# HOPE TO GET MAFEKING

British Public Keenly Expectant of Aunouncement of Its Succer.

#### BOER COLUMN REPORTED DEFEATED

Official Bulletin at Pretoria That British Sustained Great Loss - Another Story of Fight Near the Town-Unconfirmed English Telegram of Battle Thirtythree Miles From There.

LONDON, May 17 .- The British relief column fought the Boers at Kraal pan, thirty-two miles south of Mafeking, on Tuesday, according to a telegram received Wednesday night at Lourenzo Marquez from Molopo, 100 miles north of Mafeking. This intelligence is accepted here with some reserve, because it is difficult to understand how the news could have been so quickly put on the wire from a place 132 miles from the scene of the engagement.

A correspondent of the Morning Post, presumably John Stuart, is reported captured by the Boers at Kraal

The British public is keenly expectant of the announcement that Mafeking has been relieved. In army circles the opinion seems to prevail that this has already been accomplished. although two hours after midnight the war office asserted that no news of relief had been received. The steadfast courage of the hungry garrison has produced a deep impression and the news of succor is awaited with more anxiety than has been felt regarding any other event of the war. Douglas Story, the Daily Mail's correspondent at Pretoria, wires:

"The Boer government is holding back some big news. Feverish activity prevails here. The latest Boer official bulletin is that the relief column has been defeated with great loss."

Lord Roberts continues passive at Kroonstad. His cavalry are stretching like a semi-circle screen many miles in length with outlapping flanks. The railway will probably be completed today. The Kroonstad censor permits the passage of long dispatches dealing with incidents prior to the occupation.

It seems that General French's cavalry had one lively fight after crossing Zand river. A mixed squadron com-posed of Scots Grays, the Inniskil-Carbineers and Australian Horse, took a kopje and dismounted. The Boers suddenly fired from a concealed position killing many horses and stampeding the rest. The Boers then advanced in overwhelming numbers and drove the squadron away, capturing some. The Boers robbed the dead and looted the saddles. A small detachment of cavalry later drove them off. Further north the Hussars charged the Boers, killing and wounding many stragglers with sabers and pistols.

Lord Roberts' infantry marched 120 miles in seven days. General French marched thirty miles in one day. The Boers, when retiring dragged thirtytwo guns through Kroonsstad.

General Buller is moving toward Newcastle. He appears to be using be equal for all. 25,000 men against 5,000 or 6,000. His operations will almost certainly result in his forcing his way into the Transvaal, possibly in time to co-operate with Lord Roberts' advance, although General Buller is now 252 miles from Johannesburg, or twentyfive days' march.

# MRS. FROST WILL BE RELEASED.

Chemist's Report Does Not Show Traces of Arsente or Strychnine.

YORK, Neb., May 17.-The inquest in the Frost case came to an unexpected halt this evening. It was confidently expected that the coroner's jury would return a verdict today but it was finally decided to adjourn the hearing until a complete analysis of Frost's stomach was made,

The chemist's report at this time shows a failure to find any traces of strychnine or arsenic, although traces of aconite and phosphorus have been found. The physicians who testified heretofore were placed on the stand again today but the tenor of their testimony has not been made public.

A complete analysis may not be finished for ten days yet. The county attorney has decided that Mrs. Frost should not be held longer pending a final verdict, and she will be released from custody tomorrow.

# Red Cross Incorporated.

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 17 .- The house accomplished little today besides passing the senate bill to incorporate the American National Red Cross. No progress was made with the Alaskan code bill, owing to the inability of the two sides to agree as to the time to be allowed for general debate. The conference report on the District of Columbia appropriation bill was returned after extended de-

To Try Roberts Again.

SALT LAKE, Utah, May 17 .- Counretry B. H. Roberts on the charge of unlawful cohabitation, Tuesday, 25th instant. The matter was called to the attention of Judge Norrell, upon the opening of court this morning, and his honor ordered that the case be set down for the date named.

# Massacre of Christians.

TIEN TSIN, May 17 .- More "Boxer" outrages are reported sixty miles north of Tien Tsin, where a number of native Christians have been massacred. The British admiral has arrived here and proceeded for Pekin.

# Leave Your Guns Outside.

WASHINGTON, May 17 .- The de partment of state is officially informed that the French government has decided not to grant permission to foreign militia to visit Paris in organized bodies during the exposition.

#### MORE OF CATUBIG MASSACRE.

Part of Garrison Killed in Attempting to Escape

WASHINGTON, May 17 .- The officials of the War department, after waiting for nearly a week to hear something from General MacArthur at Manila, confirmatory of the press report of the bloody three days' engagement at Catubig, which resulted in the heaviest loss of life the American army has sustained in any one engagement in the Philippines, yesterday cabled General MacArthur a request for information. The answer was received today, confirming the press reports and adding some interesting de-

General MacArthur transmitted a report from Henry T. Allen, a major of the Forty-third volunteers, who commanded the United States forces on the island of Samar. It appears that this force was divided among several ports on Samar, and, while details are still lacking, it is believed that this particular force, which was besieged at Catubig, was commanded, not by a commissioned officer, but by a sergeant, either George or Hall, both of whom were killed, Catubig, where the engagement occurred, is a seaport town of nearly 10,000 inhabi-

tants. General Mac Arthur's cablegram is

as follows "MANILA, May 16 .- With reference to your telegram of the 14th, the rumored engagement in Samar, reported cablegram of General Otis of May 4 has been confirmed by reports recently received from Henry T Allen, Fortytaird regiment, United States volunber infantry, commanding Samar islane, the detachment of forty-one men stationed at Catubig was attacked April 15 by 600 men with 200 rifles and one cannon. Our men were quartered in a convent, which was fired next day by burning hemp thrown from an adjoining church. Detachment at-tempted escape by river. Men getting into boat were killed; remaining men intrenched themselves near river and held out two days longer, facing most adverse circumstances until rescued by Lieutenant Sweeney and ten men. Over 200 of attacking party (many of them reported coming from Luzon island) reported killed and many wounded. Lieutenant Sweeney reports streets covered with dead insur-

#### ELECTIONS MUST BE FREE.

Civil Governor of Province of Havana Is sues a Circular.

HAVANA, May 17.-Senor Nunez, the civil governor of the province of Havana, has issued a circular to all the mayors of the province urging them to see that elections are carried out with strict justice. He says the law does not forbid any functionary from offering himself for re-election, but the functionary must not make use of his authority in trying to secure reelection. This especially applies to mayors, who must, therefore, not attempt to impose their own candidates against the public will, as by so doing public order might be dsturbed. The people, the civil governor also says, must not be given reason to say the Cubans are now living under a mere mockery of liberty, due on one hand to the government and on the other to the revolutionists, but the law must

At meeting of the national party all the committees were called on to send in nominations for mayor, councilmen and judges, with the number of votes obtained by each. The committees were also reminded that they must select men who are really members of the party and not those who have joined at the last minute for the sake of the party's support.

# PLAGUE BREAKS OUT IN JAPAN.

Murderers of a Missionary in China Punished.

VANCOUVER, B. C., May 17 .- The steamer Empress of India brings the unwelcome news that the plague has again broken out in Japan, this time in Osaka. The Kobe Herald says there were four cases of the disease in Osaka during April, all proving fatal, Plague germs were postively located in the blood of the victims. T here is grave apprehension that the pest may spread at this time, the beginning of the wet, warm season, when climatic conditions will be specially favorable to the cultivation of the bacillus. The Nippon states that no fewer than eleven persons died from the pest last month, that their remains were cremated and their property disinfected, but that the public was carefully kept in ignorance of the renewal of the

Associated Press Director. CHICAGO, Ill., May 17 .- At the annual meeting of the Associated Press today over 100 members were present The following directors, to fill vancancles, were elected. Charles H. Grasty. Baltimore News; E. P. Call, New York Evening Post; E. Rosewater, Omaha Bee; George H. Thompson, St. Paul Dispatch.

Butler Has Not Resigned.

WASHINGTON, May 17.-Senator Butler contradicts the report that he had resigned the position of chairty Attorney Putnam today decided to man of the national populist committee in favor of J. H. Edmisten of Nebraska. He said that he had been elected to the position contrary to his wishes and that, knowing he would not for the present be able to give his entire time to its duties, he had asked that Edmisten be made vice chairman

# Clark Causes Much Talk.

WASHINGTON, May 17 .- While there is much discussion among senators over the status of Senator Clark of Montana there has not been sufficient crystallization of sentiment to justify a conclusion as to what the fianal result may be. A meeting of the committee on privileges and elections has been called for next Friday to consider what course shall be pursued in view of Senator Clark's resignation with reference to the commit- in an order for the cannon, which will tee on resolutions declaring the seat

# POISON DID THE WORK

But Did the Wife of Frost Administer the Deadly Drug?

#### THE JURY NOW READY TO REPORT

Friends of the Accused Contending That Frost Himself Took Polson Because of His Wife's Unfaithfulness-The Woman Apparently Indifferent as to the Jury's

YORK, Neb., May 17 .- The coroner's jury in the Frost poisoning case has been in session and the report of the chemical expert who analyzed the contents of the dead man's stomach has been heard. While the jurors have been very reticent, enough has been said and done to plainly idicate that the deceased came to his death by poison, the only question now under consideration being whether or not the deadly drug was administered by Margaret Frost, wife of the deceased, who is still in jail, pending the decision of the jury.

Those who upheld the innocence of the accused are now contending that Frost took the actions of his wife so much to heart that he swallowed the poison deliberately to free himself from a world made unendurable by her unfaithfulness. The exponents of this theory insist that it is supported by the testimony of witnesses who heard Frost on his dyilig bed plead for his wife's forgiveness for something he had done, presumably the taking of poison. It is likely that the woman will make this defense in case the jury's findings place her on trial for

She is kept secluded, but parties in a position to know say that she is apparently indifferent as to the verdict and confident that a jury will acquit her if the case ever goes any farther than it is now.

#### State Capital Notes.

LINCOLN, May 17.—John Hayes, the republican candidate for congresss in the Third district, has filed a certificate of nomination.

The Webster Irrigation Canal company of Custer county has been incorporated by Lovell E. Webster, Henrietta Webster and Thomas W. O. Wolf. State Treasurer Meserve has issued

a call for \$44,000 of state warrants to take effect May 21. The warrants run in number from 56,411 to 56,810, in-

Miss McKeegan of Red Cloud has taken a position in the office of the commissioner of public lands and buildings.

#### Condition of Omaha Banks.

WASHINGTON, May 17 .- The abstract of the condition of the national banks of Omaha at the close of business on April 26 as reported to the comptroller of the currency snows the averge reserve to have been 26.83 per cent against 34.3 per cent on February 13 last, Loans and discounts increased from \$11,714,831 to \$13,106,874; stocks and securitles, from \$670,099 to \$1,469,-887; gold coin, decreased from \$1,142,-240 to \$630,822. Total specie, from \$1,-533,882 to \$1,103,148; lawful money reserve increased from \$2.294.818 to \$2. 400.810: individual deposits, from \$9,-795,056 to \$10,916,368.

# Columbus Contributes to India.

COLUMBUS, Neb., May 17 .- A citizens mass meeting was held in the opera house, participated in by the churches, in behalf of the faminestricken people of India. The meeting was largely attended, and after a program consisting of music, devotional exercises and addresses, a collection was taken, amounting to more than \$130. An effort will be made to increase this amount to \$200 by a canvass of the city.

To Regulate Indian Marriages. WASHINGTON, May 17 .- Senator

Thurston introduced a bill to regulate the marriage of Indian's on the Indian reservations. The bill, among other things, provides that the agent or superintendent of a reservation shall be required to issue licenses authorizing marriages among the Indians and furthermore, authorizes him to perform the marriage ceremony, although ministers are not to be prohibited from doing so. The bill also provides that the Indians shall practice monogyny.

# Nebraskan Found Dead.

RAWLINS, Wyo., May 17 .- A man named F. Whallen of Alliance, Neb., was found dead in a shanty near the Union Pacific tracks here Sunday night. He had been employed at Rock Springs as a sheepherder. He had a small sum of money on his person when last seen but his pockets were empty when the body was found. The affair is being investigated by the po-

Went to Sleep on the Track. STERLING, Neb., May 17 .- Milo Stollard of Tecumseh died here from the effects of a fractured skull. He went to sleep on the railroad track and was struck by a passing train.

Ship Nebraska Cattle for Export.

BRAINARD, Neb., May 17 .- A trainoad consisting of eighteen cars of fat attle was shipped from this place for Chicago for export. They belonged to farmers in this vicinity. about an hour afterward.

# Ashland Asks for Cannon

ASHLAND, Neb., May 17.-Harvey C. Henry, commander of Bob Cook Post No. 31, Grand Army of the Reupblic of Ashland, has been in correspondence with Representative W. L. Stark of the Fourth district for several days with a view of securing for Ashland from the war department at Washington one of the cannons used in Cuba during the Spanish-American war. Congressman Stark replied that all that was necessary now was to send be done.

#### THE OUTLOOK IS PROMISING.

Crop Conditions in Nebraska Considered

Satisfactory. NIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA, Lincoln, May 15.-Rainfall chart for week ending 8 a. m., May 14. The past week has been warm, with little rain. The dally mean temperature has averaged 10 degrees above the normal in the eastern and 11 degrees in the western counties

The rainfall for the week was below normal in all parts of the state. Scattered showers occurred on the first and last days of the week; few instances more than half an inch of water fell, but generally the amount was less than a quarter of an inch, and at many stations no rain fell during the week.

The past week has been an excellent one for the advancement of work in the fields. In some places the ground was rather wet during the first day or two, but generally a full week has been spent in the field. Corn planting has made rapid progress. In the southern countles the bulk of the crop In the has been planted. Grass, wheat, and oats have grown rapidly, and continue in excellent condition. Fruit is setting well, and was little damaged by the frosts of last week. In a few places plums and late apples were damaged slightly.

#### Will See the Eclipse.

LINCOLN, May 18.-Prof. Sweezy and Stebbins of the astronomical department of the State university will view the approaching eclipse of the sun on May 28 from a point near Atlanta, Ga. They will go armed with the necessary instruments for making observations and will probably join a party of scientists either at Atlanta or the point of observation. The total eclipse of the sun may be seen from only a very small territory and will last only a few minutes.

"A partial eclipse of the sun may be seen in Nebraska," said Prof. Stebbins, "but the total eclipse will be visible only from points in a narrow territory running northeast through the south ern states. In Nebraska the eclipse will be visible about 8 a. m. moon will work gradually in between the sun and the earth and the sun will take on the appearance of a crescent.

Scientists all over the country are making extensive preparations for viewing the eclipse and thousands of dollars will be spent in securing photographs and other information concerning it. Should there happen to be any clouds between the earth and the sun while the moon is passing between the two the eclipse of course will not be visible.

#### Men Fight in Street.

HUMBOLDT, Neb., May 18.-Freeman Lynch, a young tarmer living near town, attacked E. F. Sharts, editor of the Enterprise, on the street in front of the latter's office and after throwing a hanful of red pepper in his face proceeded to deliver some teiling blows with a rawhide which he carried. The pepper failed to reach the eyes of his victim and, with the assistance of his son Charles, was putting up a good defense, when the mararrived on the scene and took hold of Lynch. While the officer had hold of the latter Sharts, who had by this time obtained possession of the whip, rained several blows upon the head of the defenseless man. Other parties assisted in parting the combatthe charge of fighting. Lynch claims the assault was the outgrowth of actions of Sharts toward his family and took this method of geeting even for wrongs done him.

# Killed by Lightning at Crete.

CRETE, Neb., May 18 .- A fatal ac cident occurred near Crete. During a heavy thunder and rain storm William H. Smith, junk peddler and horse trader, was struck by lightning and instantly killed. The bolt struck him in the thorax, cutting open the flesh and marking the chest with purple spots which soon turned into black blotches. Smith was caught in the storm seven miles east of Crete. He was accompanied by his wife and child and a man by the name of Archie Mitchell. He was standing near a horse when the lightning struck him. Mitchell's wagon was torn to pieces. Smith was formerly of Mannattan, Kan. He was sixtytwo years of age.

# Killed by a Fast Train Freight.

STERLING, Neb., May 18 .- Milo Stollard, a young man 20 years of age, wass killed here Monday night. is evident that he was struck by the 'Irish Mail," a fast freight which passes through here at 12:30 a. m. He was discovered lying beside the track, two miles west of town, at 4:30 yesterday morning, by the engineer of the early passenger train. brought back to town and taken to a hotel. He died at 3:40 yesterday afternoon without regaining consciousness. His skull was crushed on the right side, his right arm and shoulder crshed and a deep gash was cut on his

# Boy Drowned in Creek.

PAWNEE CITY, Neb., May 18 .-The fifteen-year-old son of Robert Shaw was drowned in Turkey creek, about nine miles south of here. Young Shaw in company with several boys younger than himself, were swimming and accidentally got into deep water and his companions were unable to help him. His body was recovered

# Improvements for State Hatchery.

SOUTH BEND, Neb., May 15 .- The State Fish commission at its meeting here ordere five new stone dams put in and various other improvements made in the hatchery plant for the purpose of increasing the output of fish for stocking the streams next fall.

# Pioneer Nebraskan Passes Away.

BLUE SPRINGS, Neb., May 18 .-Hon. S. M. Hazen, one of the pioneers of southern Nepraska, died at his home in this city, aged seventy years, nine months and two days.

#### THE MARKETS BY TELEGRAPH

Quotations From New York, Chicago South Omaha and Elsewhere.

SOUT. COMAHA LIVE STOCK. SOUTH OMAHA, May 17. Sellers were SOUTH OMAHA, May 17.—Sellers were well pleased with the result of the day's business, and the market as a whole was in a good healthy condition. Packers seem to have use for all the cattle that are coming, and even yesterday when the receipts were so large both here and at other markets points as well, the trade was nelive and everything was sold and weighed up at an early hour. The sales show the Rind of prices paul for cattle; Beef steers, \$4.597.19; steers and heiters, \$4.597.19; steers and heiters, \$4.597.19; steers and heiters, \$4.597.19; steers, \$4.0074.5; huits, \$1.0074.60; calves, \$5.597.19; stags, \$1.0074.19; stockers and feeders, \$2.595.55.
HOGS—There was a fair run of hogs,

caives, \$5.5975.00; sings, \$1.0094.10; stockers and feeders, \$2.595.35.

HOGS—There was a fair run of hogs, and the usual good demand. Under the influence of this demand the market opened a shade higher. The market as a whole could best be described as opening a shade high and closing with the most of the advance lost. The early sales of good hogs were largely at \$5.295.225, with a samaking at \$2.20 and a top at \$5.30. Later on it was hard work to get over \$5.30 for anything.

SHEEP—There were only a few sheep and families in the yards, and as there was a good demand everything was solid and weighed up in a short time. Among the ofterings were a few spring lambs which sold at \$5. Quotations: Clipped wethers, \$5.5965.40; clipped ewes, good to choice, \$1.5965.00; fair to good clipped ewes, \$4.241.60; good to choice Clotorado wooled lambs, \$5.995.05; fair to good to choice clipped lambs, \$5.7965.00; fair to good to choice clipped lambs, \$5.7965.00; fair to good clipped iambs, \$5.905.50; fair to good clipped good clipped iambs, \$5.905.50; fair to good clipped good clipped good clipped good clipped good clipped good clipped good clipped

CHICAGO LIVE STOCK MARKET. CHICAGO LIVE STOCK MARKET.
CHICAGO, May 17.—CATTILE—Burchers 'stock active and firmer; natives, beston sale today, one carboat at \$5.25; good to prime steers, \$5.0095.70; poor to medium, \$1.2504.80; selected feeders, barely steady, \$4.2505.00; mixed stockers, slow, \$5.7094.90; cows, \$5.00964.90; heifers, \$1.2509, \$6.10; camners, \$2.4095.00; huits, steady, \$2.8094.25; caives, \$2505.00; higher than last Tuesday, \$4.0096.70.

HOGS—Steady to strong; top. \$5.50; mixed and butchers. \$5.15\(\pi\_3\)45; good to choice heavy. \$5.30\(\pi\_3\)50; rough heavy. \$5.30\(\pi\_3\)50; rough heavy. \$5.30\(\pi\_3\)50; rough heavy. \$5.15\(\pi\_5\)50; light, \$5.10\(\pi\_3\)60; bulk of sales, \$5.20\(\pi\_5\)40;

SHEEP AND LAMBS-Sheep strong lambs steady to slow; good to choice wetners. \$5.2505.60; fair to choice mixed, \$4.7505.60; western sheep. \$5.2505.60; yearlings, \$5.0007.00; native it nbs, \$5.0007.40; western lambs, \$6.0007.40;

KANSAS CUTY LIVE STOCK. KANSAS CITY, May 17.—CATTLE—Feeding stock steady; heavy and rough, 10c lower; native steers, \$4.0975.25; stockers and feeders, \$4.0975.25; butcher cows and helfers, \$4.0975.15; canners, \$2.7593.40; westerns, \$2.7595.00; fed westerns, \$4.3595.49; Texans, \$4.15975.40; HOGS-Market steady; few choice 19 tigher; heavy, \$5,2975.39; mixed, \$5,100,39; fight, \$5,0905.121g; pigs, \$4,8504.39.

SHEEP AND LAMBS—Market active and strong; spring lambs, \$1.0087.50; Colorado wool lambs, \$4.7077.50; clipped lambs \$5.7078.50; clipped muttons, \$4.2595.00 stockers, \$4.0095.50; culls, \$5.5094.00. CHICAGO GRAIN AND PROVISIONS. CHICAGO, May 17.—WHEAT—No. 2, 64 (64); No. 2 red. 701-9771c. CORN—No. 2, 28c; No. 2 yellow, 36c. OATS—No. 2, 224-9725c; No. 3 white, 34%

RYE-No. 2, 531ge, BARLEY-Good feeding, 371ge; fair to BARLEY-Good feeding, 373ge; fair to choice matting, 326742c.

SEEDS-No. 1 flaxseed, \$1.80; No. 1 northwestern, \$1.80. Prime timothy seed, \$2.45. Clover, contract grade, \$7.00.

PROVISIONS-Mess pork, per bbl., \$1.50g1.60. Lard, per 100 lbs., \$4.50g6.70. Dry salted shoulders (boxed), \$5.50g6.75. Short clear sides (boxed), \$5.50g6.75. Short clear sides (boxed), \$7.55a7.15.

NEW YORK GRAIN MARKET. NEW YORK, May 17.—WHEAT—Closed steady at a partial 14.70 to net decline; May, 70 5-1647.00 to closed at 70 c; July, 7 9-1647.72 c, closed at 714 c; September, 704.072 13-16c, closed at 72%c. CORN—Closed weak at 15415c decline. May, 405574bc closed at 105c; July, 41549 425c, closed at 42c; September, 42449425c, closed at 425c.

closed at 42%c.

OATS—Spot dull: No. 2, 27%c: No. 3, 27c; No. 2 white, 28½223%c; track western, mixed, 27½225; track white, 28½22%c; No. 4 white, 28c. Options slow and nom-

Men Bound for St. Louis Attacked.

ANDERSON, Ind., May 17 .- A carload of seventy-six non-union street railway men bound from Cleveland to St. Louis passed through Muncle this Afternoon and will arrive in St. Louis tonight. The car was closely guarded, it being claimed that it was a fishing party from Marion, O. A crowd of dondow glass blowers boarded the car at Muncle and when the street car men attempted to put them out of the car, with all others not members of the party, a fight occurred. Some passengers on the train, upon learning the identity of the private party, desired to attack them at Angerson, but trainmen and police prevented further trouble.

Appointed Senator From Montana. WASHINGTON, May 17.-Senator Clark received the following telegram announcing his appointment;

"HELENA, Mont., May 15 .- senator W. A. Clark, Washington: I have the honor to inform you that I have this day appointed you to fill .he vacancy in Montana's representation in the senate of the United States. I send you certificate by registered mail. I trust you will accept the appointment,

"A. E. SPRIGGS, Acting Governor." The senator received the following telegram from his son:

"Governor Spriggs today appointed you as senator. Congratulations." "G. W. CLARK."

# Ice Trust Brought to Time.

NEW YORK, May 11 .- 1 ae ice trust has made its first concession to public indignation, and will hereafter sell 5cent pieces in the tenement districts. In March, 1899, the American Ice company absorbed the other big companies and incorporated with \$60,000,000 capital. On May 6, 1900, the trust announced that the price of ice was increased 100 per cent. On May 7 the New York Journal began proceedings to stop this criminal extortion and gave formal notice to the American Ice company and to the attorney general of its petition to annul the certifi-Atte under which the ice trust does

# Rumored Break With Portugal.

LISBON, May 17.-It is rumored here that President Kruger has ordered the Portuguese consul to leave the Transvaal republic.

business.

# Mrs. Standford's Gift.

SACRAMENTO, Cal., May 17.-Mrs. Leland Stanford, on the anniversary of her deceased son's birth, has delivered over to Bishop Grace the deed to the old Stanford mansion, which shall henceforth be known as the Stanford-Lathrop Children's home, At the same time the \$75,000 transfer was made which is to serve as an endowment fund for the institution.

#### THE DRY TORTUGAS

TO PROTECT THE PROPOSED NICARAGUA CANAL.

Hereafter This Stragetic Point Will Be a Naval Station-Fort Jefferson to Be Transformed Into a Powerful Naval Fortress.

There is an old and still unsettled controversy between pavy and army as to their respective relations to coast defense, says the Army and Navy Journal. It is contended on the part of the navy that steam wars confirm the teaching of the salling wars respecting fortifications; that they have never withstood a determined attack from the sea; have never given or restored command of the sea, though they have sheltered beaten and inferior fleets. The naval wars of 1870 and 1855 are cited to show what the navy has accomplished in carrying on war even from undefended bases, as at Longeland and Kioje Bay, in the Baltic, by the French Admiral Bouet-Williaumez, at Nargin; in the Caspian sea by the English, during the Crimean war, and by Nelson from the anchorage of Madalena, off Sardinla described by him as the best harbor

in the world. On the other hand, it is contended that the navy has its own sphere of action quite apart from the defense of ports and coaling stations, which belong to the army, and that the navy in attempting to hold positions on land will be hampered in following 4ts legitimate role, which must be essentially offensive. The true solution of the difficulty is found in a thorough cooperation between land and sea forces, such as it is practically impossible to obtain. Hence extreme advocates of the navy position go to the length of insisting that all coast defense on land or sea should be in the hands of the

The president has accepted the navy view of this controversy, so far as to transfer to its control the island of Dry Tortugas, off the coast of Florida, in the Gulf of Mexico. The argument for the transfer of this island to the navy is well stated in a communication from Admiral Bunce to Admiral Bradford at the beginning of the war with Spain. In this he said:

"Tortugas is important from a naval rather than from a military point of view. Difference of opinion may always be expected in such matters when viewed from the standpoints above stated, and necessarily so, as the military (army) view is confined to the consideration of the effect of operations with which it is familiar. The naval view is also influenced in the same way. As the forces to be considered and for which defense is to be provided on our coasts are naval, the naval view is alone based upon the knowledge of the power of the attack and of the great importance of stopping the enemy before he reaches positions from which he can harass the commercial or industrial interests of the country. The military view provides fortifications to defend a point or locality; the naval seeks to receive the attack at points removed from enters of population and com importance, and there force the enemy to expend his strength without disturbance to the vocations of the people. The fortifications of New York. for example, are, with one exception, within the limits of the city itself, and some of them near its geographical

center. "The divergence of views, referred to above, has in Europe, resulted in confiding the defense of the coasts of Germany entirely to the navy; in France every gun covering the sea or entrance channels is in charge of the navy. In England the transfer of all sea-coast defenses is now under consideration.

"The main argument for this is that the naval officer alone knows the powers and defensive capabilities of the enemy to be met by these coast fortifications, and therefore the defense is more positive and direct than if commanded by any one unfamiliar with the sea and the handling and fighting of naval forces. A second is that the naval men must professionally know the harbors and their approaches, the influences of the wind, weather, currents and tides on naval movements. and when the defense includes a naval force, as it is sure to do, the whole will be under a single control.

"In my opinion, if the army declines to fortify and hold Tortugas, it should, as a strategic necessity, be fortified, manned and held by the naval forces of the North Atlantic station.'

Thus is established the first fortified naval base under the exclusive control of the United States navy, and a precedent is given which may have farreaching results, the navy for the first time assuming the responsibility of maintaining the land as well as the naval defense of a coast fortification. At Fort Jefferson, in the Tortugas, are extensive fortifications, requiring only modern ordnance to transform them into powerful suxiliarles to the naval control of the Gulf of Mexico, and thus of the projected Isthmian canal.

# Treasury Ruling on Automobiles.

The acting secretary of the treasury has ruled that an automobile is not free of duty as a personal effect, but is free of duty as a household effect if used abroad by the owner one year or

# A Use for Prairie Dogs.

A farmer in Republic county has been tanning the hides of prairie dogs and selling them in the east. Some other utilitarian may some day find a market for their mest.-Kaasas Citty Star.