

AID FOR HIGH SCHOOLS

Superintendent Jackson Has an Idea to Be Engrafted on the Code.

OLD LAW TO BE REVIVED

Forthcoming Report Will Recommend that Provision Be Made for Free High Schools With Certain Degree of Assistance.

Lincoln dispatch to the Omaha Bee: The state superintendent is working on his annual report, and it is said that in the document he will pay considerable attention to the needs of the state in the way of a high school law. He will be strongly in favor of the re-enactment of the free high school law that was placed on the statute books in 1895, and was later declared unconstitutional by the supreme court on account of a technicality, especially in the matter of obtaining the revenue for the operation of the law. It is believed that the modifications will not change the law materially from the one that was in operation in 1895 and 1897.

A number of prominent educators, and among them Superintendent Jackson, favor a law that will put the high schools more directly under the control of the state, and will furnish state aid to those that are sufficiently equipped in the matter of teachers and appliances to make them worthy of being termed state schools. Mr. Jackson has not yet hit upon a good plan to carry out this idea, but in discussing the matter today he said that such a law would affect about 175 high schools in the state, and would assist in making each of them so efficient that the youth who desired to obtain an advanced education and was unable to attend either the university, the State Normal or other preparatory schools could reach a first-class high school near to his home. The projectors of this educational idea have not figured out how the revenue is to be obtained to aid the schools, except that it is to come from the state rather than from the usual levy for school purposes.

The officers of the State Teachers' association believe that the meeting to be held here during the holidays will be greater in the point of attendance than was the session of last winter. They say that the total number of teachers here a year ago reached 1,500, and they think the figures can be placed at 2,000 this year. The reasons for the large increase, they say, are varied. The exposition educational features aroused great interest among the teachers, there is plenty of money about among them in all parts of the state, and the unusually good railroad rates all combine to give prospects of a large attendance. With the presence of the state teachers and the influx of legislators and politicians that is sure to materialize during holiday week the hotel facilities of the town are sure to be taxed and a skirmish is already being made by committees to see what can be done in the way of increasing the accommodation for taking care of the guests.

The governor has been asked to appoint delegates to a convention which is to be held at St. Louis on January 10, 1899. The object of the convention is to arrange for the holding of an exposition in commemoration of the Louisiana purchase. The date for the exposition is set for 1903 and 1904. A St. Louis committee which recently met to discuss the matter adopted resolutions in favor of the scheme. The following is an extract from its report: "Your committee is of the opinion that the objections to an exposition are not well founded. The experience of the cities which have undertaken expositions since the year of the World's Fair, and especially that of Omaha, proves that the undertaking is a perfectly feasible one, and also that the interest in them has not been exhausted. Indeed, so long as the world shall last the story of its progress will always be an interesting one."

The officers of Company K of Schuyler have notified Adjutant General Barry that the company is ready to be mustered into the state service, and an order will at once be issued allowing the muster in a few days. Every effort is being made to have the requisite 800 men in the service before January 1, and to do this orders will have to be issued allowing many of the companies to be mustered in by their organizers, as the adjutant general will be unable to visit all of them. It is understood that the number mentioned must be mustered into the service in time so that they can be seen in the annual report or the state will lose the \$5,000 that comes annually from the general government to aid in supporting the militia.

The Mystery Unraveling.

A dispatch from Franklin says: The mystery about the disappearance of Peter Kreichbaum, a wealthy German farmer, is unraveling. His body was found buried in the hog pen on his farm late this afternoon. Kreichbaum lived alone on his farm about seven miles southeast of Franklin, and was murdered some time between Friday, December 2, and the Sunday following.

The dead man was in Franklin the afternoon of December 2, and was seen near his farm just about dusk. That was the last seen of him alive, and the play was not suspected until the middle of the following week, when Jesse Tunman and Will Cole appeared at the farm and took possession of the pig pens and five horses constituting the live stock on the place. They sold a number of the hogs and drove the remainder to a farm owned by Tunman near Bloomington.

Joseph Kreichbaum of Burlington, Ia., was notified by some of the neighbors, and reached his brother's farm Monday morning. He at once took steps to discover the whereabouts of the missing man, and a searching party was organized. Every part of the farm and the entire neighborhood was searched without success, until this afternoon, when the empty hog pen and a spot where the earth had been disturbed. The body was found

a short distance beneath the surface, but without disturbing or uncovering it more than enough to identify it, a guard was stationed at the hog pen and the coroner notified.

While the searching party was working at the farm a detective employed by the brother of the missing man had been closely questioning Tunman. The latter produced a lease by which he claimed possession of the farm and live stock. The name of Kreichbaum was misspelled, and it was suspected that it was forged. This suspicion was strengthened when it was learned that Tunman had asked the county clerk to draw up the lease Monday, December 6, and wanted it dated back to Friday, December 2. Tunman also said that he was with Kreichbaum all day Friday, the day he was last seen alive, whereas it was generally known that Kreichbaum was in Franklin all day and Tunman was not seen in town that day.

When the body was found warrants were at once issued for Tunman and Cole and the sheriff started to arrest them. The news spread rapidly, and a large crowd gathered. Lynching is freely talked of, and summary treatment is expected unless public sentiment changes before the men are brought in by the sheriff.

Kreichbaum was 50 years of age, and was known to have an income of \$150 a month from property he owned in Burlington, Ia.

Later—"We, the jury, find that John Philip Kreichbaum, now lying dead before us, came to his death by being shot in the head with a shotgun and by being struck with a deadly weapon, said weapon being in the hands of Jesse Tunman and W. S. Cole."

This is the terse and emphatic judgment of the coroner's jury upon the most heinous and revolting crime in the annals of Franklin county. The alleged murderers are in jail, heavily guarded, at Alma tonight, and if the maddened neighbors of the dead men could get possession of them the chances would be good for a double lynching. Owing to the intense feeling in Franklin in the prisoners were taken to Alma by the alarmed officers.

Bonded Debt of the State.

The bond clerk in the auditor's office has compiled some interesting figures on the bonded indebtedness of the various counties of the state. The total outstanding bonds of the counties amount to \$5,011,645, the interest ranging from 10 per cent to 4 1/2. Two counties are still paying on 10 per cent bonds, Polk on \$40,000 and Saunders on \$2,000. Many of the others where the rate of interest was high have lately refunded and obtained a lower rate. According to the report just compiled Otoe county has a larger amount of indebtedness according to the population than any of the other counties. In Otoe the total is \$550,000, as compared with an assessed valuation of property amounting to \$4,703,747. Douglas county has \$657,000 outstanding, with an assessed valuation of \$21,093,552.41, while Lancaster has \$350,000, with a valuation of \$9,137,191.71. Richardson county is in the best shape in the matter of bonds, having only a little over \$8,000 outstanding, as compared with the valuation of property almost equal to that of Otoe county. In the two years ending November 30, 1898, county bonds amounting to \$501,000 were issued.

The amount of precinct, municipal and school district bonds outstanding is not known, but the report shows that during the last two years the issue has been: School district bonds, \$247,077; precinct, \$11,500; municipal, \$134,500. For a long time it has been apparent that there is a defect in the laws of this state regarding bonds, especially in the matter of reporting and compiling issues and amounts outstanding other than county bonds. In the cities, precincts and school districts there is nothing on the state records to show the amount outstanding, and for this reason the bonds of this class are listed as bad property in the money markets and the legislatures of Vermont and Connecticut have passed acts prohibiting insurance companies from investing in the district and municipal bonds issued in Nebraska. The state officials, as well as others interested in these matters, will call the attention of the legislature to the bond question and will endeavor to secure some legislation that will result in the compiling of the bonded indebtedness of all classes and the keeping of a record that will show the liabilities in every case.

Reorganizing the Guard.

An order has been issued from the adjutant general's office authorizing Lieutenant McCarthy, late of the University Cadet battalion, to organize a company of Nebraska national guard at Aurora. It is given out that this extra company is not intended to take the place of any particular company, for the reason that there is not as yet any vacancy in the Second regiment to be filled, but the natural supposition is that the new company is to be got in readiness so that should any of the old companies decline to get into the reorganized regiment then the Aurora company could be put in without any delay.

Was a Passenger on the Bourgoyne.

Fred Nyfler, a prominent young farmer who lives in Hartley township, Platte county, returned a few days ago from an extended visit with his relatives in the Fatherland. He left Nebraska last spring and was a passenger on the ill-fated French liner La Bourgoyne, which went to pieces and sank off Samle Island, where over 400 lives were lost. Mr. Nyfler was in the water clinging to wreckage for over eight hours before he was rescued, and was then taken back to New York and made another start on the trip. He says that the scene at the time of the accident was one which he will never forget.

Vigilant Succeeds Bryan.

Mr. Bryan notified Governor Holcomb by wire of the acceptance of his resignation, and also said that he would be at home in a few days. Acting on this intelligence the governor issued commissions to Victor Vigilant as colonel of the Third regiment, and John H. McClay as lieutenant colonel. This makes McClay the ranking major of the regiment, with room for other promotions along the line. The commissions to cover the other promotions have not yet been issued.

The new postmaster at West Point will enter upon his duties January 1, 1899.

TO TRY TO RAISE THE MAINE.

Wreckers Propose to Build a False Bow in the Hulk.

EXPERTS ARE NOW AT WORK.

Caissons, Each With Thirty Tons' Lifting Power, Will Be Attached to the Wreck and Inflated—Plans for Saving the Cristobal Colon Expected.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The Navy department has not abandoned the hope of rescuing the Maine from Havana harbor and bringing the wreck back to this country for rehabilitation, nor does it seem probable, from the interest taken by responsible wrecking experts, that the Cristobal Colon will be permitted to pound to pieces on the shore west of Santiago. The board of construction has under consideration a formal proposition for the salvage of both these vessels and their delivery at New York or such other port in the United States as the government might select.

The Swedish company, which is said to be the most capable and experienced in the world, now has experts at work on the Colon making an investigation into the difficulties involved in her salvage. Divers and engineers have been brought from Europe especially for this purpose, and after satisfying themselves of the Colon's condition and the expense that must be incurred in floating her they will go to Havana and examine the Maine. A bona fide offer is expected from the Swedish company. The navy department has made the rigid rule that no proposition will be considered involving the government in any expense until the vessels are safely delivered in a naval yard dock, on the "no cure, no pay" principle.

The offer under consideration comes from some associated engineers in New York city who have ample capital. Their original terms, which are subject to modifications, contemplated the payment by the government of \$250,000 cash in the case of the Maine, and \$1,000,000 in the case of the Colon, on their delivery at the New York or Norfolk navy yard, in addition to one-third of the appraised value of these vessels on their arrival, the valuation to be made by a board of arbitrators.

The method of raising vessels to be used by the engineers who appeared before the board is extremely simple. Pneumatic caissons attached to chains, passed underneath the vessel through channels made by alternating jets of water and compressed air, constitute the lifting power. To effect the release of a vessel situated like the Maine, in tenuous harbor deposits, jets of compressed air will be sent along the keel simultaneously with the introduction of air into the caissons. The caissons are uniform in size, having a buoying or lifting effort of thirty tons each. Their size and weight admit of these caissons being easily handled in the water by the divers alone and their distribution, together with the automatic valves with which they are provided, make it possible to exert a uniform force on all parts of the vessel.

The danger of rupture from undue pressure due to depth under water or other causes or the danger of breaking air hose, is obviated by the automatic valves. The caissons are arranged in series and greater or less power, as circumstances require, may be exerted at any point. The system is declared to afford complete control of the wreck, and when the water is expelled from the caissons the vessel is lifted to the surface in a single operation. It is asserted that with these caissons the Cristobal Colon can be raised and righted even in a sea way.

In the case of the Maine it is intended to cut away the forward portion of the hull, which was destroyed by the explosion, and, after lifting the unfinished portion of the vessel, to build a bulkhead and false bow to fill the opening.

ALL ROSY IN HAVANA.

Spaniards and American Soldiers Eat Together—Flowers for Our Troops.

HAVANA, Dec. 17.—While a detachment of the Second Illinois regiment was at breakfast yesterday morning on the San Jose wharf the men invited a detachment of the Spanish guard to join them. The invitation was declined at first, but finally accepted, and mutual compliments passed in sign language.

Two battalions of the Illinois regiment marched to Quemados camp later in the day. From the houses along the route girls ran out to pin ribbons on the soldiers and to wreath their hats with flowers. General Lee's headquarters, an old mansion in the center of beautiful grounds, was filled with flowers by the men.

STILL AFTER THE POLYGAMIST.

A Christian Citizenship speaker says Roberts is Ineligible to Congress.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Mormonism and territorial expansion were the main themes taken up at the closing day's sessions of the Christian Citizenship convention. General John Eaton pictured the menace of Mormonism, which, he said, is religio-political in its organization and is presided over by 30,000 officers, with its operations secret, and 300,000 followers scattered over the states. He charged that Congressman-elect Roberts of Utah is an avowed polygamist, raised over two Mormons who are not believers in polygamy, and asserted that Mr. Roberts has never been returned to citizenship and therefore is ineligible to Congress.

SAYS TREATY IS ILLEGAL.

Agonello Declares Spain Had No Power to Cede the Philippines to America.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—Agonello, the representative of Aguinaldo, the insurgent leader in the Philippine islands, sails for New York on Saturday, as he alleges, to resume his duties as representative of the Philippine government at Washington. In an interview, he said: "The only portion of the Spanish-American treaty in which we are concerned is the cession of the Philippines, which is illegal, as the Spaniards had lost their sovereignty over the islands and the Americans cannot dispose of the future of the archipelago without consulting the Filipinos. Their consent, by popular vote, is necessary. As universal suffrage forms the basis of the American constitution, the United States cannot carry out this measure."

"The result of the peace commission's deliberations is only satisfactory to us inasmuch as Spain is turned out of the Philippine islands."

PASSED IN TWENTY MINUTES.

Pension Appropriation Bill Goes Through Without Debate.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The house yesterday surpassed all previous records in the expedition with which it passed the pension appropriation bill. This bill in days gone by has been one of the most fruitful themes of acrimonious partisan debate, but yesterday, although carrying \$1,000,000 more than the act for the direct current year, it was passed in twenty minutes, without a word of criticism.

The House then entered upon the consideration of the bill to incorporate the International American bank. This project was recommended by the Pan-American congress in 1889. An arrangement was effected for a vote upon the passage of the bill at 3 o'clock to-day.

CATTLE ON THE TRACK.

Six Persons Killed by the Wrecking of a Passenger Train in Florida.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Dec. 17.—A passenger train on the Florida Central & Peninsular railroad was wrecked yesterday afternoon near Madison, caused by a collision with cattle on the track. Six persons were killed, as follows: F. H. Chandler, engineer; James Evans, colored, fireman; John T. Sullivan of St. Augustine, attache of the army; Rev. Mr. S. H. Coleman, a colored preacher of Jacksonville; John A. Rhoades, colored, of Pensacola; Alfred Austin, colored, of Chaires.

Big Deal Closed.

FORT WORTH, Texas, Dec. 17.—A message received here from Kansas City states that William O. Richards of Hardeman county has purchased the holdings of the Hesperian Cattle company, in the counties of Coddie, Ford, King and Knox, amounting to over 100,000 acres of land. The sale includes cattle and calls for a purchase price of over \$300,000. The majority of the stock of the company is owned by parties in Kansas City.

Missionaries Killed in China.

VANCOUVER, B. C., Dec. 17.—J. Fleming, an English missionary, has been killed by natives and soldiers at Tsing Ling, ninety miles east of Kuei Yang. The mission house was raided and burned down. There has been no attempt to punish the hands of Mandarins. A French missionary has been burned at Swatow. The mission was attacked and Catholic crosses and altars destroyed by a mob of 1,000 Christian haters.

Bad Colorado Wreck.

DENVER, Colo., Dec. 17.—The north-bound passenger on the Gulf road, due to arrive in Denver at 5 o'clock last evening, was ditched by a broken rail at a point about three miles north of Barela, a small station twenty-three miles south of Trinidad, making a bad wreck and injuring several passengers and members of the train crew. The entire train except the locomotive left the rails.

Bolivia Has a New Trouble.

LIMA, Peru, Dec. 17.—Advices received here to-day confirm the report of a revolution in the Bolivian republic. A board of government has been formed at La Paz, capital of Bolivia. President Alonzo is now at Cruco organizing the government's forces to suppress the rebellion.

Ocean Liner in Distress.

SKIBBEREEN, Ireland, Dec. 17.—A dispatch received here from Baltimore, about seven miles southwest, says that a steamer, supposed to be a Trans-Atlantic liner, is in distress off the coast there. She has been throwing signals of distress for some time.

Two Firemen Killed.

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—The collapse of a wall during a fire in a livery stable at 3154-55 Cottage Grove avenue last night killed two firemen and injured a number of others. The dead are lieutenant Matthew Meyer and Patrick O'Brien.

A Kentucky Luching.

MIDDLEBORO, Ky., Dec. 17.—Pleas Goin, the mountain desperado who killed Hunt Kasterson and fatally wounded Fred Bark on Clinch river, in Lee county, Va., Tuesday, was last night lynched by a mob of mountaineers.

Heinrichs' School Books.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., Dec. 17.—The state senate has adopted resolutions advocating the state furnishing free text books to pupils of public schools, the same to be made by convict labor.

THE BRIGHT SIDE FOR DEWEY

What the Admiral Thinks of Philippine Conditions.

SPREADING THE PEACE GOSPEL

Insurgents and Natives Are Growing Friendlier Every Day—Business Chances Without End—Would Give the Rebel Troops Deserved Recognition.

MANILA, Dec. 17.—Rear Admiral Dewey, when a correspondent called on him to-day, declined to discuss the political situation in the Philippine islands, on the ground that his sphere was purely naval. However, he said enough to show he has a very hopeful view of affairs here.

The admiral seldom goes ashore, and insisted that his interviewer was in a better position to acquire information than himself. He cross-examined the correspondent about everything ashore. He was glad to learn the insurgents were releasing the sick Spanish soldiers they held prisoner, notwithstanding Aguinaldo's grandiloquent refusal to do so. This indicates that the insurgents are very conciliatory in spite of their defiant talk.

Admiral Dewey always believed that the insurgents were friendly, and especially since the war ships of our fleet have visited the different ports, and officers have made tours inland, incidentally investigating popular sentiment and judiciously preaching the gospel of peaceful settlement everywhere with highly satisfactory results. A few influential Filipinos, in an ambitious attempt at self-advancement, are clamoring for independence, though unable to realize its true meaning. They are utterly ignorant of the difference between the name and the reality.

The agitators here invariably admit that they would be unable to stand without American protection. But, in spite of this, they continue their meaningless outcry for trouble. The admiral, however, believes this to be improbable at the present juncture, though every incident counts. However, every day that passes without a conflict means so much gain, because the friendly feeling is steadily increasing, the incipient roughness is disappearing and the agitators are weakening.

The newspapers of Manila are doing particularly valuable work in the simultaneous publication of conciliatory articles printed in Spanish and in English. This course is looked upon as being certain to eliminate the friction which has existed here.

The admiral is greatly interested in the movement among the American volunteers to obtain their discharges here and to engage in pioneering enterprises. He believes there is an unlimited field for planters, farmers and miners. To the suggestion that if the natives prove to be obstreperous perhaps they might be handed over to the Germans or other ungentle land grabbers, the admiral said he believed the Germans now have entirely abandoned their design in the Philippine islands, though, formerly, he said, the German attitude here had caused him indescribable anxiety.

According to recent information received here, the Filipino insurgents are endeavoring to maintain a brave show for the purpose of securing the best terms possible from the Americans. It is the opinion of our admiral that it would be advisable for the United States to pay insurgent troops their arrears of wages. The whole amount would be a comparatively trifling sum and the payment of the troops would have a valuable effect and may save incalculable trouble.

Admiral Dewey was strongly convinced that the Filipino insurgents deserve acknowledgment. He is a believer in the practicability of liberal measures in the direction of local autonomy.

Regarding the possibility of international complications, Admiral Dewey said: "Prior to the arrival of the monitors I felt uneasy, but now I am ready to hold this position against the whole earth."

Written McDonald a Bankrupt.

SPRINGFIELD, Mo., Dec. 17.—Written McDonald, manager of the Olden fruit farm in Howell county, once owner of the Kansas City Times and a prominent banker of Kansas City, has filed a petition in bankruptcy in the federal court at Springfield. The schedule of liabilities is very long and the debts mentioned approximate \$200,000. The assets amount to something over \$20,000.

The Texas Sailed Without Sigbee.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Captain Sigbee of the Texas has been ordered to Havana by rail and steamer to take command of his ship there. The order is the result of the hasty departure of the Texas under recent orders. Captain Sigbee was at Albany at the time and the orders to sail were obeyed so promptly that Captain Sigbee had no time to reach his ship. In the nautical phrase he and other officers were "left on the beach."

A \$1,000 Temperance Donation.

TOPERA, Kan., Dec. 17.—Officers of the State Temperance Union have unexpectedly received a subscription of \$1,000 for their work next year. The pledge is accompanied by a letter, but the writer declines to permit the officers to give out his name for publication.

Germany's national debt, from practically nothing in 1875 has grown to nearly two and a quarter billions of marks.

OUR VOLUNTEER SOLDIERS.

A Spirited Senate Debate On Mustering Them Out.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—The urgent deficiency appropriation bill making provision for the army and navy for the next six months displaced the Nicaragua canal bill in the Senate yesterday, preventing even the taking of a vote on the question of postponement until after the holidays, as had been intended. The deficiency bill was passed, after a spirited discussion, turning principally on the point of keeping the volunteer soldiers in the service.

Mr. Cockrell of Missouri addressed the Senate in regard to the mustering out of the soldiers, a large majority of whom, he said, wanted to be mustered out, and many of whom were making sacrifices by remaining in the service. On the other hand, the officers, who were finding the service more profitable than the privates, had, in many cases, refused to forward applications for discharge. He thought that in such cases the war department should exercise some discretion in the interest of the privates and be more lenient with the enlisted men.

Mr. Allison expressed sympathy with the desire to have a large number of volunteers mustered out. He called attention to the importance of a sufficient force to maintain our coast fortifications, saying that General Miles had expressed the opinion that from 14,000 to 16,000 men would be necessary for this purpose. In view of these and other facts, he considered it wise to follow the wishes of the President and the military authorities in this matter. He was sure that there was no purpose to keep the extra force longer than absolutely necessary.

Replying to the suggestion, Mr. Allison said the President had no power to muster into our army the natives of any of the various islands unless it should be done by taking them into our regular army organizations. He suggested legislation authorizing the utilization of a large percentage of the local forces in the outlying islands. At the instance of Mr. Harris, the Senate adopted a resolution calling upon the President for confirmation as to the status of the report of the Nicaragua commission.

The Senate then went into executive session, and, at 5:03 p. m., adjourned until Monday.

BRYAN IN WASHINGTON.

Says the Volunteers Should Be Mustered Out as Soon as Possible.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Being approached regarding his attitude concerning the volunteer soldiers, Colonel William J. Bryan expressed himself as follows:

"The volunteers should be mustered out at the earliest possible moment. They enlisted for war when soldiers were needed for active service, and many of them did so at great pecuniary and personal sacrifice. To hold them in the service for garrison duty would be a gross injustice. The administration has expressed its intention of releasing the volunteers as soon as regulars can be secured to take their place, but the bill providing for a permanent increase in the regular army is likely to arouse discussion and delay the day of discharge."

"Many believe that the army as it stood before war was declared was large enough for all domestic purposes."

"I share in this belief. If the volunteers are to be held as hostages to force a permanent increase in the regular army, a prolonged contest is unavoidable. I think it would be better to recruit a temporary army of occupation to serve in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. This would postpone the discussion as to the regular army until a more convenient season."

STEALS A FORTUNE IN BONDS.

Otto Heintz, Wanted in St. Louis, Is Cleverly Trapped.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 17.—Otto Heintz, formerly a porter in the Equitable building in St. Louis, was arrested at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon at the Centes house for stealing \$30,500 worth of bonds from Louis C. Nelson, a wealthy broker, who has an office in the building in which Heintz was porter. Heintz was trapped into his arrest by a St. Louis lawyer to whom he had written a letter offering a portion of the bonds for immunity from prosecution.

The authorities obtained \$11,000 worth of the bonds from Heintz, but he says they will never see any more of them. The bonds are United States government, St. Louis city and county and corporation bonds, and are easily negotiable, as they are not registered.

Enclosed With a Fence.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Dec. 17.—General Wood, governor of the military department of Santiago, is determined to protect what is left of the "surrender tree"—the tree beneath which the Spaniards consented to the capitulation of Santiago—and has it enclosed with a wire fence, issuing an order imposing a fine of \$100 or imprisonment for 60 days as a penalty for mutilating the tree, which is already not a little injured by relic hunters.

A Sighing Party Killed.

EMLAY CITY, Mich., Dec. 17.—A south bound engine, light on the Pontiac, Oxford & Northern railroad, last night struck a sleigh containing five people, throwing them out, seriously injuring two and killing three outright.

Omaha to Try It Again.

OMAHA, Neb., Dec. 17.—A decision to hold a Greater America exposition at Omaha in 1904 was reached at a mass meeting of business men, bankers and professors at noon last night. Over \$100,000 was subscribed for the project.