# DISSIPATED THE ASSETS

Receiver Howard Loots the Assets of the Exchange Bank at Atkinson.

The Fusion Candidate for the Important Office of State Treasurer the Main Character in a Corrupt and Effective

O'NEILL, Neb., Oct. 22, 1900. Perhaps the most high-handed corruption ever practiced by a man appointed by a court as receiver was practiced by Samuel B. Howard, candidate for state treasurer on the fusion ticket, as receiver of the Exchange

bank at Atkinson, Neb. The story of the closing of the bank, the manner in which the receiver was appointed and the looting of the assets by the receiver and his political lieutenants, is a story pregnant with rottenness, fraud and corruption from start to finish.

At the time the bank was placed in the hands of a receiver it was perfectly solvent. The funion bank examiner had been sent there but a short time before and had given it a clearing. Nobody had asked for a receiver and the depositors had absolute confidence in its solvency and stability. At the time of the closing there was enough cash assets to pay all the depositors in full, aside from Bartley, and there was absolutely no cause for the depositors losing a cent of their deposits. In the settlement, however, they received only 75 cents on the dollar.

Fraud surrounds the manner in which the receiver was appointed. There was a district judge on the spot at O'Neill, the county seat of that county, but instead of applying to him the conspirators went 219 miles to Judge W. H. Westover and had Howard apointed receiver.

Howard was required by the court to give bond in the sum only \$2,500, whereas the property and money placed in his hands amounted to upwards of \$100,000. There is nothing on file with the records of the transaction to show that Receiver Howard ever filed a bond. Search of the records high and low failed to bring any bond to light or anything to show that one was ever filed.

In order that the public may have a clear and impartial understanding of "financiering," if Gallagher had rented all the facts of record in the case, the following is given in chronological order:

May 6, 1897: Bank Examiner Coad reports that the Exchange bank of Atkinson is in an unsafe condition, not having 15 per cent, of its deposits in available

May 7, 1897: State banking board orders bank closed, and Attorney General Smyth files petition in district court at O'Neill, asking for the appointment of a receiver with authority to "compromise bad assets and convert all property into

money as speedly as possible." May 10, 1897: Judge W. H. Westover, who lived 219 miles from the scene of proposed operations, appointed S. B. Howard receiver, on a bond of \$2,500, orderthe premises to this court from time to time as required by law."

The public got its first tip on the scheme in the announcement of this favorite by a judge who resided over two hundred miles away. There was a judge of the same district residing at O'Neill. The bond required of Howard, if any was given, was never filed with the other records where the public could inspect it. The responsibility which this "bond" was supposed to cover, amounted to nearly

May 17, 1897: Receiver Howard applies for authority to employ an attorney. Two days later Judge Westover grants the request, and Howard employs J. J. Harrington, a brother of Mike, and who has since been elected district judge. The compensation is not stated.

files petition stating that Bartley had \$55,000 deposited in the bank, which properly belonged to the state.

July 6, 1897: County attorney of Holt files petition, stating that Bartley owed the county \$8,000 in the form of a judgment. July 9, 1897: Attorney general files claim

against the assets of the bank, and says the state "repudiates the act of Bartley in depositing the money, and refuses to ratify or be a party to said act.' August 25, 1897: Petition by Mike Har-

rington that if the claim of the state is allowed the individual depositors will get nothing.

August 25, 1897; Petition of H. K. Bennett and others that their attorney, Mike Harrington, and the receiver go to Lin coin to confer with the state officials, the expense of the trip to be paid out of the assets of the bank. Application promptly granted by Westover. The expense bill of this junket has never been made public.

February 5, 1898: Offer of the individual depositors to take certain securities as one-half their claim and cash for the other half as settlement in full. Petition states that the individual deposits amount to \$10,855, and that the receiver now has \$11,000 cash on hand.

March 17, 1898: Settlement effected by Mike Harrington, as attorney for the depositors, and J. J. Harrington as attorney for the receiver, the depositors to take as their claim in full certain choice securities amounting to \$20,429.79, and \$2,-750 in cash. Later evidence that Mike Harrington arbitrarily settled with the depositors at 75 cents on the dollar.

August 5, 1898: Howard files notice that he has on hand \$7,500 to divide between the state and county.

August 18, 1898: Judge Westover, having waited until Harrington had taken his pick of the assets, now decides that the bank and Bartley owe the state \$55,-600 and the county \$6,000. On this same date Howard files another notice that he has \$7,500 to divide. A pro rata division is agreed upon by the state and county. November 29, 1899: Howard filed the following notice;

Exchange bank of Atkinson, Nebraska, worth face face value, and the school informs the court that, in his judgment, district judgment as good as governit will be to the best interests of all concerned to have all the assets of the Exchange bank sold at public sale to the highest cash bidder, and upon dis- bank. Depositors were not uneasy, the oil early in the season and repeat position of said assets, to immediately and none of them applied for a receiv- the operation every two weeks for a close up the affairs of said bank.

"SAMUEL B. HOWARD, Receiver,"

1899, and that the sale be continued from day to day until all were sold, 'said assets to be either sold separately or collectively, as the receiver shall believe to be to the best interests of all concerned."

This order plainly gave the receiver ANOTHER POLITICIAN GONE WRONG full swing, and he certainly "swung." There is not another scratch of a pen on file in the district clerk's office from that day to the present date to show the result of the sale, but oral evidence is that the receiver bargained off all the best assets of the bank to the chairman of the pop county committee for \$40, without allowing any one else a chance to bid. This was done by "adjourning" the sale when bona fide bidders were present, and "reopening" as soon as the said bidders had gone away.

While up to the time of the final sale most of the operations of the receiver were concealed from the public, there were occasional filings on the record to show that certain debts were compromised at low figures, so that at the time of the \$7,500 divide between the county and state the receiver must have had in his hands two or three thousand dollars more than that amount, which had probably been used for "expenses." No report or statement has ever been filed, and the scattering bits put in the record only furnished a cloak for the general operations. This is in direct contrast to the action of Mr. E. Opp, another bank receiver in the same county, who filed regular balance sheets four times a year, showing all transactions.

One stroke of business which was performed in March, 1899, was never recorded in the district clerk's office, but comes to light elsewhere. The bank of Atkinson had a fine brick building, which was bought in 1894 at a cost of \$7,500. It was well fitted which cost \$1,500. The property had \$10,000, and after the collapse there were a number of people ready to buy it if given an opportunity. Howard however, had other plans. On February 23, 1899, he notified Judge Westover that he had an offer of \$1,000 for the property, "and after diligent ef-fort could find no better bid," Westover promptly authorized him to sell, and the deal was made in secret, The bank building, safe and fixtures

\$1,000, and a rent bill for \$210 owed purchase price, so that the property went for \$790. On this principle of the property a year or two longer, his arrearages would have covered the entire purchase price and made the sale unnecessary. Other parties who would have paid four or five thousand dollars, and had notified Howard of their desire to invest, were given no kept in concealment so far as the district court records at O'Neill were concerned, but copies of the application and permission to sell were filed in the office of the county clerk two caution to prevent interference. Galowned a building at O'Neill and rented offices to the two Harringtons, one of whom was attorney for the receiver and the other for the depositors and for the cashier of the busted bank. It was a happy "back-scratching" tournament, in which only the inter ests of the state of Nebraska suffered

To summarize: The bank was closed up for political purposes and a pop judge 219 miles away appointed a pop politician as receiver on a nominal bond, which latter has never been seen. The receiver went ahead "compromising" claims and slaughtering assets without making any complete public report. The Harrington brothers, prominent pop bosses, acted as attorneys for everybody. They settled the July 6, 1897: Attorney General Smyth \$2,750 in cash. The depositors received less than \$8,000 for their claims. The remaining assets were eased down into the hands of political favorites. The state's interests suffered at every hand, and record of the expenses, receipts or operations, and no detailed report of assets has ever been placed before the public,

In Holt county the performances of this clique of grafters has caused common talk, and there are many surmises as to why the Harringtons so anxiously worked Sam Howard into the nomination for state treasurer, after they had dictated a warden of the penitentiary and after they had fostered the boom of Westover for governor. The people believe that there is a method or reason behind every act of this crowd.

Some information may be gained as to the value of the property looted from prominent citizens of Atkinson, as follows:

John P. McNichols, a prominent democrat, said: "I consider the building and lot, exclusive of furniture, a good investment at three thousand dollars, and stood ready to pay \$2,000 for the building or a little more, Talked with the receiver several times about wanting to buy the property, but he seemed to want to evade the matter. Several others here wanted celved \$1,442.81. This last payment to buy. No person in Atkinson knew when the sale was made, or had opportunity to make a bid. Howard his candidacy for the state treasury-

eemed to want to favor somebody." B. W. Johnson, for sixteen years a resident of Atkinson: "The sale was a clandestine arrangement. Several people in Atkinson wanted to buy, but got no opportunity. The building and fixtures were well worth \$5,000. The safe cost \$1.500. The general opinion was that there was no occasion to

close up the bank in the first place.' A. J. Stilson, member of the town board of Atkinson: "The bank was doing well when it was closed. The building was worth more than three times what it sold for. Among the assets were some gilt-edge securities. "Samuel B. Howard, as receiver of the The judgment against the city was ment bonds.

J. E. Allison, formerly cashier of the bank: "No occasion for closing the the drains, marshes and puddles with er. A bank examiner had been there short time thereafter. It is said to be shortly before and given a good clear- the best method yet tried for disinfect-On the same date Judge Westover ance to the bank. The liabilities were ing a locality of malarial germs.

issued an order that the assets be fully secured and the paper was good. sold at public sale on December 16. The books balanced to a cent when the local popular took charge. The judgments receiver took charge. The judgments against the village and school district were worth face value. The building, safe and fixtures were carried on the books at \$10,000. The safe cost \$1,500 and was good as new. The building and fixtures would easily have sold for \$5,000 at hard times prices. The extra room in the building, aside from the banking room, brought in \$25 per month. Among the first-class paper. were the two judgments aggregating \$1,000, and decrees of foreclosure against lands in Holt county worth \$500. These and some other securities, I understand, were quietly sold to Ma-Carty for \$40. I understand McCarty has since disposed of some part of these securties for \$400, or ten times more than he paid for the whole, Howard disposed of all the good paper and the building on the quiet.'

E. G. Schultz, druggist: "The bank building was easily worth \$4,000. The location was good. There was no no-

tice given of the sale." Dr. McDonald, office next door to the bank: "The bank building and lot would be cheap at \$5,000. Sale was under cover. No notice in the papers. After the bank closed M. F. Harrington was made attorney for the depositors. He arranged the settlement with the receiver, and then notified the depositors in a circular letter that he had settled on a basis of 75 cents on the dollar, and he sent them each a check. He must have kept the securities got from the receiver in the deal. No rason why the depositors should have lost 25 per cent. The assets were sold in O'Neill and it was worked pretty smooth.

J. F. Brady: "I went to the sale of the assets last December. McCarty, Harrington, the sheriff and a young man who works for Harrington were there with Howard. I wanted to buy in a mortgage on W. E. Scott's place. up, and besides the vault had a safe Howard had a package in his hand, and he said, 'Let's open the sale.' He been carried on the bank books at turned to me and asked if there was anything I wanted in particular. told him about the Scott mortgage, and he knocked it down to me at \$20 on the first bid. Its face value was \$400. Then I asked him what else he had, and he told me everything else was bargained for in advance. He said he would adjourn the sale a while. I went away, and in a short time I came back only to find that Mc-Carty had got all the valuable stuff for were sold to Ed Gallagher of O'Neill for | \$40. Nobody else got a chance to bid. McCarty is the populist chairman, and by Gallagher was deducted from the a great friend of Howard and Harrington. The stuff he bought was worth several thousand dollars."

One gentleman who was on the ground and knew of the whole proceeding, writes to a friend at O'Neill as follows:

"It seems to be no secret around Atkinson that the bank's assets were indiscriminately slaughtered by Mr. Howard. I am confident a little inchance to buy. The transaction was quiry would bring a good deal to light

"The fact that the building and fixtures, which originally cost about \$7,500, were sold by Mr. Howard for less than \$1,000, without giving any days after the date of the sale. This notice or allowing any one to bid, is was done to make the deed good, and | pretty good evidence of what he was the delay in nling was a proper pre- doing. I knew of several parties who were watching this building and fixlagher, who bought the property, also tures with a view of purchasing when it was to be sold and I know that Mr. Howard could have realized at least three or four thousand dollars out of them if he had not sold them underhandedly and on the sly.

"While I only looked upon Howard as a tool of the pop ring, I cannot help but feel that any man who will lend himself to such work is unfit for public office."

In an effort to get further light on the operations of Howard the office of the State Banking board at Lincoln was visited Wednesday. Dr. Hall, the secretary, who is also chairman of the democratic committee, was not present. but his deputy was there and handed over the last printed report of the Exchange bank, dated March 23, 1897. claims of the individual depositors by This showed that the bank had loans aking \$20,000 worth of good notes and and discounts, \$88,303.13; overdrafts. \$608.91; stocks, bonds and judgments. \$79,228.82; banking house, furniture and fixtures, \$10,000; due from other banks, \$6,882.59; cash on hand, 861.55. The capital stock was \$30.000 and the deposits were \$70,934.48.

"Will you please let me see the last report of the examiner on the condition of this bank?" was asked of the deputy in charge of the banking board records.

"No, you cannot see that," said he:

'the examiners' reports are not public property." "Not even when the bank has failed.

and owes money to the state?" "Well-I can't let you see it. Of course if the report is filed in the district court in the county where the bank was located, and you can see it there, that is all right."

here?" "No, he makes his report to the district court where the bank is located.

"Has the receiver ever filed a report

Our jurisdiction ends when the receiver is appointed."

"How much money has been turned over to the state by the receiver?"

"I do not know." At the state treasurer's office the information was received that on August 26, 1898, the state received \$6,-762.30, and on June 15, 1900, it rewas made after Harrington and Howard's badges were printed announcing ship, and was a happy afterthought. According to the records at O'Neill he must have been carrying that money just six months, the date of the final sale of assets "to the highest cash bidder" having been on the 16th of December, 1899. There is nothing filed to show where this money came from, or how much remained. It is presumed the receiver was still recelving salary at the date of this last payment, and that he will continue to hold the affairs open as long as any money remains to be used up by himself and his attorney.

Petroleum Drives Away Mosquitos.

Petroleum has been used with much success as a means of exterminating mosquitoes, and thus preventing malaria. All that is necessary is to spray

Operators Insist on Figuring the Price of Powder in Wage Increase.

# THE MINERS WANT TEN PER CENT

Clause Attached to Original Proposition Offering Increase in Wages, Guaranteeing the Same Until Next April-Further Developments Awaited.

SCRANTON, Oct. 19.-Representaives of nearly all the big companies of the section conferred here today and made an agreement to amend the noices already posted, attaching the fol-

This company desires to say that it is its intention to pay the advance in wages above noted until April 1, 1901, and thereafter until further notice.

This was given to the press: The representatives of the coal comvanies after their meeting stated that hey had ordered their men 10 per cent advance as indicated by the notices they had posted, that this notice specifically stated that the reduction of powder from \$2.75 to \$1.50 would be onsidered in arriving at the wages of heir contract miners. It was explained when the notices were posted that the offer was to stand until April 1, and

indefinitely thereafter, but inasmuch as there seems to be some misunderstanding in this matter they have agreed to add to their notice a clause that it is their intention to pay the advance in wages until April 1, 1901, and thereafter until further notice. The conference was held in the of-

fice of the Temple Iron company, in the Board of Trade building, and was attended by General Superintendent E. E. Loomis of the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western, General Superinendent W. A. Lathrop of the Lehigh Valley, General Superintendent M. H. Starrs of the Scranton Coal company (Ontario & Western), President William Connell of the Connell Coal company, who is chairman of the independent 'operators' committee; General Superintendent W. J. Richards of the Lehigh & Wilkesbarre Coal company, General Superintendent Morris William of the Susquehanna Coal company (Pennsylvania railway), General Superintendent of the Pennsylvania Coal company (Erie & Wyoming Coal company), J. L. Crawford of the Temple Iron company, General Superintendent Reese G. Brooks of the Longcliffe, Lafflin & Greenwood Coal companies.

National President Mitchell, District President Nichols, District Secretary John T. Dempsey and National Organizer Fred Dilcher of the United Mine Workers have all been quoted as saying that the resolutions of the Scranconvention contemplated straight advance of 10 per cent for all parts of the region and that the matter of having this increase made up in part by a decrease in the cost of powder in these upper regions, where powder is sold for \$2.75 a keg, was not agreed to. The powder question, they one and all said, was left out of the was le present negotiations, with the understanding that it should form one of the grienvances to be adjudged and which the officers say the operators tave agreed to have with their men "ta take up any grievances they may have."

President Mitchell, when informed of the action of the operators, stated that he would have to decline to discuss its probable effect until he had given the matter careful consideration. He would not say whether or not it would be possible to deal with the difficulty without another convention.

President Nichols, whose whole district is affected by the powder question, said this evening it looked to him as though another convention was necessary. "I do not know that the delegates will consent to waiving their demand for a straight increase and allowing the substitution of this clause about powder which the operators are so insistent about," said he, "but without their consent I do not see how the matter can be adjusted. To me it looks like a prolongation of the fight."

# Consul Ragsdale Dead.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19 .- The state department has received a report from the consul at Nagasaki, of the death at that place September 13 of Bertrand W. Ragsdale, vice consul and marshal of the consular court at Tien Tsin. China. Mr. Ragsdale was a resident of Santa Rosa, Cal., and was appointed marshal in 1893, and vice consul in 1900. He had gone from Tien Tsin to Nagasaki in July for the benefit of his

# After Brazil's President.

NEW YORK, Oct. 19 .- The police of Rio Janeiro, according to a dispatch to the Herald, have arrested an Italian named Angel Manetti, who is known as the friend of Caserio, who assassinated President Carnot of France, and of Bresci, who killed King Humbert of

Manetti, it is charged, was plotting to take the life of President Campos Calles of Brazil.

Italy.

#### Prof. Whitney Drops Dead. SALT LAKE CITY, Utah, Oct. 19,-

Prof. Joseph Whitely, principal of the Salt Lake School of Law, dropped dead out of his chair in a restaurant today from hemorrhage of the brain. had taken a degree at Oxford university, and before coming to Utah was a clergyman in the Church of England.

# Proposals from Chinese.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19 .- For the first time in three days Minister Conger was heard from at the state department today. He communicated by cable the substance of certain propositions advanced by Prince Ching and Li Hung Chang as a basis for the conduct of negotiations for a settlement of the Chinese trouble. The Chinese government already has prepared the way for these by a preliminary action looking toward the punishment of Chinese officials guilty of complicity in the Boxer uprising.

#### UNDER SENTENCE OF DEATH.

Empress Frederic and Sir Arthur's End is Near,

PARIS, Oct. 19 .- (New York World Cablegram,)-Empress Frederick cannot live more than six weeks. Both Emperor William, her son, and Queen Victoria, her mother, were so notified yesterday by the physicians in attendance. The dowager empress is afflicted with cancer of the spine, according to a high German physician who has arrived and who met here one of the foremost of British diplomats. The latter repeated the information to me. Sir Arthur Sullivan is in Paris in charge of two attendants. He is on his way to the Riviera, but was compelled by extreme weakness to break the trip and stop here for rest. To some friends who called on him he expressed himself as sure that he shall never be able to return to England, realizing that his case is past helping. An eminent French physician, an old admirer of the distinguished composer of music, visited him today and afterward concurred in the invalid's conviction that he was doomed to an early death. It is uncertain how soon, if ever, Sir

#### SEES NEW ERA FOR AMERICA.

Arthur will be able to proceed south.

Archbishop Ireland Talks of This Country's Position in Commerce.

NEW YORK, Oct. 19.-Archbishop Ireland, just returned from an extended trip abroad, today gave out a statement of his impression of the showing made by the Americans in Paris. The only criticism to be made, in his opinion, is that in most cases artistic effect has been sacrificed for plain utility. This, he said, resulted in a failure to attract as might otherwise have been the case. The number of awards made to American exhibitors should make the people here proud of the part taken by the United States. The most pleasing feature, he added, was the American pavilion, where all Americans were made to feel at home. By the exhibit, this country's resources are better known than ever before, as seen by an increased demand for our products.

"A new era," said he, "has set in for us in commercial and diplomatic relations and with the opening of the twentieth century America steps into the front rank of nations.'

#### No Mercy for Bucket Shops.

CHICAGO, Oct. 19 .- Board of Trade operators will tomorrow enter into what they call the last skirmish with the bucket shops. Thirteen of these concerns have been obliged to close their doors and thirteen more have at last given up their fight to secure the Board of Trade market quotations by roundabout means. One concern today was still using the quotations under a temporary injunction, but this case comes up on court tomorrow, when counsel for the board will present arguments for its dissolution. In view of Judge Kohlsaat's decision enjoining a number of local bucket shops from using the board's quotations, the directors expect another victory.

# Want to Bar Out Americans.

BIRMINGHAM, England, Oct. 19. The Midland iron masters are inquiring of officials about the reported intention to prefer American manufacturers to British in awarding contracts for the executive railway and bridge construction contemplated in South Africa. Several of the principal iron men, who are conjointly making these inquiries, intend to organize a campaign to press the government into faforing British manufacturers if it is found that any contracts are likely to go to the United States, even though the American bids should be lower than the British.

# Yellow Fever Increasing.

HAVANA, Oct. 19 .- Yellow fever is increasing here. It is said that there is not one block in the city but has contributed from one to seventeen cases. If there is no improvement there will soon be an exodus from

Frank W. Hayes, the general manager of the Havana branch of the North American Trust company, who is suffering from yellow fever, is very low and Mrs. Hayes has been isolated with him.

President Sends Condolences. WASHINGTON, Oct. 19 .- President McKinley today sent a message of condolence to the family of ex-Postmaster General William L. Wilson, who died at Lexington, Va., yesterday. The president and Mr. Wilson served together in the house of representatives for several years and, despite their political differences, were warm personal friends.

# To Deport the Burghers.

PRETORIA, Oct. 19 .- The Boers are daily tearing up portions of the railroad and cutting the telephone and telegraph wires. Their atacks are intolerable. The repairing linesmen cannot leave the garrison points without considerable escorts. The only remedy semes to be to corral all the burghers and deport them, as none apparently can be trusted.

Morton on Board of Arbitration. WASHINGTON, Oct. 19 .- There is some talk tonight of ex-Vice President Levi P. Morton as the third member on the part of the United States on the The Hague International Arbitration board. Mr. Morton saw the president today, but at the White House neither confirmation nor denial of the reports was obtainable.

# American Gold May Come Home.

LONDON, Oct. 19 .- The Times, discussing possible gold movements, says in its financial column: "In a normal year it would be safe to say the American demand had ceased, but the present year presents many variations. It would be rash to assume that Europe will not have to repay ere long a part of its borrowings. Germany, Russia and Great Britain at the present moment are more likely to be borrowers than repayers. It is proabble that after the American election money will be easier to employ than now.

# GREAT STRIKE IS OVER

Every Point Demanded by the Men Is Conceded.

# THE TERMS OF THE COMPROMISE

Employes Get Increase of Ten Per Cent Abolition of Sliding Scale and Arbitration Rule - Notices are to Be Posted Immediately.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Oct. 18.-The great strike of the anthracite mine workers of Pennsylvania, which began September 17, practically ended today, when the Philadelphia & Reading Iron and Coal company and the Lehigh Valley Coal company agreed to abolish the sliding scale in their respective regions and to grant an advance in wages of 10 per cent net, the advance to remain in operation until April 1, 1901, or thereafter.

The decision was arrived at after a conference between representatives of the individual coal operators and the large coal carrying roads. The conference began yesterday. Today's action was the culmination of the recent meeting of the individual operators at Scranton following the mine workers' convention in the same city.

Nearly all of the collieries in the coal region had previously posted notice granting an advance of 10 per cent. The mine workers, besides this, demanded the sliding scale in the Lehigh and Schuylkill regions abolished, the increase to be guaranteed until April 1, and other differences submitted to arbitration. The individual operators agreed to everything.

It is conceded that the result of today's conference is a complete victory for the men.

All the demands of their convention are acceded to, and as one of the individual operators put it, the operators go a little further in maintaining the advance after April 1. This

same operator said: "It is all up to the miners. We have agreed to everything, nothing remains but for them to return to work as soon as the notices are posted by the managers. These notices will conform to the Reading's notice. I look for a resumption of operations by Monday at the latest. The conference was entirely harmonious and every. phase of the strike situation was gone

Just how soon the order notifying the men that the strike is over will be posted can only be conjectured. It is believed here that no order to return will be issued until a notice similar to that of the Reading and Lehigh companies is posted at all the

The Reading company's notice reads: "It hereby withdraws the notice posted October 3, 1900, and to bring about practical uniformity in the advance of wages in the several coal regions, gives notice that it will suspend the operation of the sliding scale, will pay 10 per cent advance on September wages until April, 1901, and thereafter until further notice; and will take up with its mine employes grievences which they may any

have. No formal announcement has been made by the Lehigh Valley Coal company, but as the Reading's statement has been made public, Vice President Garrett of the Lehigh company said: "Concerning our operations in the Schuylkill country, our action will be similar to that of the Reading. other regions certain things must be treated separately, and we have not decided with regard to them. These matters are in the hands of Superin-

tendent Lathrop." Culvin, Pardee & Co., extensive individual operators in the Hazleton district, late this afternoon announced that they will tomorrow post notices similar to that issued by the Reading company. This indicates what the individual operators will do.

# RUSSIA AFTER NEW LOAN.

Efforts of Muscovite Government to Get Money in New York.

NEW YORK, Oct. 18.—The Evening Post today says: The reported negotiations of New York and Paris bankers with agents of the Russian government were denied by persons in position to know. While it is considered doubtful whether a portion of the loan could have been placed in Paris under any circumstances this season, the project is deemed impossible now that the Bank of France has concluded to give up some of its gold to New York. A financier identified with previous movements of the kind declared today that it was idle to talk of another Russian loan so far as New York is concerned.

# Good Crops in Porto Rico.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18.-Secretary Long has received a letter from Governor Allen of Porto Rico, in which the latter tells of an extensive tour of the island, of the prosperous condition of the sugar crop and the outlook for a very satisfactory coffee Governor Allen predicts that with these prosperous crops the people of the island will soon be upon their feet financially.

# Buller as Uhief of Army.

LONDON, Oct. 18 .- Under reserve the Daily Express publishes a report that General Sir Redvers Buller has been summoned from South Africa to succeed Lord Wolseley as commander-in-chief, Lord Roberts declining to accept the position without a free hand.

#### Loss Foots Up \$2,000,000. NEW YORK, Oct. 18-The fire which

started in Port Lima, Costa Rica, Saturday, according to late dispatches received here, destroyed the entire business section of the city and caused a property loss of over \$2,000,000. Short Cabinet Session.

#### WASHINGTON, Oct. 18 .- The cabinet meeting today was devoid of interest. Nothing new regarding the Chinese situation has been received

and after a short discussion of the po-

litical situation the meeting ad-

journed.