

HAD NO TRUCE-FLAG.

RUIZ VOLUNTARILY WENT TO HIS DEATH.

The Cuban Commander Who Caused the Summary Court-Martial of the Spanish Officer Defends His Actions—Seville's Mission to Gomez.

New York, Dec. 31.—The following letter from Colonel Nestor Aranguerin has been received by the Herald: "There have come to my hands copies of papers printed in New York and I am sorry to see how bad has been judged an act which is of such transcendental importance to the cause of Cuban independence. This is not the time for me to defend my fellow countrymen by means of the press. History will judge the facts and the world shall pass judgment. I wish, however, to refute the calumny which has been exposed to civilization, that the bearer of a flag of truce was executed when he entered our ranks under a white flag. It is false, a thousand times false.

"Lieutenant Colonel Ruiz wished to have an interview with me and I did not grant it because I knew he wanted to talk about my accepting autonomy. I know the word was sent to him to give it up, and his friends in Havana, who also know me, advised him also to give it up. He, however, persisted and his temerity lost him his life. I cannot be unfaithful to my oath to die or to obtain independence from the Spanish yoke, which four days previously I had signed, together with my companions in arms in this province, in the protest issued. As a soldier it was my duty to order a summary court-martial, which tried Lieutenant Colonel Ruiz and had him executed.

"The said lieutenant colonel entered our camp guided by two Spanish guides, who were deserters from our forces, and without any flag of truce or documents of any kind other than what has already been said. And as soon as he came to my presence he commenced, before my officers and troops, to make us promises of pardon and amnesty and to offer us autonomy. I leave it to the people of the great American nation to say what was the duty of a soldier of the country.

SCOVEL SEES GOMEZ.

HAVANA, Dec. 31.—When the insurgents sent word to General Gomez' camp that two Americans, United States Consul Madrigal and Sylvester Scovel the New York correspondent, were on their way to headquarters to induce General Gomez to surrender, General Gomez directed that both be court-martialed on the spot, but on learning that they were special envoys from Secretary Sherman, acting under orders of President McKinley, he instructed that they be released and agreed to meet them.

Mr. Madrigal, who is United States consul at Sancti Spiritus, explained to General Gomez that President McKinley, in accordance with a promise to Spain to use his friendly influence with the insurgents to bring the war to an end had selected him (Senor Madrigal) and Mr. Scovel to carry out the mission. He then presented Secretary Sherman's letter to General Gomez. The latter gave orders that the commissioners should be treated with all consideration, and fixed an appointment for the following day, promising during the interval to confer with the Cuban government with reference to the action to be taken.

The following morning General Gomez assured Senor Madrigal and Mr. Scovel that he was much pleased with the interest shown by the American government in the island of Cuba, and that he would reply to President McKinley through the representative of the Cuban government at Washington, as he (General Gomez) was not allowed to correspond directly with foreign powers.

Sugar Beets in Missouri.

COLUMBIA, Mo., Dec. 31.—Since 1899 the Missouri experiment station here has been making experiments with sugar beets, with a view to ascertaining the per cent of sugar contained in them. Yesterday the authorities gave out the result of their experiments, which demonstrate that it would not be profitable for the Missouri farmer to raise the beets for sugar purposes, if he intended to go to the expense of erecting factories for manufacturing the sugar.

Stole \$10,000 and Shipped.

BRUNSWICK, Ga., Dec. 31.—P. H. Mabry, agent of the Southern Express company at this place, disappeared yesterday with \$5,000 consigned to the Brunswick Savings and Trust company, and \$5,000 consigned to the National Bank of Brunswick. In addition, he is supposed to have taken \$4,000 placed in the express office by the Johnson steamship line.

Excitement in the Orient.

VICTORIA, B. C., Dec. 31.—The officers and passengers of the steamship Victoria, which is just in from the Orient, say that all is excitement on the other side of the Pacific. The people in all walks of life expect that there will be a clash among the great powers over the seizure of different parts of China.

MAY NOT NAME PAXSON.

The President Said to Have Decided to Yield to Labor Protests.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—The News' Washington special says: To-day the President told one of his callers that he had reluctantly given up his intention to nominate Judge Paxson. He referred to the opposition of labor to Paxson's confirmation and added that unless the cloud hovering over the Pennsylvania man should be lifted the latter could not hope for preferment.

CANADA MAY TAKE A PART

Troops and Marines for China—They are in Readiness.

OTTAWA, Ont., Dec. 31.—Information has been received from an inside source that the Canadian government notified the Canadian Pacific officials to be in readiness for the immediate transportation from Montreal to Vancouver and Esquimaux of 3,500 men, the contingent consisting of engineers, gunners and deck officers. The road has prepared for handling 10,000 men, five trains being held in readiness for this service. The officers included in the first contingent are intended to reinforce the Japanese fleet, which is said to be very short on engineering talent and deficient in gunnery.

It is reported that a secret agreement has been concluded between Great Britain and Japan, by the terms of which the Russian pretensions in Korea are to be overcome and Russian aggrandizement in Asia permanently checked.

Captain Ronald Rolfe, R. N. (retired), declines to discuss the probability of an Anglo-Russian imbroglio, but asserts that in case of actual hostilities the British Asiatic squadron is of sufficient strength to enforce any demands Great Britain may have to make. He denies that there is any probability of an Anglo-Japanese alliance, remarking that England's combining with a fourth-rate power like Japan would be a confession of weakness that does not exist.

LONDON, Dec. 30.—Reports were current yesterday that the British government had called for the use of three of the steamships of the Empress line belonging to the Canadian Pacific railroad and that French war ships had seized Hai Nan island off the coast of China. This morning both reports were officially and positively denied.

EX-MINISTER'S PROPHECY.

DALLAS, TEXAS, Dec. 31.—Colonel Richard B. Hubbard of Tyler, ex-governor and United States minister to Japan during President Cleveland's first administration, spent five years in the Orient and is paying particular attention to the crisis now pending in China. With United States Senator Morgan of Alabama, he believes the United States will soon be forced to intervene in China if American commerce in that part of the globe is to be maintained. He said: "The greed of the Russian bear and the ambition of Germany now being manifested in an effort to dismember the Chinese empire, seriously threatens the peace of the world. I do not believe those European countries that are seeking to gain substantial footholds in the Orient care one rap for the acquirement of such territory as will come into their possession should their efforts succeed, but are intent upon securing those vast deposits of gold that lie in almost every mountain of Corea, Japan and China. The other great nations of the earth will not stand idly by and watch this being done. England cannot afford to let rivals like Russia and Germany outstrip her in such fashion. The United States cannot afford to have her great and fast growing commerce with the countries of Asia throttled. All appearances are very ominous. The war clouds seem to be heavy and drawing near. I may be mistaken, but I do not see how strife can be avoided.

METHODISTS SHOCKED.

Assail Governor Stephens for Permitting the New Year's Ball.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Dec. 31.—Though Governor Stephens belongs to the Southern Methodist church, which frowns upon dancing, the annual ball will be given at the executive mansion New Year's night.

Some of the rural Methodists are shocked, as indicated by the following remarks by the Rev. Calvin Cook of Rich Hill: "Democrats and Methodists here would like to know if the governor finds balls a part of his official duty, especially the Methodists. If so, they will know whom to vote for next time. We are going to have a special prayer meeting for the governor next Thursday night, and we hope all Christians will pray for him."

Another Kansas City Murder.

KANSAS CITY, Mo., Dec. 31.—A negro woman about 26 years old was found lying dead to death in the mud in a dark alley near Tenth street between Wyandotte and Central streets at 8:10 o'clock last night. Her head was beaten in by many blows of a hatchet. The crime was seen by a crowd of negro men and women, but the murderer escaped. Early this morning the woman, Mrs. Nellie Johnson, died at the city hospital. The murderer was her husband.

Chicago's Greedy Aldermen.

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—The aldermen named their private secretaries at the council meeting last night. The list included wives, daughters, sons and other aldermanic relatives. The secretaries draw \$1,500 each annually, while the aldermen receive only \$1 each for each meeting. As the law precluded them from directly increasing their pay, they created the sinecure secretariats to augment family incomes.

A \$100,000 Fire at San Bernardino.

SAN BERNARDINO, Cal., Dec. 31.—The overturning of a lamp for heating glue in Whitney's planing mill started a fire which destroyed property valued at \$100,000 and threatened to wipe out the city.

Strong Man Drowns Dead.

NEW YORK, Dec. 31.—Professor Daniel L. Dowd, the strong man, died yesterday from consumption hastened by an attack of the grip, aged 45. He was known throughout the country as a teacher of athletics.

JAPAN'S WAR SPIRIT.

THE PRESS AND PEOPLE BELLIGERENT.

The Course of Germany Arraigned—One Paper Declares That It is Japan's Duty To Succor China—Russian Officers Directing Affairs at the Palace in Peking.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3.—According to advices just received from Japan, the prime minister who retired Monday in the course of a reply to a delegation, said: "With affairs tending to dangerous developments as is now the case in the East, we shall not hesitate to ask the Diet for 30,000,000 or even 40,000,000 if necessary."

The Jiji Shimpo, the most influential paper in Japan, contains a scathing arraignment of Germany's course, declaring that the occupation of Kiao Chou shows that the laws and tenets of international morality have ceased to be anything more than a specious pretense by European powers, and that the rule by which their conduct is really regulated is "the flesh of the weak is the food of the strong."

After declaring that Germany has thrown off the mask, and has taken the lead of Western powers in a greedy struggle to devour China, it adds as to the attitude of Japan: "The conflagration is on the other side of the river, but the river is a narrow one and the sparks may easily fly across. The lesson for Japan is that a country's security depends solely upon its strength to resist aggression, and that aggression has come almost to her own gates. It will not suffice that she should be merely on the defensive. To preserve what one has already, it is sometimes necessary to add more. A crisis in the Orient now confronts Japan, and her undivided strength must be devoted to guarding against the perils that menace her."

The Nichi Nichi Shimbun takes a similar view, declaring that it is part of the plan of encroachment of European nations upon the East. It adds: "Japan has the greatest interest at stake in these things, and the Japanese foreign office should lose no time in obtaining from Germany a clear expose of her purposes."

The Kokumin Shimbun says that Germany's action is a sequel to the interference of the three powers (Russia, Germany and France) with Japan's holding Port Arthur, after having taken that fortress, and that as these powers are again in collusion, Japan must diligently prepare herself for an emergency.

The Chuoh Shimbun declares that the time for the partition of the Chinese empire has arrived, and adds: "What shall Japan do? Shall she join in the scramble for pieces of the doomed state, or shall she oppose its partition? In such a crisis—the like of which has not occurred since the restoration—the portfolio of foreign affairs is in the hands of a man in whom the nation has no confidence."

The Tokio Shimpo, takes the radical position that it is Japan's duty to succor China at this juncture, on the ground that the boasted civilization and Christianity of the Western world is slowly trampling down right and justice in its descent upon the Orient.

Aside from the excited discussion of the Chinese problem, the Japanese press is mainly concerned in the country's naval and military development. The expenditure on "armament expansion" this year will be \$0,645,781 yen, and next year \$3,250,000 yen. Brilliant field maneuvers have been executed by the two army corps of the north and south in the presence of many foreign diplomats and military experts.

RUSSIA'S HAND

TACOMA, Wash., Jan. 3.—According to advices received yesterday per steamer Victoria, China's military department is to have Russian advice to be followed, by the employment of Russian officers to drill the Chinese army. The China Mail says Russia is already in possession of Manchuria, and is grasping for a large share of the entire empire. These statements, which facts seemingly bear out, are causing great uneasiness in Japan, and particularly because Russia is known to be acting with the concurrence of France and Germany, both of whom, of course, will get smaller pieces when the big pie is cut. Peking dispatches to Yokohama and Kobe papers state that Russia has taken a very bold stand at Peking and is now practically managing China's foreign affairs.

Russia will loan China the needed money and will probably eventually secure control of China's customs. China has granted the Russian railway franchises whereby the Mansurian railway will be extended to Peking, including supervision of both sides of the railway.

Russia has moved a large number of troops into Manchuria from Vladivostok, and the Siberian frontier, whereby she recently had 100,000 soldiers massed, and is now occupying China's northern province. These troops in Manchuria are ready to move into Corea or China proper. Russia's influence at Peking is due partly to promises made Chinese officials of land interests in gold mines and other properties in Manchuria and Siberia.

TO PROSECUTE WEYLER.

Papers That Have Published Protest Against McKinley in Trouble.

MADRID, Jan. 3.—El Correo Espanol, La Nacional, El Poca and other papers that have published General Weyler's protest against President McKinley's message will be prosecuted. The publication had been prohibited on international grounds.

It is rumored that General Weyler will be prosecuted. The authorities refuse to transmit the protest to the Queen Regent through the war office.

CORBETT TO FITZSIMMONS

"Champion of America" Issues a Remarkable Def—Fitz Will Ignore It.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Jan. 3.—Corbett has issued his challenge to Fitzsimmons, in which he makes this proposition: "The day we sign articles, I will give you \$1,000 in recognition of your courtesy. The moment you enter the ring, ready to offer me battle, I will give you a second \$1,000 in token of my pleasure. Upon the completion of the tenth round, if you are still undefeated, I will give you a third \$1,000 as a souvenir of my surprise. Upon defeating you, no matter in what round, I will give you \$2,000 more as a reminder that I am not an ungenerous foe.

"On the other hand, should you again defeat me, I promise, if still able to move, to place my hat upon my head and then, removing it in your honor, to proclaim you, in frank and unmistakable terms, to be my superior and state that I then and there quit forever all possible claim to the championship of the world.

"Let further remarks on this subject be made by 1,000 clean, honestly earned American dollars, given me by the public that believes in me. I have this day forwarded these to Will J. Davis of Chicago in testimony that I mean every word I have herein spoken.

"Champion of America."

CHICAGO, Dec. 31.—"We shall pay no attention to it," said Martin Julian when asked what he and Fitzsimmons would do in regard to Corbett's formal challenge of the champion.

"We have told Corbett what he can do," continued Julian. "Bob did not want to re-enter the ring at all, but at last I persuaded him to promise to fight again on certain conditions. These were, as explicitly stated, that he would consider fighting only two men—Corbett and McCoy—and that he should fight them only after Corbett had defeated Maher and after McCoy had defeated a man named by me. I have named Choyinski for McCoy to fight. Now, Corbett may wear himself out talking about betting \$10,000 that he can whip Fitzsimmons."

BEST SHOWING SINCE 1887.

Fewer Railroad Receiverships Than Before in a Decade.

CHICAGO, Jan. 3.—No year since 1887 has shown so few roads or so small mileage confessing insolvency. Compared with the record for any one of the five years immediately preceding 1897, the list of new receiverships in the last year is surprisingly small, in respect to the number of lines, mileage and capital involved. In 1893 no less than seventy-four companies, with 29,340 miles of road and \$1,781,000,000 of bonds and stocks, defaulted in their obligations and were turned over to the control of the courts. In 1897, the number of similarly unfortunate roads was eighteen, their mileage was 1,537 and their capitalization was less than \$94,000,000. In 1896, the number of roads was thirty-four, the mileage 5,441 and the capitalization \$275,597,000.

WHEAT MARKET UP.

December Wheat Goes Out at a Premium, With No Excitement.

CHICAGO, Jan. 3.—The much talked of December deal in the Chicago wheat market ended to-day without any excitement or unusual incident. There were no shorts to be "squeezed" and no open interest to be settled. The December price held firm, and closed at 92 1/2c, 2 1/2c premium over May wheat. There were some more deliveries, and it appears now that Leiter owns about 8,500,000 bushels of contract wheat—nearly all that is in Chicago. What will he do with it? Is the question traders are asking. The big Leiter holding is expected to have an important effect on the May price, and the operations of the Leiter brokers will be watched as carefully as they have been during the past few months.

CHINESE BANKS IN A PANIC

The Scarcity of Silver Coins Causes Failure at Shanghai and Hankow.

TACOMA, Wash., Jan. 3.—Great uneasiness is felt at Shanghai and Hankow owing to a scarcity of silver coins. Several native banks have suspended and their proprietors have fled, taking the funds with them. Others will fail unless the financial stringency is relieved. The panic was hastened by the shipment of 6,000,000 yen of copper money to New Chwang. The governor has been petitioned to prohibit further exportations of coin. Goods of all kinds have greatly declined in price at Shanghai. The situation at Hankow is made worse by the recent failure of a German firm having large liabilities. This failure has involved many Chinese firms.

A Murderous Kansas Boy.

LARNED, Kan., Jan. 3.—Morrill Sharp, 17 years old, tried to kill his father and mother with a stove iron. Neighbors came to the rescue and the young man was finally overpowered, bound, thrown in a wagon and hauled to the county jail, where he is now awaiting trial for assault with intent to kill, the complaint having been made by his father.

John Lunt is Insane.

COLUMBIA, Mo., Jan. 3.—A sheriff's jury to-day examined John Hunt, who is under sentence to be executed January 13 for the murder of his daughter, Mattie Rea Hunt. The jury found that Hunt was insane. He is 73 years old and is a mental and physical wreck. He was carried into the courtroom on a litter and could not sit up. He lay like a log during the entire proceedings. The result of the finding of the jury will be transmitted to Governor Stephens and he will be asked to place Hunt in an insane asylum.

MUST OPEN TO ALL

CHINA MUST NOT GRANT SPECIAL FAVORS.

Ports Permitted to One Power Must Be Permitted to All—England Will Oppose It—Rumors of Conflict—Li Hung Chang Denounces Nations of Europe.

LONDON, Jan. 4.—The Manchester Guardian, Joseph Chamberlain's paper, an acknowledged organ of the government, to-day says: "The government has categorically stated that Great Britain will refuse to recognize any special rights granted at any Chinese port to any particular power. Any port opened to one power must be opened to all or open to none. If Russia has been granted the right to winter ships at Port Arthur, Great Britain will enforce her rights to the same privileges and her ships will winter there whether China concedes or does not concede the right."

The morning papers here published also statements that England was pressing China to declare Port Arthur a free port. It is supposed that the presence of the British warships there is intended to insure freedom of access for trading vessels.

A rumor came from Plymouth last night that the English admiral had fired on a Russian man-of-war in Chinese waters. Nothing is known of the rumor at the foreign office or the admiralty.

The British warship Powerful has arrived at Hong Kong. It is a first class cruiser of over 14,000 tons displacement and 25,000 indicated horse power, with an estimated speed of about twenty-two knots. It carries a crew of 840 men.

LI HUNG CHANG TALKS.

NEW YORK, Jan. 4.—The Herald published this morning a lengthy cable message from Peking, giving the following authorized interview with Li Hung Chang, who had been recalled to power by the emperor of China as the result of the crisis there: "The forcible occupation of Kiao Chou by Germany is a direct violation of existing treaties and of international laws. The pretext made for this act of war was the murder of two missionaries by robbers in the interior of the province of Shang Tsung. The Chinese government offered immediate and full redress for this outrage—punishment of the criminals, dismissal of the local officials and large compensation for all losses. Anxious to avoid hostile acts, the Chinese troops were withdrawn from Kiao Chou when the Germans landed and in spite of strong public feeling prevailing throughout the country for the defense of Chinese territory against aggression, my government has not sent reinforcements to Kiao Chou.

"Outlaws exist in China, as well as all countries. Neither treaties, law nor religion can entirely suppress crime anywhere in the world, though they condemn and punish the criminals. There are places in every country where lawlessness abounds and to such a place in Shan Tung the German missionaries determined to go, knowing that the inhabitants themselves were often victims of these bandits. Unfortunately, China has not yet recovered from the effects of the late war and our country requires a period of peace to carry out the work of reform lately begun. Of late years, from instruction and observation, the Chinese have come to regard the countries of the western world as models and even greater in justice than in arms. Is it just to oppress us while we are struggling to emerge from the restraints of our ancient civilization, while improvement and progress steadily continue? Should China be distressed by having her shores invaded and her territory occupied because of an occurrence which western countries would deal with by law and not by war—an unexpected incident, deplored by my government and followed by full redress? Our desire is to preserve our territory intact and to steadily improve it as a field open to all countries equally for the development of commerce."

ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 4.—It is announced that M. Kuril Alexieff has been intrusted with full powers to "promote the development of the commercial relations between Russia and Corea in competition with British and Japanese influences and to aid in furthering the prompt construction of the projected orthodox church at Seoul."

The Novosti publishes an article strongly recommending a Russo-Japanese alliance as the best means of guaranteeing their mutual interests and the maintenance of the political equilibrium. It is understood this view is favored in Russian official circles, in which is felt that such an alliance would contribute to avert serious complications in the far East.

JOPLIN, Mo., Jan. 4.—With last week's output of the lead and zinc mines closes the greatest year in point of product and value within the history of the Missouri-Kansas mining district, the output of the mines having sold for \$4,807,911, or nearly \$1,000,000 more than the output of 1896, which brought the sum of \$3,867,595.

COFFEYVILLE, Kan., Jan. 4.—Kloehr Bros' large livery barn was destroyed by fire Friday night with a loss of about \$1,500, partly covered by insurance. John Kloehr, one of the proprietors, became famous from the part he played in wiping out the Dalton gang.

Great Year for Mining. JOPLIN, Mo., Jan. 4.—With last week's output of the lead and zinc mines closes the greatest year in point of product and value within the history of the Missouri-Kansas mining district, the output of the mines having sold for \$4,807,911, or nearly \$1,000,000 more than the output of 1896, which brought the sum of \$3,867,595.

Gold Standard for India. LONDON, Jan. 4.—The Times in its financial article this morning urges placing the Indian currency upon a gold basis as soon as possible, for otherwise the mints must be reopened.

ANTI-HANNA COMBINE WINS

Control Both Houses of the Ohio Legislature.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Jan. 4.—So great was the interest in the opening of the legislature this morning that almost from daybreak crowds began entering the capitol. So intense was the feeling for and against Senator Hanna, whose election to the Senate would, it was generally felt, depend to a large extent on the result of the organization of the legislature, that it was freely predicted that there would be serious disorder at the opening of the session. Many threats were said to have been made against Charles Kinney, secretary of state, who was to call the house to order and preside until a speaker should be selected. A strong force of police was on hand and these officers held the crowds well in check.

In the hall of the house there was great excitement while the roll was being called and the new members sworn during the first hour of the session. All of the 100 members were in their seats.

When the house was organized the name of Alexander Boxwell was presented as the regular Republican candidate for speaker and that of Harry S. Mason, Republican, of Cuyahoga county, by Representative Jones, Republican, with two other Republicans as seconds as the nominee of the anti-Hanna-Democratic combine.

As the balloting proceeded there were loud cheers as the doubtful members responded to their names and when the roll call approached the close and Mason secured the necessary majority there was a long demonstration that delayed the official announcement of the vote. The ballot resulted: Mason 56, Boxwell 52, as had been claimed since Saturday by the combined opposition to Senator Hanna.

There was also much excitement over the election of a speaker pro tem. Speaker Mason had been all along openly opposed to the re-election of Senator Hanna, but John P. Griffith of Union county has been claimed by both sides. The Hanna men say they counted on him till he was nominated Saturday by the combine for speaker pro tem. When Griffith cast his vote in a clear voice for Mason for speaker there was much excitement, which continued until Griffith was elected pro tem, by the same vote as that for speaker.

The regular Republican candidate for chief clerk of the house was John R. Malloy, secretary of the Republican state committee, who had held the position three terms and was very competent. His voice had been heard at national conventions, and he was a favorite, but he was defeated by Charles H. Gerrish, a Republican, who had been Kurtz's close lieutenant in the organization of the opposition to Senator Hanna.

The combine slate went through for all the minor places by the same vote of 56 to 52, but after the election of Gerrish the proceedings were very quiet, many retiring from the crowded lobbies and galleries.

All of the thirty-six senators except Mr. Burke of Cleveland, Republican, who is opposed to Hanna, were present when the Senate was called to order. Mr. Voight, the fusionist from Cincinnati, voted with the Republicans, but even then the vote stood 18 to 17 in favor of the Democrats and they elected all the officers. O. D. Cassell, Democrat, was elected chief clerk over A. C. Caine, Republican, the latter having expected re-election by Burke's presence, although Burke would not support Hanna. Cromwell, Democrat, was elected president pro tem of the senate, but it is understood that he will give way to Senator Burke for that place as soon as he shall arrive to take his seat. The Democratic organization of the senate was made complete in a very quiet way.

One of the first things considered after the organization of the general assembly is the appointment of a joint committee on arrangements for the inauguration of the governor. When this joint resolution was presented in the Senate the Republicans, as a rule, declined to vote on account of their opposition to Governor Bushnell, but the resolution was adopted by the Democrats, assisted by Shepard and Weightman, Republicans, and Voight, fusionist. This action caused quite a stir about the state house. Shepard had been considered friendly to those connected with the opposition to Senator Hanna, though he stood by the caucus nominations of his party.

At noon the senate took a recess till 2:30 o'clock without announcement to the governor that it was ready for his message, but this was owing to the house being engaged in completing its organization.

There is also talk that Hanna may withdraw in favor of Judge W. R. Day, assistant secretary of state, and the President's trusted friend. Even the Foraker leaders are said to be friendly to him, for he has steered clear of factional troubles and been a peacemaker always. Hanna will not, however, withdraw until he shall be absolutely certain that he cannot be elected, and his friends say his action will be almost wholly dictated by President McKinley.

It is conceded that speaker Mason will dispose of all the patronage of the house in the interest of McKisson and Bushnell and against Hanna and with the state executive administration also against Hanna his defeat is conceded unless radical changes shall be made within the next week.

Mr. Dawes Now Comptroller. WASHINGTON, Jan. 4.—Charles G. Dawes of Illinois to-day took charge of his office as comptroller of the currency and N. B. Scott of West Virginia assumed his new duties as commissioner of internal revenue.