

The Semi-Weekly Colonist.

THIRTY-EIGHTH YEAR. VICTORIA BRITISH COLUMBIA THURSDAY DECEMBER 10 1896. VOLUME XXXVIII. NO. 109

CLEVELAND'S MESSAGE.

The Retiring President's Last Official Communication to the United States Congress.

Spain Should Offer a Genuine Autonomy Measure of Home Rule to Cuba.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—To the Congress of the United States: As the representatives of the people in the legislative branch of the government, you have been assembled when the strength and excellence of our free institutions and the fitness of our citizens to enjoy popular rule have been again made manifest. A political contest involving momentous consequences, fraught with feverish apprehension, creating an aggressiveness so intense as to approach bitterness, has been waged throughout the land and determined by the decree of the free, independent suffrage without the disturbance of our tranquility or the least sign of weakness in our national structure. When we consider these incidents and contemplate the peaceful obedience and meek submission which succeeded the heated clash of political opinion, we discern abundant evidence of determination on the part of our countrymen to abide by every verdict of the popular will and to be controlled at all times by aiding faith in the agencies established to direct the affairs of the government. Thus our people have exhibited a patriotic disposition which entitles them to demand from those who undertake to make and execute their laws faithful and unselfish service on their part. This can only be prompted by serious appreciation of the trust and confidence which the acceptance of public duty invites. The President then expresses regret at the unimproved condition of

would appear to be the true interest of all concerned. It would at our step the conflict which is now consuming the resources of the island and making it worthless for whichever party that may ultimately prevail. It would keep intact the possessions of Spain without touching her honor, which would be consulted rather than impugned by the adequate redress of admitted grievances. It would put the prosperity of the islands and the fortunes of its inhabitants within its own control, without severing the ancient and natural ties which bind them to their mother, and would yet enable them to test the

CAPACITY FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT under more favorable conditions. It has been objected to on the one side that Spain should not promise autonomy until the insurgent subjects lay down their arms; on the other side the promised autonomy, however liberal, is insufficient without the assurance of the plan being fulfilled. But the reasonableness of the requirement by Spain of unconditional surrender on the part of the insurgent Cubans before their autonomy is conceded, is not altogether apparent. It ignores important features of the situation, the stability of which for two years' duration have given the insurrection its feasibility, its indefinite prolongation, in the nature of things, and as shown by past experience the utter and imminent ruin of the island unless the present strife is speedily stopped; above all, the rank abuse which all parties in Spain, all branches of her government, all her leading men, allow to exist, and at present have no desire to remove. Facing such circumstances, to withhold the proffer of needed reforms until the parties demanding them put themselves at their mercy by throwing down their arms, has the appearance of neglecting the gravest perils and inviting suspicion as to the sincerity and professed willingness to grant reforms. The objection on behalf of the insurgents—promised reforms cannot be relied upon—must, of course, be considered, though we have no right to assume and no reason for assuming that anything Spain undertakes to do for the relief of Cuba will not be done according to both the spirit and the letter of the undertaking.

The President deprecates any assumption that Spain would fall in an obligation undertaken towards the United States, but, realizing the suspicions and precautions on the part of the weaker party as natural, it was intimated by this government to the government of Spain some months ago that if a SATISFACTORY MEASURE OF HOME RULE was tendered the insurgents and accepted by them upon the guarantee of its execution the United States would endeavor to find a way, not objectionable to Spain, for furnishing such guarantee. While there was no definite response to this invitation, it is believed to be not altogether unwelcome, while, as already suggested, no reason is perceived why it should not be approved by the insurgents. The friendly offices of the United States in this or any other way are at the disposal of either party, and we should object to the acquisition of the island or interference with its control by any other nation.

It should be added that it cannot be reasonably assumed that the hitherto expectant attitude of the United States can be indefinitely maintained. While we are anxious to accord all due respect to the sovereignty of Spain, we cannot view the pending conflict in all its intricacies, and properly apprehend our inevitable close relations to it and possible results, without considering that by the course of events it may be drawn into the insurrection, and thus be placed in a position to fix a limit to our operations, waiting for Spain to end the contest, either alone and in her own way or with our friendly co-operation.

When the inability of Spain to deal successfully with the insurgents becomes manifest, and it is demonstrated that her sovereignty is extinct in Cuba for all purposes of its rightful existence, and when the hopeless struggle for the re-establishment of it has degenerated into a strife which means nothing more than the useless sacrifice of human life and the utter destruction of the very subject-matter of the conflict, the situation will be such that our obligations to the sovereignty of Spain will be superseded by higher obligations, which we can hardly hesitate to recognize and discharge. Referring to the choice of ways and methods until the time for action arrives, we should make them depend upon the precise conditions then existing, and they should not be determined without giving careful heed to every consideration involving our honor and interest or the international duty we owe Spain. Until we face the contingencies suggested, the situation is by our position inactively changed, we should continue in the line of conduct heretofore pursued, thus in all circumstances exhibiting our obedience to the requirements of public law and our regard for the duty enjoined upon us by the position we occupy in the family of nations. The closing of the

VENEZUELAN QUESTION, with the promise of an early and successful consummation of the negotiations for a general arbitration treaty with Great Britain, is briefly noted. The hope that Great Britain will cooperate for the better preservation of seal life in Behring sea is expressed. Statistics from the treasury department, including those of revenue, are submitted without comment or recommendation. The same is true of the statistics of immigration. The progress of coast defence is alluded to as one form of military preparation essentially pacific in its nature. Recurring again to the statistics of the treasury department, the President offers some suggestions respecting the present tariff law and its operation. He says: "Whatever be its shortcomings as a complete measure of tariff reform, it must be conceded that it has opened a way to a freer and a greater exchange of commodities between the United States and other countries, thus furnishing a wider market for our products and manufactures."

Continuing, the President says: "I believe the present tariff law, if allowed a fair opportunity in the near future,

will yield revenue, with reasonable economic expenditures, to overcome all deficiencies. In the meanwhile no deficit has occurred, or may occur, that need excite or disturb us. To meet any such deficit we have in the treasury, in addition to a gold reserve of one hundred millions, a surplus of more than one not met by the current revenues, and it is not at all to be likened to the man living beyond his income, thus incurring a debt or encroachment on the principal. The President renews his former recommendations for the retirement of greenbacks, by their exchange for long-term bonds bearing a low rate of interest, or by the redemption with the proceeds of such bonds. In default of this, he advises that currency obligations, redeemable in gold, whenever so redeemed, shall be cancelled instead of re-issued. This redemption would be a slow remedy, but would improve the present conditions.

"The national banks should redeem their own notes. They should be allowed for their exchange for long-term bonds deposited as security for their redemption, and the tax on their circulation should be reduced to one-fourth of one per cent."

The message concludes with the deprecation of the existence of trusts and an expression of the hope that the insufficiency of the present laws may be remedied by further legislation, and a final appeal to congress for rigid economy. "The way to perplexing extravagance is easy, but a return to frugality is difficult."

HANDSOME DIVIDENDS.

Golden Anticipations of the Consolidated Alburni—Duke of York Resuming Work.

Mining Development at Rogers Creek—Splendid Specimens of Ore.

ALBURNI, Dec. 5.—The Consolidated Alburni Gold Mining Company's stamp mill will be crushing to its full capacity on Monday. Everybody here feels confident that before long we shall have in the Alburni claims a mine paying handsome dividends to stockholders.

Owing to the severe frost here a few days ago the Duke of York Hydraulic Co. were compelled to shut down, but are starting up again on Monday with a full staff. The men expect to run the balance of the season without interruption.

Messrs. Jones and McKinnon will start next week to develop a group of claims at Rogers Creek. This property promises to become valuable owing to its close proximity to the Nanaimo road, some very fine specimens having been brought from them.

The steamship Tees arrived here on Friday, bringing a large cargo for this place, including 25,000 feet of lumber.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 7.—The President's message reached the Senate at 1:45 and the reading began at once. Through the early stages printed copies were distributed and Senators ran through these, picking out the salient features. The Turkish minister, accompanied by his secretary and an attaché entered the gallery shortly before the clerk read the president's statements as to prospective action to stop the Turkish indignities and outrages which had shocked the civilized world. They left the gallery immediately after this portion of the message was read.

Just as the Senate was about to adjourn the speaker of Louisiana announced the following resolution: "Resolved that the United States of America recognize the Republic of Cuba as a free and independent government and accord to that people all the rights of a sovereign and independent power in the ports and within the jurisdiction of the United States."

It is announced that the assent of Great Britain and other maritime states having been secured, the new rules for the prevention of collisions at sea will go into effect July 1 next.

Secretary Olney's report shows that negotiations are in progress for a convention to locate immediately that part of the Alaskan boundary along the 141st meridian by a monument and joint survey, while the prospects for the precise demarcation of the coast line boundary are said to be good, a preliminary survey having been completed, negotiations being published this morning a telegram from Minister Andrade, at Caracas, to the effect that the memorandum agreed upon between Great Britain and the United States for the settlement of the Venezuelan question will be published at Caracas this afternoon, and that an extra session of the Venezuelan congress will be called as soon as possible in order that it be carried into effect by the necessary treaty between Great Britain and Venezuela.

MACEO AND WEYLER.

Insurgent Leader Has an Army on Either Side the Captain-General.

Important and Terrible Battle—Insurgents Finally Dislodged—Cleveland's Message.

KEY WEST, Dec. 7.—Steamer Whitney arriving brings Havana news in relation to Maceo and Weyler. The passengers state that General Weyler was himself encamped ten miles from Artemisa, and his army was scattered along the trocha and through the Pinar del Rio district. When Maceo retreated from Weyler in his first campaign his plan was to surprise Weyler at the first opportunity, and now Maceo has an army on either side of Weyler and they are having daily skirmishes. Weyler is completely hemmed in and if he attempts to move will be compelled to go to Artemisa, but he has already crossed the trocha into Havana district and are attacking the outposts and villages in that province.

Insurgents numbering 7,000 are encamped in Havana province, twenty miles from Havana, who go to Maceo's assistance when needed. Spies in Havana are keeping the insurgents posted as to the movements of the Spanish troops. A movement is on foot to capture General Weyler if he should attempt to go to Havana by rail. Volunteers from Havana are being sent to General Weyler's relief. Heretofore these troops were used in defence of the city, which has been attacked almost every night, and on Thursday 250 Cuban patriots rode for two hours through the city.

A most important and terrible battle is reported in a private letter to have occurred at Palacios, in the province of Pinar del Rio. It is said that great forces of insurgents, strongly fortified at Torro heights, were attacked by a Spanish column. Fierce fighting, cannonading and musketry continued all day, the insurgents bravely defending their stronghold. The troops were unable to capture the fortification that day and both sides sustained a great loss. The next day the Spanish columns were reinforced by General Inclan, who renewed the attack. The Spanish troops were determined to take the stronghold and simultaneously advanced upon the fortifications. The insurgents were finally dislodged from their position, their loss being fully 200. It is said that the Spanish troops lost 600.

The steamer Triton, which was expected to leave Key West, was hurriedly dispatched yesterday to Bahia Honda. On this account many believe the reports widely circulated to the effect that on the night of December 3 sounds of musketry and artillery were heard in the vicinity. In official circles it is claimed that no news of an engagement has been received. Col. Aldea recently sustained a fight with the rebel leaders at Perico. The loss of the insurgents at the present writing is unknown. Two officers and thirty privates connected with the Spanish forces were wounded.

The insurgents near Baracoa succeeded in capturing the pile driver Provenir and four of her crew. This boat was loaded with groceries destined for the troops at Yeselays bay. The recent report of an attack of the insurgents upon Guanabacoa is said to have been false. Reports received from all parts of Pinar del Rio indicate that great mortality follows the recent epidemics which are prevailing throughout the section. Of all the diseases epidemic in nature, cholera seems to be the only one which has not visited that section.

HAVANA, Dec. 7.—Major Canabado, of the Cuban battalion, dislodged several bands of insurgents near Punta Brava this morning after two hours' fighting. The insurgents left behind fifty three men killed and a quantity of arms and ammunition. Many others were wounded. The troops lost one man killed and ten privates wounded.

Lieut. Col. Aldea on Thursday last met the enemy on the heights of Purgatory and after a fierce engagement from 10 o'clock until 7 in the evening occurred. The insurgents retreated, afterwards repelled an attack of their cavalry and passed the night in the insurgent camp. The loss of the two columns of Spanish troops in this engagement was twenty-four soldiers killed and Lieuts. Rodriguez and Piedmonte and forty-eight soldiers wounded. The insurgents are said to have lost about 300 men killed and wounded.

New York, Dec. 6.—Cuban Delegate Belmont received a letter under date of November 5 from Calixto Garcia. After Gen. Garcia left Guayamaro a heap of ruins, the letter says, the march was resumed toward Puerto Principe. The forces of Garcia and Gomez met about twelve miles from there at the village La Gora. In the presence of both armies Gomez shook Garcia's hand and congratulated him on his glorious victory.

Thirty-one prisoners taken by the Cubans were delivered under a flag of truce to a Spanish column at El Faro. The Spaniards apparently had neither ambulances nor litters. When they retreated from Guayamaro all the wounded were tumbled into six small jolting carts and were driven hurriedly off the field without any of their wounds being dressed.

A dispatch from Madrid to the World says: Intense anxiety is felt by all classes concerning what President Cleveland may say in his messages about Cuba and subsequent action by the American congress. In official circles this anxiety, though suppressed, is even keener than it is in unofficial quarters. Most of the Spanish conservatives perceive that the people in Spain are inclined to believe that if President Cleveland's language is sufficiently conciliatory to pave the way for an understanding between Spain and the United States for an honorable settlement, implying no infringement of Spanish sovereignty in

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U.S. Gov't Report

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

Cuba, such an impression probably will be made on the public mind and on the court itself as may induce Queen Christina to change the present war and repressive policy in Cuba for a more liberal one. The government will allow no demonstration when the news of the attitude assumed by the United States arrives, and the authorities are instructed to act energetically.

GERMAN POLITICAL TRIALS. BERLIN, Dec. 7.—Count Phillip zu Eulenberg, German ambassador to Austria, arrived here this morning from Vienna, in order to testify at the trial of Herr Leckert, Baron von Luetzow, Herr Berger and Herr Foelbaer, newspaper men, who are charged with libelling Count August zu Eulenberg, court chamberlain, Baron Marschall von Biberstein and Prince Alexander von Hohenlohe. When the trial was resumed, Baron von Tausch, commissioner of detectives, was arrested on a charge of perjury. Count Phillip was the first witness called. He testified that he had but a slight acquaintance with von Tausch, adding: "Calumny and mere invention they say have relations with von Tausch, especially in connection with the article referred to. I have nothing to do with such intrigues. I spoke confidentially with Baron von Biberstein on matters connected with this trial; but, aside from this, I know nothing which could be put in evidence."

FRANCE—MADAGASCAR. Present Conditions Discussed in the French Chambers—English Influence Denounced. Motion to Expel the Jesuits and Methodists From the Island.

PARIS, Dec. 7.—The chamber of deputies to-day after discussing the Madagascar credits adopted the order of the day and approved the policy of the government by a vote of 431 yeas to 81 nays. M. Michelin questioned the government regarding the recall of M. Laroche, the French resident in Madagascar, and the government's intention as to colonizing and governing the island. In doing so he declared that English gold was at the bottom of the Hova rising and that the Hovas and M. Laroche were pensioners of the English.

The minister of the colonies pointed out that the rumored influence of political persons referred to had been already denied. M. Michelin wished to insist upon his questioning, but the president of the chamber interrupted him, saying that the house was only cognizant of ministerial acts. M. Michelin then asked for explanations on the subject of the state of slavery said to exist in certain parts of the island. Garrillot's concession the deputy claimed to be a complete abandonment of Madagascar to the English.

M. Lebon answered that the circular abolishing slavery had been published and was being enforced. The minister of the colonies added that M. Laroche was at one time the protegee of a high personage, and referring to the railroad said that all French schemes were based on the government guaranteeing the interest on the railroad shares, but the government would not think of granting concessions to a company which was in any way foreign.

M. Gueysee, ex-minister of the colonies, justified the judicial organization of the island which he had initiated. He pointed out that M. Michelin had spoken of English gold, but English missionaries had been the first victims of the disorder. Important changes had been made since M. Laroche left the island, and the present resident general of Madagascar had not expelled any of the foreign missionaries.

M. Demahy maintained that M. Laroche had obeyed the Bible societies who had protected him, adding: "These societies are working the ruin of our influence and stealing our possessions, they are to be found throughout French territory carrying out political work."

M. Demahy asked the minister for the colonies if he had approved of the action of General Gallioni in not expelling the English Methodists, claiming it was time to stop their "occult influence." (Cheers.) M. Gueysee expressed the fear that a bloody repression of the disorders in Madagascar would be the signal for the gravest trouble.

M. Lebon then explained that General Gallioni was invested with unlimited powers, but the minister hoped that this would cease when the island was pacified.

M. Rouanet moved that the government expel the Jesuits, Methodists, etc., from Madagascar. To this suggestion M. Lebon replied that General Gallioni had full power to act against any propaganda of a political character, but France would not be right in expelling preachers en masse.

Fractured His Skull. MONCTON, Dec. 7.—Harry Foster, brother of the ex-minister of finance, fell down stairs and fractured his skull, dying in a few hours.

STILL MORE REMOVALS.

The Premier's Partner Appointed to a Judgeship—Sir Oliver Mowat.

Protest Against the School Settlement—Immigration Commissioner to Be Appointed.

(From Our Own Correspondent) OTTAWA, Dec. 7.—Mr. Laverne, M.P., the Premier's law partner, will shortly resign from the House of Commons and be appointed to the Superior court judgeship in the Ottawa and Pontiac district now held by Judge Malhot, who is to be superannuated on account of his failing eyesight.

The Owl, the journal at the Ottawa University, contains a strong editorial protest against the school settlement. Sir Oliver Mowat returned to the city to-night. The other tariff commissioners will return to-morrow.

More dismissals occurred to-day, including all the employees on the Rideau canal and Collector Bayburn at Deseronto.

A proposal has been made to the government to appoint a commission on immigration to report on the best means of attracting immigrants to Canada.

FAREWELL TO MR. BAYARD.

LONDON, Dec. 5.—The proposal of the Daily Telegraph to present to United States ambassador, Mr. Thomas F. Bayard, by popular subscription, a "Christmas farewell gift of respect and good-will," suggesting that it consist of rare and precious editions of the writings of Chaucer and Shakespeare, "so deeply loved by Mr. Bayard," is falling very flat. The diplomats and officials are slyly at the proposition and among Americans here, even including Mr. Bayard's personal secretary, a feeling of disgust is manifested at the idea of the American ambassador being placed on the same level as the popular cricketers or Crimean veterans for whom the Telegraph successfully engineered testimonials by subscription. One subscriber, who enclosed two shillings, wrote: "I have long thought him a decent fellow." Another who enclosed 10 shillings, said: "He is a man for whom I have long felt reverence. May his country produce many more such enlightened and worthy descendants of England." The representative of the Railway Workers' Union writes: "Though I have never seen Mr. Bayard, I have read his speeches and it is my opinion that no other envoy has done so much for English societies." A firm of Christmas card manufacturers sent five guineas "for one whom we would gladly claim as one of England's sons." In the meantime it is understood that Mr. Bayard pleases with the idea and intends to accept the testimonial.

NEWFOUNDLAND BANK TRIALS.

ST. JOHN'S, Nfld., Dec. 5.—The full Supreme court announced a decision to-day to the effect that it has been decided that all of the members of the court would not participate in the trial of the cases against the directors of the banks which failed here nearly two years ago. These cases have been pending before Justice Sir Frederick Carter, and Justice Little gave as reasons why they would not participate in the trial of the cases, the fact that they are both stockholders in the banks. Justice Emerson declined to participate in the trial because he had been prosecuting counsel before he was appointed to the bench. Justice Sir Frederick Carter intimated that the Lord Chief Justice of England and several of the principal English judges approved of the course declining to participate in the hearing. It is reported now that the government will pass a bill at the next session of the legislature empowering the imperial judges to act in cases of this character, and that the British cabinet will be requested to send one of the imperial judges for the purpose of participating in the trial of the cases against the directors of these banks.

Several vessels arrived here in a more or less damaged condition having been caught in the hurricane which passed over the Banks. Three men were washed overboard from the schooner Nancy and sank before assistance could reach them.

A Boom for Kootenay.

MONTEAL, Dec. 7.—A local broker says a tremendous boom is in store for the Rossland and Trail country next year, as there is almost positive assurance that London capitalists will invest several millions of pounds in that country in the spring.

Northwest Municipal Matters.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 7.—The municipal nominations for the Northwest Territories took place to-day. The following mayors were elected by acclamation: Regina, Mayor Eddy, re-elected; Moose Jaw, R. Bogue; Calgary, W. F. Orr; Edmonton, J. A. McDougall.

World's Fair, CELEBRATING UNDER THE TARTAR POWDER, FREE FOR ANY OTHER ALTERNATIVE, STANDARD.

VELOPMENTS. 2.—(Special)—The tunnel to-day got dyke which crosses into the ore chute on which it was opened by a tunnel. It ran through the St. Elmo com a solid face of ore, gold and averages the upper face of the feet from the St. The running of this lmo people has enormous value of Con. St. certain to prove one camp. ere looking up a site island or in the infor a big American presents a patent prot that he can treat it with an ordinary

THE U. S. HIERARCHY.

3.—For some time periodically published ding to come from parts, indicating part of the Holy See bishops, and especially the faculty of the Catholic University. Their is manifested in the am from the papal rate by the aposth needs no explanation. 3.—To Mgr. e apostolic. The Holy with great sorrow of ated in the United ed reports and tele announcing that on to be taken against e a distinguished Catholic university. will authoritatively hood, which are the ensible manœuvring. inal Kampolla.

ent attendants on the ale hats yesterday the to theistine chapel ed from the hall be the manner in which is Holiness was raised with cries of "Viva

THE SAILOR.

the eyes of all the re turned toward San ening, the attraction for, a limited number Fitzsimmons, the jarkey "the sailor" ident of this city and upon as the coming taken rigorous prepar entered the ring on condition: Fitzsimmons' of victories and his ringmanship made write nevertheless, and the scratch with heavy in the betting, though tathy of the immense was a long delay in referee, Fitzsimmons' that everything had the sailor. He and ultimately wanted the and the contest com. The first round was gave honors to the next enabled Sharkey all in the eyes of his time a long break in information, and then ago, which said: ves the fight to Sharkey

RES WITHHELD.

many allegations that Sharkey-Fitzsimmons' ednesday night was Anglo-California bank to cash the check for 0, when presented by the manager. The ex- at payment would be as the courts affirmed the money.

RE MASSACRE.

A dispatch to the Constantino says are has occurred at Ey-pundred Armenians are been killed. This morning discussed the Daily Telegraph for description for a farewell Mr. Bayard, the U. S. hile admitting the generous motives, it proposal is most im- an ambassador sovereign and what ward is done by Mr. er, one of the strictest diplomatic service force of presents. We are Bayard will not lead proposal, and there is Americans will laugh journalistic adverte- the familiar Anglo-in a dinner."