathan Wood and a deck hand known as "Whitey." The latter was instantly killed and Wood was seriously but not fatally injured. Two coal boats and one barge, containing 60,000 bushels of coal, are at the bottom of the river as a result of the accident and the channel is blocked. The sunken boats will be blown out with dynamite by the Government. The loss will be very heavy.

With a detonation that was heard two miles from the fireworks stock of Detroit & Street, a Greenfield, N. J., firm, stored in the rear of 309 North 2d street, St. Louis, exploded Thursday afternoon. Four persons are dead, six missing, one fatally injured and thirty-two seriously hurt. Adjoining buildings were crushed, like paper boxes, and in their fall carried scores of inmates down with the ruin. Windows were broken for blocks around, and the air was filled with powder smoke, sparks and flying debris. Two other explosions followed the first in rapid succession, completing the work of death and destruction. In addition a property loss of \$100,000 was entailed by fire.

WESTERN.

William Everat shot and killed Arthur Jones, aged 15, near Bainbridge, Ohio. Everat beat Jones he could shoot his hat off his head without hurting him. Jones won the bet.

Walter Sanger, the bicycle rider, and Miss Dora Kotzenberg, of Chicago, managed to steal away from a skating party at Milwaukee Friday evening long enough to get married.

It is estimated that 500 claims in the Cripple Creek district on which owners have failed to do full assessment work in 1895 have been jumped. Although armed men are holding clinics in all the outlying portions of the district no fights have yet been reported.

Three persons were shot and a whole train-load of passengers were thrown into a panic by the attempt of Special Detective David McQuaid of the Monon Road to arrest John Weinhardt, an alleged lunatic, who, according to McQuaid, started in to clear out the Monon express, which left the Polk street depot at Chicago Tuesday night. None of the injured will die.

A San Francisco paper says the Government is preparing to prosecute the conspirators who perjured themselves to aid James Addison Penalta-Reavis in his mythical claim of 13,000,000 acres of land in New Mexico, worth \$75,000,000. Nearly every witness who testified in the case will be indicted. It is said that Attorney General Harmon will send Edward R. Whitney and Joshua E. DeLoe, of Washington, to assist United States District Attorney Foote in the prosecution.

Mrs. J. Sam Brown, wife of a national banker; Mrs. Hamlin, wife of a merchant; and Miss Laura Blincoe, principal of one of the public schools, bantered each other to take a ride in the "hurry" wagon from the Union depot in Wichita, Kas., to the city jail through the main thoroughfare of the city with a policeman. Mr. Brown, the husband, not only consented, but secured the wagon from the chief of police. The thing was unknown to the public, and as the wagon dashed through the street with Mrs. Brown, who is a society queen, it caused a great sensation. Five hundred people followed them to the jail.

It was learned Thursday that a well-paying gold mine has been in full operation almost within the city limits of Duluth, Minn., for the last few months and that the owners have taken out many thousands of dollars' worth of metal. The news has caused considerable excitement, and the surrounding hills will be gone over carefully by prospectors. The men who are interested in the mine now in operation are S. W. Clark, M. Lewis, John De Graw, Dr. Landry and Al Miner. The mine is down seventy feet. It is located on the county road, just outside the city limits, and the owners are preserving the utmost secrecy regarding it.

A fire horror claimed six victims in Columbus, Ohio, Thursday morning. At 6 o'clock the residence of John H. Hibbard was discovered to be on fire, and before the flames could be extinguished six members of the family were suffocated by the smoke and their bodies partly cremated. Mr. Hibbard was secretary of the Central Ohio Natural Gas and Fuel Company and was connected by marriage with the Deshlers, Huntingtons and others of the wealthiest families of Columbus. Four sons less than 15 years of age and the colored servant, aged 18, escaped by jumping from the second-story windows. Natural gas was used in the house, but the fire evidently originated from some defective construction in the wood-work.

Through the treachery of an officer in the San Francisco custom house two carloads of Chinese from the Atlanta ex-

position have slipped through the hands of a score of United States inspectors and are now somewhere in Chinatown, out of the reach of Federal control or interference. The Chinese were landed in that city before daylight and were hurried in cargoes into the Chinese quarter. How many there were in the party is not definitely known. Collector of the Port John H. Wise received what is considered to be reliable information that 104 were coming overland to the city, but the agents of the Chinese claim that only forty-three were spirited into the district. In Federal official circles the opinion prevails that over 100 Chinese escaped the officers.

Chicago has the lowest death rate of any city of 200,000 or more population in the world. This is shown by the annual report of the city health department, completed Tuesday. The death rate, based upon the unreviewed figures, is 15.11 in a population of 1,000, as against 15.24 for last year, less than any previous record for the city. The whole report shows the health of the community to be in excellent and the sanitary condition of the city to be good. The low death rate, however, is the best evidence of the healthful condition of the city. Next in point of interest to the general public is that part of the report devoted to the crusade made by the authorities against impure milk, bad ice and the treatment of diphtheria. All of these, it is shown by figures that cannot be disputed, are the several causes that, with the general healthfulness of the Chicago air, have pulled down the death rate until the city stands first in the world in that respect.

Chicago will lose 1,000 saloons. The brewers have declined to longer stand good for the fixtures in the small places in return for the exclusive handling of one brand of beer. It is also claimed that the people do not have the money to support the vast number of groceries which have sprung into existence. In some localities each corner has been taken by a saloon, and the result is that many have been unable to make payments on the furniture. This has reduced the total issue of licenses to date to a few more than 4,500. There will be some additions to the list, however. The association has lifted the price of beer from \$4 a barrel to \$5. The change in price will affect those in the outlying districts most. Brewers are more discouraged than they have been for many years. They did less business last year, in proportion to capital invested, than for a long time. Milwaukee makes the same complaint. The output from the city was \$7,708 barrels less last year than for the year preceding. Chicago has also shipped less. The city is likely to lose about \$500,000 in revenue from the saloons during the year, although the brewers hope that the abandonment of some places by men of bad paying habits will tempt others to start in the trade. Many of the brewers are now running at about half their capacity. Some would have closed entirely had not the price been put up a notch.

SOUTHERN.

Miss Ida Skinner, of Englewood, Ill., died at Chattanooga, Tenn., Thursday night, attended only by Prof. C. C. Shumann, her betrothed husband, who comes from one of Chicago's best families, and is an instructor in a Chicago college. Miss Skinner was dying slowly, and, as her parents were without means, Prof. Shumann at his own expense took her South to recover her health. He has faithfully attended her to the last.

The Louisville express, west-bound, and the St. Louis express, east-bound, on the Baltimore and Ohio Southwestern collided about 7 o'clock Monday night near Skilton, Ohio. Two unknown men were killed and nine injured, five of them fatally. The trains met on a curve. The west-bound train was going fifty and the east-bound thirty miles an hour. After the engineers saw each other so great was the speed of the trains, they did not have time to whistle for brakes. The trains came together with terrific force, the engines rushing against each other and rearing up, end to end, forming an acute angle with their pilots toward the sky. Two empty express cars on the St. Louis train crashed together and broke the force of the shock. The express car, a combination smoker and baggage car, and two coaches on this train piled up in a confused mass all badly shattered. The five cars of the Louisville express were heaped together beside the wreck. There were several doctors on the wrecked trains, and these, together with physicians from Skilton and Delhi, attended the injured, who were taken into private houses near by.

WASHINGTON.

President Cleveland Wednesday night announced the appointment of the Venezuela Boundary Commission as follows: David J. Brewer, of Kansas, Justice of the United States Supreme Court; Richard H. Alvey, of Maryland, Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia; Andrew D. White, of New York; Frederic R. Condit, of New York; Daniel C. Gilman, of Maryland. The commission is regarded at Washington among those who had an opportunity to see the list as a very satisfactory one.

An order was issued from the War Department Tuesday, by authority of the President, dismissing from the United States army Lieut. Samuel S. Pague, Fifteenth Infantry. Lieut. Pague, who was stationed at Fort Sheridan, near Chicago, was found guilty of shooting at his superior officer, Col. Crofton, commanding Fort Sheridan, within the limits of the post last summer and was sentenced to dismissal. Subsequently he was examined by medical officers because his sanity had been questioned, but it was found that alcoholism was the real cause of his actions, and the President therefore has approved the findings and sentence of the court-martial.

Washington dispatch: Senator Chandler is probing into a Navy Department scandal of large proportions. By direction of the Senate the Senate Committee on Naval Affairs will inquire into various little matters relating to the construction of warships, and incidentally it will be learned to what extent officers of the Ordnance Bureau are interested in patent processes by which, it is said, the Government is robbed by extortionate charges out of between \$500,000 and \$750,000 on every vessel built. Secretary Herbert wanted to let the contractors for the two warships about to be built as it was thought better results could be obtained thereby, but he found himself strongly antagonized by the Ordnance Bureau, though the other experts of the department cordially indorsed the position he had taken. The stubborn resistance of the Ordnance Bureau finally prevailed, and the Secretary announced his intention to let the contracts in the old way. This decision set tongues wagging, and members of Congress were solemnly assured

that there was rank rottenness in the Navy Department and that officials were using their positions to divert public moneys to their own pockets by corruptly influencing contracts, whereby the Government was forced into buying patented processes in which they were financially interested. The instructions given the Naval Committee will afford an opportunity for investigation into the alleged abuses. It will also serve to prevent the guilty parties from escaping by the usual method of deferring inquiry. The charges are now being aired, and the Navy Department must purge itself by proving the charges to be unfounded or else locate and cast out the guilty officers who are accused of bringing discredit on the country and disgrace upon the department.

FOREIGN.

The young Duchess of Marlborough is seriously ill in Rome with typhoid fever. The fever was contracted while she was in Spain.

An explosion of fire-lamp occurred in a colliery at Walsenburg, Prussian Silesia, forty-three miles southwest of Breslau, Tuesday. Fifty persons are known to have been killed or injured, and seventeen others are missing.

The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Vienna Free Press telegraphs that Russia and France have actually promised diplomatic support to the United States in the Venezuelan trouble, and that Russia is prepared to facilitate the United States loan with her own gold reserve.

Rio Janeiro, Brazil, dispatch: The Government intends to call a meeting of all diplomatic representatives of South America early in the new year to consider means of common defense against European aggression. It is denied in Rio Janeiro that Brazil will send troops to aid Venezuela.

The Venezuelan Government is negotiating in the United States for war supplies. Four heavy guns have been sent from Caracas to fortify the harbor of Maracaibo. Special commissioners appointed to arrange an alliance of South and Central American republics against England are ready to depart.

A London dispatch says: The invading English army in the Transvaal has been disastrously defeated by the Boers. A score or more have been killed, many wounded, and Dr. Jameson is a prisoner at Johannesburg. One of the most impudent acts of aggression ever committed even by British arms has thus met with swift retribution. The details are meager of this incalculable fiasco of what was intended to be a brilliant piece of bravado, which success might justify but which failure would make a crime. All that is known is that the Government messengers, with dispatches from London ordering Dr. Jameson to retreat to the Chartered Company's territory, reached Dr. Jameson Wednesday morning. He pocketed the Queen's orders, told the messenger laconically that he would attend to them, gave the command to his troops to saddle and march, not on the back track, but on toward Johannesburg. At 4 o'clock in the afternoon he encountered the Boers at Krugersdorp, about thirty miles east of Johannesburg. There was hard fighting until sundown, and the British troops suffered severely. The famous marksmanship of the Boers was no less deadly than in their gallant defense against the same enemy fifteen years ago. Twenty men, including three officers, were killed, and fifty prisoners were taken before Dr. Jameson surrendered. These meager facts are all the information the Government vouchsafes.

IN GENERAL.

Richard Mansfield has decided to leave the stage and enter the lecture field.

The United States cruiser Boston has received orders to proceed to the China station. It is believed that the order indicates a desire on the part of the administration to preserve the strength of the Asiatic squadron until domestic affairs in China become quieter.

The national Armenian relief committee appeals to the people of the United States for immediate and generous contributions to relieve the needs of 350,000 Armenians who are destitute. Justice Brewer, of the Supreme Court of the United States, is chairman of this committee, which includes Archbishop Coergian, Chauncy M. Depew, John S. Kennedy, Alexander E. Orr, Bishop Potter, Jacob Schiff, Everett P. Wheeler and Spencer Trask. The committee announces that the immediate need is for money, which should be sent to the treasurers, Brown Bros. & Co., Philadelphia and Boston. The only supplies that can be used are grain, coarse cotton and woolen goods in the piece, but no such contributions should be forwarded without previous communication with the committee.

MARKET REPORTS.

Chicago—Cattle, common to prime, \$3.50 to \$5.00; hogs, shipping grades, \$3.00 to \$3.75; sheep, fair to choice, \$2.50 to \$3.75; wheat, No. 2 red, 55c to 57c; corn, No. 2, 25c to 26c; oats, No. 2, 17c to 18c; rye, No. 2, 22c to 23c; butter, choice creamery, 23c to 25c; eggs, fresh, 20c to 22c; potatoes, per bushel, 20c to 30c; brown corn, \$20 to \$15 per ton for poor to choice.

Indianapolis—Cattle, shipping, \$3.00 to \$4.50; hogs, choice light, \$3.00 to \$3.75; sheep, common to prime, \$2.00 to \$3.50; wheat, No. 2, 63c to 64c; corn, No. 1 white, 26c to 27c; oats, No. 2 white, 21c to 23c.

St. Louis—Cattle, \$3.00 to \$5.00; hogs, \$3.00 to \$3.75; wheat, No. 2 red, 64c to 66c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 25c to 24c; oats, No. 2 white, 16c to 17c; rye, No. 2, 31c to 33c.

Cincinnati—Cattle, \$3.50 to \$4.50; hogs, \$3.00 to \$3.75; sheep, \$2.50 to \$3.50; wheat, No. 2, 66c to 67c; corn, No. 2 mixed, 27c to 28c; oats, No. 2 mixed, 19c to 21c; rye, No. 2, 33c to 41c.

Detroit—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$5.00; hogs, \$3.00 to \$3.75; sheep, \$2.00 to \$3.50; wheat, No. 2 red, 66c to 67c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 27c to 28c; oats, No. 2 white, 20c to 21c; rye, 37c to 38c.

Toledo—Wheat, No. 2 red, 66c to 67c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 27c to 28c; oats, No. 2 white, 19c to 21c; rye, No. 2, 37c to 38c; clover seed, \$4.25 to \$4.35.

Milwaukee—Wheat, No. 2 spring, 55c to 56c; corn, No. 3, 25c to 27c; oats, No. 2 white, 18c to 19c; barley, No. 2, 32c to 34c; rye, No. 1, 35c to 36c; pork, mess, \$7.50 to \$8.00.

Buffalo—Cattle, \$2.50 to \$5.25; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.50; sheep, \$2.50 to \$3.75; wheat, No. 2 red, 68c to 71c; corn, No. 2 yellow, 31c to 32c; oats, No. 2 white, 22c to 23c.

New York—Cattle, \$3.00 to \$5.25; hogs, \$3.00 to \$4.75; sheep, \$2.00 to \$4.25; wheat, No. 2 red, 69c to 70c; corn, No. 2, 34c to 35c; oats, No. 2 white, 23c to 24c; butter, creamery, 23c to 25c; eggs, Western, 20c to 22c.

GRANVILLE LETTERS. GROVER NAMES FIVE.

CREATING MUCH COMMENT IN LONDON.

Said to Be Antagonistic to Great Britain's Claims in Venezuela—Big Philadelphia Company Forced to Assign Hostilities Suspended at Zeiloun.

New Phase of the Row.

The dispatch to the London Daily Chronicle from its special commissioner at Washington, giving hitherto unpublished correspondence between the Governments of Great Britain and Venezuela during the period between November, 1890, when Robert Schomburgk was appointed to survey the western territory of British Guiana, and April, 1892, when Great Britain finally removed the boundary posts which he had set at various points in that territory to form the so-called Schomburgk line, is attracting much attention in London. The Chronicle calls it a "momentous dispatch" and heads it, "A New Face to the Controversy; the Schomburgk Line Useless. Some Startling Disclosures." A foreign office official said that the correspondence quoted was correct "so far as it goes," and added: "But there is much which is unpublished, especially the letters of Senator Fortique, the Venezuelan minister to Great Britain, at the time. These give a different light upon the whole matter. We might, for instance, take portions of Secretary Olney's document and transform it into a statement which would be entirely antagonistic to the American side of the question."

All Eyes on South Africa.

The greatest alarm existed in London Saturday, because no further news had arrived from the Transvaal. Forty-eight hours had elapsed since the confirmation of the report of the capture of Dr. Jameson and his invading force by the Boers. There came a very significant message from the German Emperor to the president of the Transvaal republic, congratulating him upon the successful repulse of the British force. This aroused a storm of indignation in Great Britain, which was quickly succeeded by a feeling of apprehension over an unconfirmed rumor that an uprising had occurred at Johannesburg, and that the English were being driven out. It is believed a great crisis is on.

In Charge of an Assignment.

The Solicitors' Loan and Trust Company of Philadelphia made an assignment to Col. T. De Witt Cuyler, one of the directors. The trouble came about through the outside operations of J. R. Ritter, who has charge of the company's real estate department. An examination of the books shows that the assets are all right. The company has assets of about \$1,200,000, most of which is tied up in Western mortgages. It was founded in 1886, with a full paid capital of \$500,000. Its stock recently dropped about \$10 a share.

NEWS NUGGETS.

The Northwestern millers' trust has been reorganized.

Kansas Republicans talk of nominating Justice Brewer for President.

Prince Regent Luitpold of Bavaria has formally renounced the throne of which the crazy King Otto is the nominal incumbent.

A report has been received by the Knoxville, Tenn., revenue office to the effect that seven men were killed in a battle between moonshiners and officers near the Tennessee and North Carolina line.

It came to light that several St. Paul and Minneapolis banks have been victimized to the extent of some \$6,000 by a clever forger. He worked under the names of Esch and Charles E. Rhodes, and did the work chiefly by means of a bank cashier's certification stamp.

At Madrid, it is announced that the Danish Government has expressed the opinion that the steamer Horra, flying the Danish flag, which conveyed a filibustering expedition to Cuba in November last, from Philadelphia, ought to have been regarded as a pirate, in spite of the contrary decision of the United States authorities.

The Turkish Government has ordered the commander of the Turkish forces surrounding Zeiloun to suspend hostilities pending the negotiations which the representatives of the powers have entered into in order to bring about the surrender of the Zeilounis. The ambassadors have given their respective consuls at Aleppo full liberty of action in regard to the steps which they may think necessary to take to prevail upon the insurgents to surrender.

The new city bill which has just passed the Quebec Legislature, provides that hereafter every alderman of the city of Montreal who votes grants in excess of available appropriations shall be personally responsible therefor, and shall leave the right of sitting in the City Council for five years. It is also provided that the city treasurer shall be personally responsible for every sum of money which he shall pay, knowing it exceeds the appropriations voted by the Council.

Montana produced in metals about \$47,115,000 during the year 1895, taking the value of the silver at the exchange rate and estimating the last two months of the year on a pro rata basis. The production of gold was \$1,100,000; of silver, 4,500,000 ounces; of copper, 212,000 pounds, and of lead, 21,500,000 pounds. The output of copper is estimated as being 65 per cent. of the production of the United States. The receipts of bullion at the Helena assay office during 1895 were 10 per cent. greater than last year and 47½ per cent. greater than during 1893.

A semi-official denial was made at St. Petersburg of the announcement made in the New Free Press of Vienna, saying that Russia and France had actually promised diplomatic support to the United States in the Venezuelan question, and that Russia was prepared to facilitate the United States loan with her own gold reserve.

Russia is negotiating for the creation of a branch of the Banque Imperiale Russe in New York.

Prof. L. S. Luther, of Trinity College, has been elected president of Kenyon College at Columbus, Ohio.

Mrs. Leslie Carter accidentally stabbed Actor John E. Kellard while playing at New York lately. The leather shield he wore as a protection had slipped from its place, and the bayonet used by Mrs. Carter in the play entered his side two inches below the heart, narrowly escaping making a fatal wound.

PERSONNEL OF THE VENEZUELAN COMMISSION.

Brewer and Alvey Head the List—Andrew D. White, Frederic R. Condit, and Daniel C. Gilman Are the Other Appointees.

All Accept.

President Cleveland Wednesday night announced the appointment of the Venezuelan Boundary Commission as follows: David J. Brewer, of Kansas, Justice of the United States Supreme Court; Richard H. Alvey, of Maryland, Chief Justice of the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia; Andrew D. White, of New York; Frederic R. Condit, of New York; Daniel C. Gilman, of Maryland.

All of the above named persons will accept the places to which they have been appointed and are expected to assemble in Washington as soon as practicable, with a view to their entering upon their work. In Washington the commission is regarded as a very satisfactory one, whose opinions and conclusions will be received by the American public with that confidence which the standing of the members of the commission in the public eye inspires.

Politically speaking, the commission consists of three Democrats and two Republicans. Justice Brewer and Justice Alvey are men of the highest judicial standing, whose reputations as impartial jurists are well known abroad, as well as at home. Frederic R. Condit, of New York, is as well known as a leader of the bar to require any extended sketch of his scholarly attainments. Andrew D. White and Daniel C. Gilman stand among the foremost of American scholars and educators, and Mr. White has shown, in addition, unusual skill as a legislator, organizer and diplomat. Both will be useful members of the commission, and their names will do much to give its findings dignity and weight in the eyes of European nations.

The law authorizing the appointment by the President of the Venezuelan commission was passed by the House of Representatives on Dec. 17. On Dec. 20 it was adopted by the Senate without amendment and without a dissenting voice. The text of the bill was as follows:

"A bill making an appropriation for the expenses of a commission to investigate and report on the true divisional line between the Republic of Venezuela and British Guiana.

"Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled, that the sum of \$100,000, or as much thereof as may be necessary, be and the same is hereby appropriated for the expenses of a commission, to be appointed by the President, to report on the true divisional line between the Republic of Venezuela and British Guiana."

The conclusions reached by the commission will be reported to the President for his information in connection with any further representations and communications that may be made by this Government to Great Britain in connection with the boundary line dispute between the latter country and Venezuela.

RIFAAT PASHA.

The New Grand Vizier of the Turkish Empire.

It is evident the Sultan of Turkey is a hard man to please. He recently changed prime ministers three times in three weeks. The new grand vizier, Rifaat Pasha, is a man of long public service. He has been governor of many Turkish provinces. His last office of that character was ruler of Smyrna. Before his promotion Rifaat was minister of the interior. He is a thorough-paced diplomatist and before advising the Sultan on any point ascertains the innermost views of his sublimity on the matter in question.



RIFAAT PASHA.

Advice then is easily formulated. It is probable Rifaat will hold his portfolio long. There is little prospect of future joy for a grand vizier. Keenal Pasha, immediate predecessor of Rifaat, has been sent to govern an interior town of Asia Minor. Said Pasha, who preceded Keenal, took refuge at the English embassy upon his removal from office. He emerged a few days ago.

Fish Hook.

A new fish hook has been invented. The bait holding device is supplied with self-opening hooks which are closed and concealed at their points and which spring in opposite directions when the slightest tension is put upon the line. One of the chief advantages claimed is that when the fish are landed they can be readily released.

Railway Seats.

An invention provides for pneumatic seats in railway cars. These may be readily inflated by means of a hose connected with the pipes of the air-brake. In this manner may traveling be made a luxury at small permanent cost to the railway companies.

Every single man occasionally longs for a home, so that he can blow off when things don't suit him, without fear of being licked.