to disassociate himself from Salisbury's attitude, which he thinks the only conceivable one in affairs like this. He refused also to criticine Mr. Cleveland's proposal to nominate a Venezuelan commission, but believes arbitration is now manifestly impossible. bilke mentioned the precedent of France and England having intended to intervene be-

flict improbable now, but had feeling between the two countries is inevitable. The struggle may take a fiscal form, or be temporarily averted by tact and good will on both sides, but friction must increase rather than diminish for a long time to come." All French papers unfavorably criticise

Mr. Cleveland's attitude. GALISDUDY SUDVEYS THE SITUATION. Lord Salisbury came up especially from Hatfield late this forenoon and visited the foreign office, where telegraphic dispatches had been received from Sir Julian Pauncefote. The British government cannot take official cognizance of the president's message until it is communicated to them in due course by the British ambassador to Washington. The action of congress in passing the bill and appropriating for the commission is regarded in official and political circles here as adding to the gravity of the situation, inasmuch as it renders a settlement still more difficult. It is considered, however, that the British government will that the possibility of a rupture will probably be postponed until such a time as the give effect to its decision. The interval, it doctrine. is hoped, will afford an opportunity for further negotiations, but these calculations may, it is obvious, be entirely upset should Venezuela be prompted to any hasty action. The likelihood of such action on the part of Venezuela is regarded as one of the most perilous features of the situation. Lord Salisbury, while at the foreign office this stood to have discussed the procedure necessary in event of it being found necessary consulted before any warlike measures are adopted, but there is no present prospect that it need be assembled before the beginning of February. At a meeting of the Actors' Benevolent

Fund this evening, Sir Francis Jeune and other speakers made pacific references to the Sackville-West incident, and says the present controversy, and Ambassador a fresh attempt for the Irish vote and the teg-Bayard replied in an equally fraternal spirit. Teg of the large towns."

BALLARD SMITH. The Globe, St. James Gazette and other BALLARD SMITH.

ENGLAND NOT AT ALL EXCITED. President Cleveland's Message Not Generally Rend in London.

LONDON, Dec. 18 .- In spite of the prominence which all the newspapers give to President Cleveland's message to congress on the Venezuelan boundary question, the general public here refuses to get excited or even in-terested in the matter. At the hotels, clubs, Besides, the Globe points out Great Britain railroad stations, etc., the matter is rarely alluded to. Those who have read the correspondence resent President Cleveland's atceived to the reporter's inquiry for an expression of opinion is: "What is it all about message, however, is being used on

the Stock exchange to hammer American se-curities. Consols also declined, but there was The officials of the British foreign office

declined to express any opinion on the Venezuelan question, and the same attitude of reserve was maintained at the United States embassy here. United States Ambassador Bayard arrived at the embassy at an early hour, looking worried. He declined to see any one, saying that the matter was much too grave to discuss. A dispatch to the Press association from Manchester says that President Cleveland's message to congress on the Venezuelan question created a The matter is noted as an absurdity. In of reserve was maintained at the United anic at the opening of the Stock exchange, but at Manchester, as well as here, a re covery in prices began at noon.

One newspaper remarked: "The Yankee jobbers are the only persons injured by the

message and they have just ground for com-The editorial comments of the New York World and the New York Evening Post on

the situation are reprinted here with approval as indicating American opinion of the situa-

The radical evening newspapers take the most serious view of the situation. The Star, in a double column, asks: "It is difficult to exaggerate the gravity of the situation. The United States may be assured that Englishmen, regardless of party, will abide firmly by Lord Salisbury's claims and will not sub-Public opinion," says the Westminister

Gazette, "will unanimously support Lord Salisbury, but it is a pity he enlarged the dispute and attacked the Monroe doctrine." Continuing, the Westminster Gazette re marks: "The fact is that the present situation is the result of an unfortunate combination on one side a foreign secretary who was once a Saturday reviewer and who could not avoid the temptation of scoring in an argument, and on the other side a president who could not resist the temptation of scor ing in an electoral campaign, but the mass of the people of both countries regard the ssibility of war on any such issue with blank incredulity."
The Evening News says: "The election

lodge did not give us a moment's un

The St. James Gazette heads its article the Venezuelan developments: Wire Pulling," and says: "President Cleveland's gage in the mouth of an European diplomat would mean the instant mob llization of armies. It is rather too late to

HAYDEN BROS.



Xmas Slippers and Shoes, Tomorow hundreds of pairs of fine Slippers and Shoes in this sale at 50c to \$1.00 less than you can buy them elsewhere. Fine velvet and plush embroidered Slippers, tan, black and dongola Slippers for men, fine velvet embroidered

Slippers, 98c. Ladies' fine hand turn beaded velvet

Slippers for misses and children.

\$2.00 Slippers, \$1.25. Misses' cloth and felt Slippers, 50c, worth 75c to \$1.00.

and felt Slippers for ladies, warm house

Ladies' fine hand turn Velvet \$1.50

Men's fine velvet embroidered \$1.25 Slippers, 75c. Men's fine velvet chenille embroidered

Men's fine plush chenille embroidered \$2.00 Slippers, \$1.25.

Men's fine dongola Harvard Tie \$1.75 Slippers, \$1.25.

Men's fine dongola patent leather trimmed \$2.00 Slippers, \$1.50.

Men's fine tan goat Faust \$2.50 Slippers, \$1.75.

SHOES.

\$1.50 Slippers, 98c.

Ladies' fine dongola \$3.00 Shoes, \$1.98. Ladies' fine welt sole dongola \$3.50 Shoes, \$2.50. Ladies' fine Rochester made hand welt vici kid \$5.00 Shoes, \$3.25; widths B to

HAYDEN BROS. Slipper and Shoe Sa e

say 'Hands off' to the empire which includes only British Guisna and Jamaica but ada. The pretensions of President Cleve-Canada. and the language so offensive that one could not be surprised if there was a similar ex-plosion of violence. But Lord Salisbury has kept his temper in this unpleasant corre-spondence and the nation will do likewise until the time comes when we shall do well

New York World on the subject, adding: "We are cutified to rely upon the sense of he average respectable American who is not ward boss or office seeker, and who has to interest in Venezuelan concessions. millions of shrewd, hard headed, well educated Anglo-Saxons and Anglo-Teutons, who have no reason to be other than friendly with Great Britain, we count. But it is not only in that country where the selfishness and ignorance of demagogues may overbear the sense of the majority of decent people. The blundering diplomacy of Mr. Olney and the selfish intrigues of the democratic managers may leave no solution but one. If it comes to that—well, we won't imitate Cleveland's blusters-but Englishmen would not

expect or intend to get whipped, meanwhile neither the government nor the nation will be quick to take advantage of the United States administration, or to reuse them any reasonable opportunity for withdrawing from a position which they have wantonly and gratuitously made dangerous.' The Pall Mail Gazette ridicules the whole natter, saying: "It flashed across us at first

that President Cleveland was mad, and, secignore the proceedings of the commission, so who, in turn, was hypnotized by Mr. Lodge, that the possibility of a rupture will probaddress, and we advise President Cleveland to appeal to the country immediately before commission has reported and it is sought to the Americans have time to study the Olney doctrine. We fear that even now it is too late, for the World has already given the

world, bugaboo, alas! bugaboo."

The Globs remarks: "No self-respecting nation would for a moment entertain such pretensions, and no one doubts that President leveland's heroics are due to the necessities of politics. His Sackville-West action shows the length to which he is prepared to go in the sacred cause of spreadeagleism. Exceed-Salisbury, while at the foreign office this ingly inopportune is the time of bluff and afternoon, saw an official from the office of bluster, when the strongest ministry of modths minister of war, with whom he is underestimated in office. The possibility of war between the two great nations of common an-cestry and interest is too dreadful to contemplate. But it would not be safe for American to summon Parliament before the date al-ready fixed. Parliament, of course, must be water, or to imagine that England can be in-timidated. President Cleveland must also recken with France if he insists upon carry ing out his modern construction of the Mon ree doctrine in its entirety.'

The Evening Standard observes that "It seems impossible for any public man to issue a document in more offensive terms," recalls the Sackville-West incident, and says: "It is

papers publish comparisons of the British and United States navies. The Globe, for in-stance, says: "Of America's twenty-six ironclads against Great Britain's sixty-four, many are useless, and of torpedo gunboats Great Britain has thirty-three and the United States one." Continuing, the Globe states that of the torpedo destroyers, Great Britain has forty-two and the United States not one. Great Britain is also said to have ninety-five torpedo already has thirteen ships in her North American squadron, five on the southeast coast of America and six on the Pacific coast. A dispatch to the Press association from Liverpool says that the message of the president to congress will thoroughly disorganize the American railroad market of the Stock exchange. The Press association this evening says: "Neither the foreign office nor the colonial officials have anything to say about President Cleveland's message to con gress, which, however, does not appear to be regarded with alarm. that in unusually well informed quarters there is a shrewd suspicion regarding the

gress on the Venezuelan question created a The matter is noted as an absurdity. In the event of war. America would suffer the chants do not expect a rise in the price of wheat as the result of President Cleveland's message to congress on the Venezuelan ques-

LIBERAL ORGAN'S VIEWS. The Daily News, the liberal organ, says: "It is a remarkable document, though its consequences are not likely to be serious Neither Secretary Olney nor President Cleve land seems to realize that the Monroe doc trine cannot be quoted as authoritative in negotiations with a foreign power. The definition of Mource'sm is a matter for Ameri-

cans themselves. It binds nobody else. "President Cleveland proves too much. It follows from his message that neither British Guiana nor Canada has any right to an independent existence on American soil England is threatened with war unless she permits President Cleveland to adjust the baundaries of Venezuela. Happily there is still some sense of humor in the American people. Regarding it as a party move, the message is not unskillful. It puts the republicans in a hole. If they assent to the com-mission, they enable Mr. Cleveland to pose as an accomplished twister of the lion's tail If they refuse the committee, they enable th emocrats to denounce them as the service friends of the Britisher.

But the great body of Americans will no he led by any such motive or considerations Salisbury's firm and moderate state ment of the case will appeal to the justic and common sense of the American people. The Chronicle (liberal) says: "The mes sage will be read here with blank astonish ment. Can these be serious words addressed to us by the descendants of the little ship load of English folks who sailed in the May We will not take things too serious'y, but will suppose that President Cleveland is engaged in the familiar work of tail twisting. There is but one answer. If the enlarged application of the Monroe doctrine is to be en-forced. America must become responsible for the foreign policy of all the petty and im-petuous little states on the two continents of America. But what if the committee should find that we are well within our rights. Per-haps, however, the presidential election will be over then, and there will be no need of patriotic messages. Anyway, the message cannot obscure or deface the blood ties of affection between the two countries."

The Post, conservative, says: "A dispatch of this kind is clearly intended not for the English foreign office, but for the American electors. The committee proposed can have no more binding effect on this country, than would the decision of the supreme court at

ITS EPITAPH WRITTEN. The Daily Graphic says in an editorial: "The spitaph of the Monroe doctrine has been written in the Venezuelan correspondence. Mr. Cleveland's message is a document which self-respecting Americans will not read with either pride or pleasure. It only serves to illustrate snother of the inherent absurdities of the modern interpretation of the Monroe doctrine. President Cleveland does not propose to instruct Mr. Bayard to demand his passports nor does he Bayard to demand his passports nor does he contemplate an invasion of Canada, or an expedition to Demerara. He is struck by the awkward fact that he must first ascertain what there is to fight shout. Does President Cleveland seriously think that we can admit the proposition that the frontiers of European colonies in the two Americas are to be he'd at the good pleasure of a commission of Washington gentlemen? What would the United States have said in 1848 if we, as an American power, had advanced the claim, based on this principle, to protect Mexico from a wantonly aggressive war by

Mexico from a wantonly aggressive war by which President Cleveland's predecessors settled the Texan boundary dispute?"

The Times says: "It is impossible to disguiae the gravity of the difficulties that have Mexico from a wantonly aggressive war by which President Cleveland's predecessors settled the Texan boundary dispute"

The Times says: "It is impossible to disgulae the gravity of the difficulties that have arisen between Great Britain and the United States. President Cleveland's message and its reception on both sides of the suaste give additional importance to the dispatches between London and Washington. The details of the boundary dispute are insignificant in comparison with the far reaching claims advanced by Mr. Olney's dispatch and emphasized in President Cleveland message.

"Convinced, as we are, that a rupture between the two great English speaking communities would be a calsmity, not only in themselves, but the civilized world, we are.

Hayden Brea. selling, three-quarters of a mile: Jane E (2 to 1) won. Rosalind III (6 to D second, Newhouse (5 to 2) third. Time: 1:14½.

Second race, selling, three-quarters of a mile: Jane E (2 to 1) won. Over-time: 1:14½.

Second race, selling, three-quarters of a mile: Jane E (2 to 1) won. Over-time: 1:14½.

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Second race, selling, three-quarters of a mile: Jane E (2 to 1) won. Over-time: 1:14½.

Third race, handicap, all ages, three-quarters of a mile: Jane E (2 to 1) won. Growled time: 1:14½.

Third race, handicap, all ages, three-quarters of a mile: Jane E (2 to 1) won. Constant Time: 1:14½.

Third race, handicap, all ages, three-quarters of a mile: Jane E (2 to 1) won. Constant Time: 1:14½.

Fourth race, handicap, all ages, three-quarters of a mile: Jane E (2 to 1) won. Constant Time: 1:14½.

Fourth race, handicap, all ages, three-quarters of a mile: Jane E (2 to 1) won. Constant Time: 1:14½.

Fourth race, handicap, all ages, three-quarters of a mile: Jane E (2 to 1) won. Constant Time: 1:14½.

Fourth race, handicap, all ages, three-quarters of a mile: Jane E (2 to 1) won. Constant Time: 1:14½.

Fourth race, selling, three-quarters of a mile: Jane E (2 to 1) won. Constant Time:

"Convinced, as we are, that a rupture be-tween the two great English speaking com-munities would be a calemity, not only to themselves, but the civilized world, we are,

the concessions this country is so imperiously summoned to make are such as no self-re-specting nation, least of all, one ruling an empire that has its roots in every quarter of the globe, could possibly submit to. The an empire that has its roots in every quarter of the globs, could possibly submit to. The United States themselves, would never for a moment dream of yielding to this kind of dictation. We are of the same blood and shall not be less careful of our national bonor. We can hardly believe the course threatened by President Cleveland will be seriously tween Russian protests till Bismarck threatened by Russian protests till Bismarck threatened ment no opportunity of forcing it."

Types Gazetts then discusses the if so, it will be incumbent upon us, without any apprecasive measures, to theory that the matter is "merely an elec-tion dodge," and quotes the editorial of the entering upon any aggressive measures, to protect our imperial interests, and to stand up for our rights under international law.

The Times then proceeds to argue that the Monroe doctrine has never been recognized as an international law and quote Lord Salisbury's admission that any dis turbance of the existing territorial distribution in the western hemisphere by any Eu-ropean state would be highly inexpedient, and then continues: "But the recognit! this expediency does not cover the posterous deductions which Mr. Olney's dismakes the basis of the most astounding that has perhaps ever been advanced by any government in times of peace

since the days of Napoleon BRITONS WILL NEVER RECEDE. "We desire to speak with all proper re serve, but we can confidently predict that Great Britain will not admit the pretensions put forward by President Cleveland. ommission appointed by a power which is not a party to the dispute will be recognized by us as having a title of any sort to pronounce upon a boundary question. It will receive no assistance from British authorities. Its decision will be null and void from the outset, even if its origin did not taint it with partiality. We shall be very much astonished if there is any disagreement among the organs of public opinion in this country as to the manner in which such a

should be confronted." The Times contends further that England is bound to resist the extended claim of Monroelsm and says: "A power which has command of the sea does not regard 3,000 niles of intervening ocean as severing it from its subjects."

The Times says further: "These unnecessary and aggressive expressions seem to point to the possibility that this sudden offen-sive movement on the part of the United States has more to do with party politics than with diplomacy. Much may be pardoned in view of the approaching presidential election, which, to a large extent, explains the union of the republicans with the democrats in raising the jingo cry. It is to be remembered, moreover, that a deal of time must elapse before the committee can be appointed, and a still longer time before it can report. It may not come into existence until the executive has passed into other hands. Meanwhile the sober, common sense of the American peo-ple, we should hope, will condemn the attempt to pick a quarrel with a friendly na-

ADVISED TO STAND FIRM. "In any case, our own course is clear. We must stand firmly and calmly upon our rights as an independent state, and if necessary take practical measures to assert them. may even be expedient to settle the frontier question by drawing a line of our own (of course there can be no thought of anything less than the Schomberg line), and allowing the United States and Venezuela to settle

the matter as they may."

The Times only has two editorials, both of which are devoted to Venezuela. It also published all the correspondence issued on the subject. The second editorial contains a lengthy discussion of the history of the boundary dispute and says that the American government now argues, with surprising disingenuousness, that England never had any consistent theory of its rights, but has been gradually enlarging its claims, but it cannot be too clearly understood, says the Times, that we have never receded from the contention that our full claim is what we in-

Herited from the Dutch.

George W. Smalley, New York correspondent of the Times, in his review of the expression of public opinion in America over the president's message quoted extracts from a number of the New York papers. Of the demonstration of approval upon the reading of the message in the senate, he says: Sen-ator Lodge is reported as saying in answer to a question as to how he liked the message, that he was bubbling over with delight. There could not be a more sinister indication of the sense in which the message was understood. Strange stories come by telegraph from the capitol of laughter in the senate, and, stranger still, of congratulations exchanged between republican senators. Those who reserved their opinions are the anti-Cleveland demo-

crats. The Standard, the conservative organ, in The Standard, the conservative organ, in an editorial on the message, says: "This extraordinary document will receive from English publicists more dispassionate treat-ment than the decidedly provocative nature of its contents renders altogether easy. It was prepared by the responsible head of a state and will probably receive the formal assent of congress. Englishmen must therefore take it seriously and refrain from spec-ulations that would otherwise be detractive as to the utility, in view of the presidential election, of twisting the lion's 'z'... The position President Cieveland assumes is preposterous. No American citizen would for a moment dream of admitting its soundness in any analogous case in which the honor and interests of America were concerned. There can be but one answer. We decline to humiliate curselves and we refuse to accept the decision of Washington in matters altogether outside its jurisdiction." The remainder of the Standard's article is an echo of Lord Salisbury's argument, and it concludes by saying: "Great Britain will reject the demand as indignantly as congress would if America were asked to submit her title to Alaska to the judgment of impartial

FAVORITES GIVEN A BAD START. starter Caldwell Hissed by

Crowd at Ingleside. SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 18.-Starter Caldside today by the poorest work ever witnessed in this state. In the second race Montana was the favorite and when the horses got off he was fully ten lengths behind the field. In the fourth race Detective was a very heavily played favorite and Starter Caldwell duplicated his previous work, the horses getting off before Detective had reached the post from the paddock. Caldwell was roundly hissed by the large crowd present, two-thirds of whom were ladies, today being ladies' day. Four favorites and two third choices were winners. The weather was rainy and the track muddy. Attendance, 19,000. Summaries: First race, five furions, maiden 2-year-olds: Adolph Spreckels, lif. (Bergen), 3 to 1, second; Mount McGregor II, 107 (Griffin), 8 to 3 third. Time: 1:05½, Mabel L. Skalkinos, Duchess, Rey de Apache, Jim Budd, Petxot also ran. horses got off he was fully ten lengths

oto also ran.

Second race, six furlongs, selling: George Miller, 104 (Cochran), 3 to 1, won: Highland 104 (Chorn), 3 to 1, second; Carmel, 107 (Mackiln), 40 to 1, third. Time: 1:18½, Minnle Cee, Arundel, Royal Flush, Jake Johnson, Oregon Eclipse, Montana also ran.

Third race, one mile: Sister Mary, 90 (Doggett), 1 to 3, won; Roma, 100 (T. Sloan), 10 to 1, second; Santiago, 115 (Chorn), coupled with Sister Mary, third. Time: 1:47. Dungarven, Navy Blue, Pescador also ran.

1.47. Dungarven, Navy Blue, Pescador also ran.
Fourth race, six furlongs, selling; Collins, 194 (Chorn), 6 to 1, won; Shieldbearer, 197 (C. Sloan), 3 to 1, second; Julia O, 194 (Garner), 10 to 1, third, Time; 1:19, Miss Garvin, Allahabad, Detective, Tobey, Doyle, Schnitz also ran.
Fifth race, handicap, hurdle race, mile and a sixteenth; Rob Roy, 125 (Finn), 5 to 1, won; Belliringer, 154 (Spence), 2½ to 1, second; Cicero, 139 (Owens), coupled with Bellringer, third, Time; 2:33½, White Cloud Little Mid, Mayo Diablo also ran.
Sixth race, handicap, hurdle race, mile and a sixteenth, over four hurdles; J. O. C. 140 (Heunessey), 2 to 1, won; Neilie G. 125 (Cairns), 20 to 1, second; Alexis, 125 (Ambrose), 15 to 1, third, Time; 2:05½, Silverado, Wag, Soon Enough, Uncertainty also ran.

New Orleans Race Results. NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 13.—The weather was pleasant and the track fast. Sum-

Hayden Bres.' ad. is on page 9.

HOUSE OUTCK TO RESPOND

Passed a Bill for the Venezuelan Boundary Commission.

PREVIOUS QUESTION SHUT OFF DEBATE

Republicans Vie with Democrats in Their Vociferous Support of the Measure to Carry Out the Prestdent's Recommendations.

morning as soon as it had been called to order and called for unanimous consent for the consideration of a bill to empower the civil, of that territory; also respecting an attempt to appoint a commission to consider the Venezuelan boundary question and consideration of the United States the appropriation of \$100,000 for the expenses thereof. The text of the bill follows: A bill making an appropriation for the expenses of a commission to investigate and report on the true divisional line between the republic of Venezuela and British

Guiana.

Be it enacted by the senate and the house of representatives of the United States of America, in congress assembled: That the sum of \$100,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary, and the same is hereby appropriated for the expenses of a commission to be appointed by the president to investigate and report upon the true divisional line between the republic of Venezuela and British Guiana. A scene of considerable excitement fol

lowed the request of Mr. Hitt for unanimous consent to consider the bill which had been read by the clerk and loudly applauded. Mr. Boutelle, republican of Maine, was on his feet in the aisle in front of Mr. Hitt. He prefaced his remarks by the statement that he disliked to object to the consideration of such a bill, "But," he said, "it seems that this subject is one of such serious importance that the house of representatives should proceed in a decorous manner to consider it The president's message was read but yesterday and it seems to me that the gentlemen may not be ready to pass upon a bill of this

importance without deliberation.

SHOULD PROCEED SLOWLY. Cries of "ready, ready," from the repub-lican side interrupted Mr. Boutelle, but he proceeded, urging that the matter was one which affected the relations of the two great English-speaking nations of the world. He said: "I have been accused of being a said: "I have been accused of being a jingo, whatever that may mean. I hope no one in that part of the country where I am known would believe that I would hesitate in my support of the honor, dignity or safety of the country required it to take up arms against any or all of the nations of the world. But the press shows the country to be in a state of feverish excitement. I seems that we ought to give this matter as much consideration as we would give to the ap propriation of a few thousand dollars." Mr. Boutelle referred to the president's message as an extraordinary one and went on: " seems that we should send to the committee to be calmly considered this great question and the message in which the executive himself for the first time in the history of such correspondence has outlined the possibilities of war between the people of the great Anglo-The Speaker-Does the gentleman object?

Mr. Boutelle said that he had merely sug-gested a hope that the bill go to the committee. Mr. Hitt announced that he only desired to say a word concerning the bill and its purpose. He would do so, he said, without mentioning this side or that side," for he hoped there would be no two sides when it came to a question like this. Aside from its general discussion of matters of national

policy and interests there was a request made by the president for help from the house to enable him to exercise his executive functions SHOW A UNITED FRONT. "The first thing for us to remember as patriots," said Mr. Hitt, "is that the success

of our country depends upon our maintaining a united front—that our government should speak for all the people of the United states."
The suggestion of the president was for a judicial investigation. He was sure it was in the proper spirit and the occasion required that the country should act as one man.
"In such a time the executive is hampered
by every criticism that comes for our own It would be urged by the British democountry. It would be urged by the British
press that the president was not backed up
by his country, but only by his own party.
We have had a long time to consider the
Monroe doctrine; we may not agree with all
treatthe details outlined by the president and

Secretary Olney, but any discussion here will prove a help to those across the sea. I hope that the bill will pass." Mr. Hitt moved the previous question, but Mr. Crisp, democrat of Georgia, secured his permission to say a word. He began: "I speak for all this side of the house, where there is no division as to the propriety of pressing the bill. This house respectfully invited the government of Great Britain to arbitrate the boundary question between Venezuela and British Guiana. Great Britain has declined. Now what are we to do? If

the American people have a fixed opinion on any question, they have a decisive opinion that no European country can acquire ter mr. Hitt entreated Mr. Crisp in view of the magnitude of the interest involved not to precipitate a hasty discussion of them. Mr. Crisp reminded him that the re-publicans had introduced the bill which he had attempted to bring in himself yesterday and continued, saying that if the bound-ary could not be ascertained by arbitration with the participants the United States should ascertain it at once. 'And when we have ascertained where it is," he concluded we should have the courage and manhoo

o maintain it. Mr. McCreary, democrat of Kentucky, and got himself greatly disliked at Ingle- Mr. Boutelle were shouting for recognition but Mr. Hitt refused to yield the floor and the previous question was put and carried with a shout of "ayes" and no opposing

A resolution was offered by Mr. Dingley and agreed to that the holiday adjournment be from Friday, December 20, to Friday, January 3. Then the house at 12:40 ad-journed until Friday next. PROCEEDINGS IN THE SENATE

Preliminary Steps Taken to Enhanc the National Defense. WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.-The senat

shared the general sentiment of belligerency prevalent today, and from the outset of the session the measures proposed breathed spirit of patriotism and of preparation for any emergency that might arise concerning Venezuels. The first bill introduced was that of Mr. Chandler of New Hampshire, provid-ing for an appropriation of \$100,000,000 for a heavy increase in the national armament. This was quickly followed by propositions au-thorizing the secretary of war to purchase a late device of heavy battery and for a report

Mr. Hill of New York added to the suggestions of the defensive by asking immediate consideration of a bill making ex-confederates eligible to service in the army and navy Aside from these steps insugurating legisla tion the day was passed without decisive

action the day was passed without decisive action on the Wentzuelan question.

The first investigation of the session was started by the passage of Mr. Call's long pending resolution for an inquiry into alleged corrupt influences operating in the election of United States with a corresponding to the subject of British corresponding the same served to British encroachments the senate agreed to a resolution introduced by Mr. Davis, calling on the president for information as to the British or Canadian occupation, military or civil, of any part of the United States ter-ritory of Alaska. Throughout the day, the senate galleries, were crowded beyond their capacity, showing the keen public interest in anticipated developments on the British-Ven

exuels question.

In presenting a bill for the repeal of th law imposing d sabilities on those who served in the war of the rebellion, Mr. Hill, demo-crat, of New York, spok- briefly. The main purpose, he said, was to wipe out the future of the statute which prevented ex-confed-erates from serving in the United States

many and army.

"It is most opportune at the present moment," said Mr. Hill, "that these men from the south occupierate with those of the north in giving the country any military or naval defense that may be required." He spoke of the measure as a parietic one, tending to oblite ate the an most of a war long ago closed. In conclusion Mr. Hill asked that the

rules be suspended and the bill put on its immediate passage.

Mr. Platt. republican of Connecticut, suggested that it was rather a novel procedure to ask the senate to pass a measure of this character before senators had considered the

There is no immediate haste," said Mr. Platt, 'the country is not likely to have a war before congress reassembles after the holidays. There can be no objection to the repeal after it has been examined.'

Mr. Hill consented to let the bill go on the

table for the present.
Mr. Chandler immediately followed with bill "to strengthen the military armament." The reading of the title occasioned much whispered comment. It was referred to the

committee on military affairs.
On motion of Mr. Davis, republican of Minnesota, the senate agreed to a resolution WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.-Mr. Hitt, re- calling on the president for information and publican, of Illinois, rose in the house this all correspondence as to the establishment by Great Britain of postoffice and post roads in the United States territory of Alaska; also as to any British occupation, military or

Another significant resolution was offered by Mr. Gallinger of New Hampshire, authorizing the secretary of war to contract for the purchase of an improved counterpoise battery. The resolution went to the committee on military affairs.

Senator Chandler's bill will require early consideration in case of the complication reaching a more acute stage. It provides: 'That the president be, and he is hereby authorized and directed to strengthen the military armament by adding thereto, equipped for use, 1,000,000 infantry rifles. 1,000 guns for field artillery and not ex-ceeding 5,000 heavy guns for fortifications; to be procured by manufacture in the ar-senals, or by contract for manufacture, or by direct purchase in this country or elsewhere according to the discretion of the president who shall conform, when practicable, withou unwise delay, to the methods prescribed for making contracts and purchase by existing The sum of \$100,000,000 is hereby appropriated to carry into effect the provisions of this act."

Then the senate settled down to routine business.

The vice president announced the reap pointment of Mr. Cullom of Illinois as member of the board of regents of the Smith onian institute.

Call, democrat of Florida, then addressed the senate on his resolution for a senate investigation of alleged election frauds in Florida. The debate proceeded at much length.

length.

Mr. Caffery, democrat of Louisiana, deprecated the practice of giving attention to vague charges of fraud.

Mr. Sewall, republican of New Jersey, made his initial sprech since his re-entry to the senate. He said there would be no objection to an investigation confined to Florida, but he pointed out the inexpediency of a dragnet resolution, which could inaugurate in vestigations in all parts of the country.

Mr. White, democrat of California, jocuarr. White, democrat of California, jocu-larly inquired whether it was contemplated that this committee would travel around the ecuntry. If so, California wished to arrange for its reception.

Mr. Caffery said the resolution was a step toward a return to the federal election laws, and he predicted a return of complete republican control of the government would result in the re-enactment of the fideral election laws, "with all their rigidness against intimidation and force at the polls." An amendment to the resolution offered by Mr. Hale, republican of Mains, limiting the investigation to the election of United States senators and excluding members of the

touse was defeated.
Mr. Sewall's amendment confining the in vestigation to Florida was defeated, 20 to 32.

Mr. Hale's amendment that the investigation be conducted by the regular senate committer on privileges and elections was adopted, 29 to 24. The resolution as thus amended was agreed to without division.

amended was agreed to without division.

The text of the resolution is as follows:
Resolved. That the committee on privileges and elections shall be charged with the duty of investigating the subject of organized efforts of corporations or of the president and directors thereof to control the election of members of congress or to influence the legislation of congress; also to investigate and report to the senate what corrupt means, bribery or free transportation have been or are being used to influence such elections; also to inquire and report to the senate whether use of such influences or means is inconsistent with the preservation of the republic of the United States and the rights and libertles of the people, and to report a bill for the punishment or suppression of such practices.

Soon after securing the adontion of the Soon after securing the adoption of the resolution Mr. Call gave notice that he would move a reconsideration.

At 2:20 s. m., on motion of Mr. Chandler, the senate went into executive session. At 2:50 the senate adjourned until tomor-



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