

**Early Mining Laws.**  
 "The earliest mining laws were enacted, not by Congress, but by the miners themselves in the mining districts," writes ex-President Harrison in the Ladies' Home Journal. "It is a curious fact that from 1849 to 1896, the period of the greatest development in the mining of gold, there was no law of the United States regulating the subject. The prospectors roamed over the public lands, located placer or quartz mines, and took out a fabulous store of gold, without any title whatever to the lands from which they dug this great store of wealth. They were in a strict sense trespassers. A policy to reserve mineral lands from sale under the general land laws had prevailed for many years, and had been expressed in suitable laws, but no provision had been made for the sale of such lands."

"In the land grants to the Pacific Railroad companies it was provided that mineral lands should not pass under the grants. The river beds, gulches and mountain sides were prospected by men who carried picks and basins in their belts. They were aflame with the lust of gold, and among them were many desperate men; but they had the Anglo-Saxon instinct for organizing civil institutions, and his love of fair play. There were no mining laws, and in many places none of any sort. They met the emergency by a public meeting, which resolved itself into a legislative body with full powers, and made a code that did not cover a wide field, but covered their case. The limits of a claim and the distribution of the water supply were prescribed and established, and every man became a warrantor of every other man's title. These camp legislators had this advantage of Congress, and of all other legislative bodies that I know of—they had a good practical knowledge of the subjects they dealt with."

**Photographs Not Good Evidence.**  
 Photographic copies of an original, it is claimed, are not acceptable as proof before a court, inasmuch as the photographs may easily be changed to suit the wish. Expert picture makers can take a photograph, and by various processes secure a composite containing several features desired that did not exist in the original.

A celebrated photographer of this city says that it is easy to show the body of one person with the head of another, or it is possible to insert certain features desired in a photograph. The producers of art photographs often use the form of one subject and the head of another. In order to obtain the most symmetrical results, and thus form a sort of composite picture.

"By the use of nitric acid," he says, "any part of the stereoprint photograph, the one commonly used, can be erased. If the picture were a platinum print, which is unlikely, the same effect could be secured by the use of aqua regia, or a liquid composed of a mixture of nitric and muriatic acids, which acts as a solvent for gold or platinum prints."

It was shown that original signatures could be erased and others pasted or copied thereon, and then a photograph taken, from which it would seem that the result was a perfect photograph of an original paper.—Philadelphia Call.

**Fed a Millionaire Unaware.**  
 Herbert Pritchard, a foreman on the Trenton cut-off branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad, living at Heaton, Pa., tendered his resignation to the company, and has a public sale of his household goods advertised, reward for an act of kindness being the cause of his resignation. One day last week a shabbily attired young man came along by the house of Pritchard, and asked for something to eat. With out any hesitation his request was granted, and the tramp was taken into Pritchard's household and kept there for several days. The stranger informed his benefactor that his name was Plasmann, and that he was worth \$3,000,000 in his own right, and more over, that he would reward him with money as well as with friendship. Everything turned out as Plasmann stated. The young millionaire is absent from his home on account of religious differences. It is said he has already placed \$1,800 in Pritchard's keeping, and will shortly deed other property to him. He also induced Pritchard to resign his position, and the latter will henceforth act as companion to the millionaire. They are making arrangements to sail for Europe.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

**Cleopatra.**  
 Where does Cleopatra's body rest? Scarcely a layman, who would not answer: "Why, in Egypt." After her cajoleries, her wiles, her life of intense if not excited loves, Cleopatra was laid in one of the loveliest tombs that have ever been fashioned by the hand of man. But what a change 2,000 years has brought about! To-day an ugly mummy with an emblematic bunch of decayed wheat and a coarse comb tied to its head—mere roll of tightly swathed dust—lies crumbling in a hideous glass case at the British museum. It is Cleopatra, the once great queen, a Venus in charm, beauty and love. "To what have uses may we not?" etc.—St. Paul's Magazine.

**Not Original.**  
 Editor—I really cannot accept this poem, Mr. Conant. It is simply nonsense, and the subject is not original.

Foot—Well, you don't need to talk. Your observation is not original either. Lots of editors have made the same remark to me already.—July.

**A Favorite Destination.**  
 Heks—Where are you going to this summer?  
 Wicks—Going to stay at home.—Somerville Journal.

**SECRETARY OF WAR REPORTS**

**We Need More Artillery for the Army Says He.**

**TO REORGANIZE THE INFANTRY.**

**Secretary Quotes Sherman and Sheridan in Strength of the Proposition No Other Increase is Requested.**

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—In his annual report, which was made public yesterday, Secretary Lamont renews his previous recommendation that the infantry be reorganized on the general idea of three light and mobile battalions of four companies each to the regiment, instead of the cumbersome ten companies, a formation adopted a century ago and abandoned by other nations since the development of modern magazine rifles; and he quotes General Sherman, Sheridan and Lieutenant General Schofield in support of the necessity of the reorganization of the infantry. The completion already of some coast defenses and the approaching completion of other modern batteries render necessary a large force of artilleries, but no other increase of the army is asked for. The plan of seacoast defense involves 100 distinct batteries in over twenty harbors.

Investigation this year has shown serious deficiencies in the arms and equipments of the state militia. When the states furnish the armories and defray all expenses incidental to keeping their forces training, Secretary Lamont suggests that the United States should provide them with the implements which they will need in active service—arms and field equipments—as the supply on hand is totally inadequate for serious and prolonged field operations. The secretary recommends that the Springfield rifle, caliber 45, be issued to state troops, obsolete arms and equipments to be sold and the states be allowed to purchase from the department supplies at regulation prices.

The report shows that, whereas on the 1st of July, 1893, of our modern defense but one high power gun was mounted, by the 1st of July next we will have in position seventy high-power breech-loading guns and twenty-five breech-loading mortars of modern design, and by the following July, on completion of work already under way or provided for, 128 guns and 153 mortars. A battery of two or three of these guns takes the place of the former pretentious fort and is vastly more effective. The number of gun carriages completed and building, all of which will be finished within the next fiscal year, is twenty-two-inch, sixty-nine ten inch, eighteen eight-inch for guns and 153 for mortars. By July 1897, there should be ready seventy gun carriages and 123 mortar carriages. The total number of guns completed to date since the first appropriation is sixty-one eight-inch, fifty-six ten inch, twenty-one twelve in h and eighty mortars. With the money already provided three will be completed by June 30, 1897, seventy-two eight-inch guns, eighty-seven ten-inch guns, forty-seven twelve-inch guns and eighty-eight twelve-inch mortars.

The estimates of the department for the next fiscal aggregate \$10,482,268.

**Trading Two National Banks.**

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 28.—Charles H. Bailey, son of the late Probate Judge O. P. Bailey of Independence, was arrested here yesterday for forging a letter of credit for \$1,500 on the National Live Stock bank of Fort Worth, Tex. Bailey cashed the letter of credit, securing \$500 from the Metropolitan National bank of this city and \$100 from the Christian-Sawyer bank of Independence, Mo. When Bailey was arrested, all the money except \$150 was recovered. Bailey says he is not guilty. The letter he claims was sent to him by his uncle but the Metropolitan bank officials say it is in Bailey's hand writing. Bailey was read in Independence. He is 27 years old and has a wife in Waxahatchie, Tex.

**Tells of Bloody War.**

Chicago, Nov. 28.—The Tribune special from Jacksonville, Fla., says: Colonel Jose Reyes, aid-de-camp of General Maceo, wounded and enroute to New York for medical treatment and with dispatches to the junta, passed through here Wednesday. He says the fighting in the Rubi hills of Pinar del Rio was the most sanguinary battle of the war. Maceo's men, shot from behind rocks and trees and gradually gave way before the Spaniards, who, encouraged by what they thought to be victory, pursued them. Suddenly a deafening explosion rent the air and a scene followed something like the mine horror at Petersburg during the civil war. Horses and men were blown high in the air and fell to the earth dead and mangled. The dynamite mine was touched off by John Linn, formerly of this city, who is Maceo's electrician. Maceo then let loose his dynamite guns, prepared by Linn, and more havoc was wrought. In the mine explosion, Colonel Reyes says Weyler lost 700 men killed and 800 more in the charge, besides 100 wounded. Next day Maceo, knowing of the reserve forces under Weyler retreated to even a stronger position. There he was attacked by the column under Echague, who was roundly thrashed and driven from the field, losing 800 killed, besides 1,500 wounded.

**Pardons on Thanksgiving.**

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo., Nov. 23.—The governor issued Thanksgiving pardons to Ira Desha See, sentenced in Vernon county in May, 1892, to sixteen years in the second degree, and to Louis J. Silva, convicted of embezzlement from the Rainwater-Booger Hat company, St. Louis. Silva's wife had been living here since the confinement and it was through her efforts that the pardon was issued.

**Charged With Bigamy.**

NEW YORK, Nov. 27.—Little Mrs. Ah Get, who is to be arraigned Friday in court on a charge of bigamy, made by Wong Hong, told an interesting story last night.

Mrs. Ah Get said that she came to this country about four years ago with Wong Hong and they settled in Portland, Ore. With them came Ah Guik, a Chinese maiden, younger than Mrs. Ah Get. The latter was then known as Mrs. Wong Hong, but says she does not know that she has ever been married to him.

After a while Ah Guik was missing. Wong said he did not know where she had gone, but Ah Get pleaded so hard that Wong at last said he thought she must be in San Francisco. Mrs. Ah Get insisted upon going there, and they started. She says that all along both considered themselves the property of Wong Hong.

In San Francisco Wong put Ah Get into a house of ill-fame. She says she remained there about two months without hearing of Ah Guik and seeing little of Wong. He succeeded in releasing her from the house and they came to this city.

Here Wong induced her to take refuge in a similar kind of a house and also made her earn \$20 a week. If at any time she failed to get that much money in a week he beat her. The woman was being so badly treated that she could no longer stand it, and meeting Ah Get in the city pleaded with him to try and release her from her bondage.

Ah Get was very fond of her and entered into negotiations with Wong Hong who was willing to sell her. He fixed the price at \$900 and it was paid. The three persons went to No. 6 Mott street the office of the Lun Goo Tong, the Chinese free masonry, and there the papers of the transfer were made out and turned over to the contracting parties. Since that time, says Mrs. Ah Get, she has considered herself free from Wong Hong. That was two years ago.

Wong became dissatisfied with his bargain, and a little later tried to get Ah Get to give him \$425 more for Mrs. Ah Get, but Ah Get refused. This angered Wong, who had Mrs. Ah Get arrested for bigamy. Mrs. Ah Get says that she does not know and has no means of knowing whether she was ever married to Wong Hong.

**Four Atrocious Murders.**

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 27.—Private advices from the American colony at Matlatoyuca, state of Puebla, Mexico, received in this city, tell of four atrocious murders by peons, the victim in each case being a member of the colony. The colony was formed four years ago and comprises 200 people, most of them having formerly been prosperous farmers in the United States. A tract of 100,000 acres of land was secured from the Mexican government and a number of peons have been employed as laborers. Early in the present year a series of robberies took place, but all efforts to capture the robbers were unavailing. Then, on August 15, Thomas Gomez, while seated on the veranda of his house, was shot and instantly killed by one of a number of peons who roge up to the house and fired upon Gomez without warning. The assassin was captured, but has not been punished yet.

The second victim was a New Yorker named Denny, twenty-four years old. He, with a friend named Geiser, were riding towards a village when they were fired upon by three peons. Denny was shot in the shoulder and fell from his horse. Geiser, being unarmed, was forced to fly and the peons backed Denny to pieces with machetes. The murders have not been captured.

Charles Pilez was seated in his hammock but November 8, reading, when a rifle was thrust through a crevice and a bullet crashed through his head. A posse started in pursuit of the assassin and that night while in camp were attacked by peons armed with machetes and Pancho Soris was so seriously wounded that he died. The Mexican government has ordered a troop of cavalry to the colony and is endeavoring to capture the assassins, but is suppressing the facts for fear it will reflect upon the officials.

**Gold Mine at Denver.**

DENVER, Colo., Nov. 27.—The great snow storm, which for several days past has been travelling eastward from the Pacific northwest, struck Denver in the shape of heavy sleet. About midnight, however, snow began falling and continued up to dark tonight, when the sky cleared. The snow was light and covered the ground only to a depth of two inches, and caused no great inconvenience to railroads or telegraph lines in Colorado. To the east in Nebraska and Kansas, however, the full force of the storm was felt. Trains are delayed and telegraph communication with Omaha, Kansas City and the east is almost completely prostrated by the enormous weight of the sleet suspended from the wires.

The weather in Denver is clear and gold, the thermometer registering 10 degrees above zero, being the coldest of the winter.

**Mid-Air Photography.**

BAYORNE, N. J., Nov. 27.—An attempt will be made to take mid-air photographs of the important resident district radiating from Madison Square, New York. William A. Eddy and Henry L. Allen will send out a line of tandem kites seven feet in diameter from the roof of the Hoffman house, Broadway and Twenty-fifth street, beginning at 9 a. m. Mr. Eddy says that the weather bureau predictions of northerly winds indicate a possibility of variable winds, receding to a calm.

**WEYLER WILL BE RECALLED.**

**Spaniards Disgusted at the Way He Conducts the War.**

NEW YORK, Nov. 25.—The sympathizer with the Cuban cause in this city were very jubilant over the news that Captain-General Weyler had returned to Havana. Several reasons are given for the general's action in withdrawing from the field, one of them being that Marquis Almonada, who took charge of affairs in Havana during the absence of General Weyler, did not properly conduct the war. The Cubans all agree that Weyler's campaign in Pinar del Rio has been a failure. Senor Estrada Palma, president of the junta, in conversation with a reporter said:

"I think General Weyler has disgraced himself by leaving the field, for, although he has three times the number of men at his command that Maceo has in Pinar del Rio, he has not accomplished his avowed purpose to crush the revolution."

"The information has come to me," he continued, "that the insurgent forces under General Calixto Garcia have besieged Puerto Principe, the fourth largest city on the island, which they now practically control, and has, I believe, had something to do with his return, for he is needed in Havana, to direct the entire movements of the Spanish army."

A dispatch to the World from Jacksonville, Fla., says:

A cipher cablegram from Havana last night to a Cuban leader says General Weyler has been forced to return to Havana and that the city is in great confusion. Weyler gives no excuse, it is said, except that it is too hot and unhealthy to do any fighting. It is openly asserted in Havana that Weyler became frightened because Maceo had set a price upon his head or his capture. Weyler's scouts suggested to him that Maceo might make an attempt on Havana, and the Spanish general retreated in hot haste to the safety of his palace. It is also stated in the cablegram that Weyler's recall is assured now, as the Spanish government is incensed against him for his dilatory tactics. Cubans here are jubilant, for they think this will have a favorable effect upon congress.

**WAS OBLIGED TO RETURN.**

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—The dispatch from Jacksonville, Fla., reciting that a cipher telegram has been received from Havana in which it was stated that General Weyler was driven to return to Havana through fear is discredited here. The Spanish view of the return of General Weyler is entirely different. In the first place, it is said no cipher telegrams can be sent from Havana except by the representatives of foreign governments to the governments they represent. This, it is explained, would be true of any place in time of war. Again, it is pointed out that General Weyler is not only commander of troops, but governor-general of the island, and in Havana there is a large amount of official business needing his attention. It is stated that in the campaign just made, Weyler has been to the strongholds of the insurgents, passed through many towns and destroyed their supplies. From the Spanish point of view, the war at present has resolved itself into chasing small bands of insurgents about the country and it would be absurd for Captain Weyler to place himself at the head of one company or another of these troops and follow the straggling hands of insurgents from one cover to another.

General Campos was quite severely criticised because he absented himself from Havana for such long periods. As to the assertion that General Weyler says it is too hot to fight, it is said that the rainy season has not yet ended in Cuba, and that the movement of the troops is still very difficult. From the Spanish standpoint there is nothing discouraging in the return of General Weyler.

**Will Write in the Dark.**

NEW YORK, Nov. 25.—To settle a dispute as to the superiority of one keyboard over another a match has been arranged between four typewriters in this city and Brooklyn, to take place in a pitch dark room and continue until 1,000 words shall have been written.

The match is not instigated and possibly is not known of by the manufacturers of the rival machines. It is simply a difference of opinion between four experts, each of whom claims that the arrangement of the letters of the alphabet on his particular machine is the best, and to prove it will write without seeing the paper from the time the first letter is struck until the thousandth word has been completed.

As it will be impossible to trace the notes from under these conditions, the contestants have struck rather an ingenious idea. The referee will be stationed outside the door of the room, where it is light, and will read Hamlet's soliloquy and the address of Spartacus until he has reeled off a thousand words. He will dictate through a pasteboard tube adjusted in a hole in the door. The opening of the tube will be something like a funnel, and the referee's mouth will cover it, so that not a ray of light can penetrate into the darkened room.

The operator who produces the most perfect copy will be declared the winner.

**Bank Closes.**

GALLATIN, Mo., Nov. 25.—The Daviess county savings association, the oldest banking institution in the county, closed its doors yesterday morning. Liabilities \$109,000; assets about \$169,010. Depositors will be paid in full. T. B. Yates and Milt Ewing are assignees. The bank was founded by Col. J. B. McFerrin and is noted as being one of the first to be raided and robbed by the James brothers. This was in December, 1869, when they killed the cashier, Capt. John Sheets.

**A Flying Ship.**

SAN FRANCISCO, Cal., Nov. 24.—For several days an air ship has been seen sailing above Oakland, Sacramento and San Francisco. The ship was seen in Sacramento and San Jose Sunday and the evidence is increasing that the same great propeller passed over Oakland and San Francisco Saturday evening. Thomas Jordan of San Rafael states that he found a machine shop in a mountain lastness some months ago and that six men were working on an air ship.

**WEYLER GOES TO HAVANA**

**Leaves the Scene of Action for the Safety of the Capital.**

**GOMEZ CONCENTRATING HIS FORCES.**

**Maceo Is in the Hills doing Damage to the Spaniards by Means of Small Bands of Soldiers.**

HAVANA, Nov. 24.—Captain-General Weyler arrived here last evening from the province of Pinar del Rio. His return has caused much comment, but as yet it is impossible to learn the true reason for his leaving his command and returning to the capital. The military authorities will vouchsafe no information on the subject.

The official reports concerning the movements of troops in the field give only accounts of skirmishes with trifling losses on either side. No news of any moment has been received from Pinar del Rio.

By an explosion of dynamite, a passenger train was wrecked near Cardenas, province of Matanzas. The engineer and fireman of the train and two passengers were hurt. The six cars composing the train were set on fire by the rebels. As customary a pilot engine was running in front of the passenger train. This was allowed to pass the point where the dynamite was placed, but a little further on a rail had been loosened and when the pilot engine struck it, the engine was thrown into a ditch.

Counsel for Louis Somelian, a naturalized American citizen, who was arrested some time ago on the charge of being a rebel and conspiring against the Spanish government, has petitioned the court for the release of his client on the ground that there is no evidence to convict him.

Thirty-eight political suspects and prisoners convicted of ordinary crimes were sent to the penal settlement on the Isles of Pines yesterday.

**MACEO'S MOVEMENTS.**

KEY WEST, Fla., Nov. 24.—No exact news is obtainable in regard to the movements of Maceo, but reports received in Havana agree that the Cuban chief has divided his forces into numerous bands which are continually harassing the Spanish and inflicting considerable loss. Maceo has given strict orders for his men not to engage in a pitched battle, as the supply of ammunition is short.

Weyler's troops have suffered great hardships owing to the bad weather and the continual attacks of the insurgent bands. In consequence of the hardships of the campaign, 1,700 sick Spanish soldiers have been sent to Can Aleria.

Weyler is falling back and will establish headquarters near Artemisa. The feeling is bitter in Havana against Weyler because of his failure to crush Maceo and it is openly stated that he will be succeeded by General Pando as soon as the latter arrives with reinforcements.

A train which left Cardenas was forced to return because of the great number of insurgents crossing the track. These insurgents are said to be the advance guard of General Gomez, who, with 14,000 men, is steadily marching westward. It is believed that Gomez intends to effect a concentration of a large number of insurgents near Havana.

**Robber Confesses.**

Kewanee, Ill., Nov. 24.—The confession of Charles Bull to the robbery of \$4,800 from his employers, Otto and Henry Rastede, clears up a mystery which has puzzled the sheriff of this county and his deputies for three weeks. Bull's employers kept their valuable papers and money in a tin box which was buried under the front porch, because Henry Rastede's wife objected to so much money being kept in the house. Bull saw him come from under the porch, stole the treasure when his employers were absent and buried the papers in a cornfield.

**Millionaire to Try a New Cure.**

NEW YORK, Nov. 24.—Perhaps one of the first to try the new cure for the blind discovered by Thomas A. Edison, the wizard of Menlo Park, will be Chas. Broadway Rouse, the sightless multi-millionaire. Mr. Rouse is eagerly following everyone of Edison's experiments with the Roentgen rays and just as soon as he believes that there is a possible chance of success he will submit himself to the treatment, no matter what the cost.

Millionaire Rouse offered \$1,000,000 to anyone who would restore his sight. This offer attracted everybody, from the peasant to the crank, and Mr. Rouse found it impossible to try all the remedies offered, and engaged a young man named John Martin, also blind, to submit to any and all tests before they were tried on him. If the wizard will consent Martin will probably be the first patient.

Mr. Rouse declares if Mr. Edison thinks he can do him any good he is willing to go out to Menlo Park and stay a year. He is hopeful of the X rays too, and points to the fact a blind boy in San Francisco was made to see by them, and asks "Why, then, may not I?"

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**FOREIGNERS WAGE BATTLE**

**Blood Riot Between Hungarians and Irishmen, From Streets.**

CLEVELAND, O., Nov. 23.—A riot occurred on the west side here last night between a score of Hungarians and as many Irishmen, in which many men were stabbed. Dirks, knives and clubs were freely used and nearly all of the combatants were more or less injured. Two men were taken to the hospital in a dying condition, two others cannot survive their wounds and seven others are dangerously wounded. The police arrived on the scene after the affair had been in progress for half an hour. They took seven men to jail and more will be arrested.

The place where the trouble occurred is on Franklin avenue extension near Columbus street, a locality thickly populated with Hungarians and Irish-Americans.

At 9:30 Joseph and John Sprends and James Carter became engaged in a street quarrel. In the melee John Sprends drew a pocket knife and stabbed Carter several times in the head. Meanwhile Sylvester Carter, father of the boy arrived on the scene. He struck one of the Sprends. He was immediately knocked down and brutally stabbed in the head and neck. By this time all the Hungarians on the hill were out taking a hand in the row. The word was quickly passed among the Irish that an Irishman was being killed.

The report had the effect of a spark on dry tinder. In an instant fifty or more Irishmen were on the scene. With a whoop they waded into the fray. More Hungarians came. Everybody was armed either with knife or club.

Then ensued the liveliest mix-up in the history of Cleveland. Clubs were raised and slung with terrific effect. A patrol wagon packed with police officers dashed into the crowd of battling men. There was a rush for escape and nearly all who were not too severely wounded to run did get away. The police found lying on the battlefield James Carter, who was stabbed in the head and had his skull fractured; his father, Sylvester Carter, twenty stab wounds; Billy Malloy, twelve deep stab wounds and head supposed to be fractured; Adam Sherman, stabbed three times and blade broke off in wound; John O'Neill, stabbed in face and back; Henry Schaefer, clubbed into insensibility; William Zrker, cut in head and injured internally from being jumped upon.

Malloy was unmercifully clubbed and slashed. He was stabbed in the head and back fully a dozen times. After receiving the first cut he tried to escape by running down Franklin Hill. He was pursued by the swartly Hungarians, who kept sinking their knives and dirks into his back while running. He finally dropped from weakness. Sherman received two stabs in the head and one ugly gash in the right shoulder blade, and a portion of the blade is still in his back. The police arrested Joseph and John Sprends, Michael Zebrek, John Keussler, twenty-four years old; Anton Ballash, twenty one years old; Michael Zirka and John Spenser. They were locked up, charged with rioting and cutting to wound. A general alarm was sent out and police are now searching for other rioters.

**There could Have Been a Wreck.**

SALT LAKE CITY, Nov. 23.—An attempt, with a view to robbery, was made last evening to wreck the Union Pacific southbound passenger train leaving Ogden at 6 o'clock and due in Salt Lake City an hour later. The plot was frustrated by the railroad people receiving an anonymous warning that something was going to happen, in consequence of which the train crew was reinforced and instructed to keep a sharp lookout. The train proceeded very slowly until it reached a point where two rails were laid across the track and securely fastened in such a way as to cause derailment had the train been going at ordinary speed. The spot selected, near Kaysville, about eighteen miles from Salt Lake City, was miles from any houses and an ideal place for a robbery. Three suspicious characters have been arrested, but it is doubtful if they are the guilty parties.

**Uncle Sam Willing to Help Cuba.**

NEW YORK, Nov. 23.—A special to the Herald from Washington says: Appreciating that the return of General Weyler from the present campaign without making any headway against Maceo's forces will greatly aggravate the already critical situation in Cuba, officials and diplomats in Washington have been earnestly discussing for some days various plans for relieving the situation.

**Question of a Spanish-Cuban Armistice.**

In the event that affairs become more critical because of an unsuccessful campaign against Maceo. It is understood that one form of peaceful intervention which Consul-General Lee has proposed to the authorities here contemplates the use of the good offices of the United States to bring about a modus vivendi for a sufficient time to enable negotiations to be conducted for securing the independence of Cuba by purchase, the United States guaranteeing the payment. General Lee has not advised the immediate adoption of this plan, believing there would have to be a change in the situation before it could be put into practical effect.

**Report That the Pope is Dying.**

LONDON, Nov. 23.—The Rock, an evangelical Church of England paper, reports that the pope is dying, and that in consequence the holding of the consistories fixed for near dates are likely to be postponed. Cardinal Vaughan, archbishop of Westminster, declares that the rumors regarding the pope are entirely baseless, and that the report of his being in a dying condition is simply the recurrence of a rumor that is periodically put into circulation.