

BATTLE OF BAGE.

General Isidoro Fernandez Defeated by Federals.

HE FOUGHT TO THE LAST CARTRIDGE

scoring Gen. Tavares' Command that He Surrendered.

Reported That Captured Officers Were Battered in Cold Blood—Three Hundred Castillistas Were Slain in Battle—Peixoto's Naval Commanders Dismissed.

Montevideo, Dec. 2.—News from Rio de Janeiro to the effect that the federal victory in Rio Grande do Sul, news of which was sent yesterday, is fully confirmed. The combat took place on Tuesday near Bage, on the southern frontier, and General Isidoro Fernandez, with his staff of officers and a Castillista brigade commanded by Colonel Pedroso, 900 to 1,000 strong, were taken prisoners by the federal forces under Colonel Cabedo and the forces of the Castillistas 200 were killed, including many officers. Of the federalists 80 were killed. The reported massacre of prisoners is not confirmed. Engagements have also occurred on the Parana frontier, but reliable data cannot yet be obtained about them. The commander of Peixoto's vessels have again been dismissed for tampering with official correspondence.

Additional details received here of the battle near Bage state that General Isidoro is among the prisoners. Fighting began on November 27th, and lasted all that day and the next. On the morning of November 28th Tavares called on Isidoro to surrender, but the latter replied that he would surrender only when his last shot was fired. This actually happened the same evening. The only vessel which was able to make good its escape was that of Tavares, who had not a cartridge to put in his rifle. The prisoners number 700. One rumor has it that many officers were put to death after being captured. General Cabedo, Pedroso and three brothers of Pedroso and 31 officers. Another report has it that Isidoro fled before Tavares, who informed Silvrio Martins, the secretary of state of the provisional government, of the fight, and says Bage is now besieged by 1,500 men.

The Lehigh Strike. Buffalo, N. Y., Nov. 2.—There is no material change in the Lehigh strike situation at this end. The strikers are much encouraged and a hopeful view is taken by Grand Master Sargeant. There is no sign of a break. Sargeant left for Sayre this morning. He says the company cannot afford to continue the fight any longer, as the rolling stock is becoming badly crippled through incompetence.

Jersey City, N. J., Dec. 2.—Lehigh Valley railroad officials at this end of the line claim that trains are moving as usual and the strike is a thing of the past. The strikers on the other hand are confident. They are receiving wages weekly from the Brotherhood, and can hold out for some time. They say the business of the company is paralyzed, that the road cannot afford to keep up the strike, and that the numerous wrecks caused by "green" hands, causing freight and passenger traffic to drop off, will, they say, bring the company to terms at an early date.

Intends to Surrender. New York, Dec. 2.—It was reported in the district attorney's office this morning that W. W. Wadsworth, who was president of the Madison Square bank in 1891, is now in New York, and will surrender himself and give bail on Monday. It is said ex-President Wadsworth has been indicted with the other bank officials by the November grand jury.

Believes in Religious Liberty. St. Paul, Minn., Dec. 2.—Archbishop Ireland said today regarding the resolution of the Jesuits in Germany: "I am a strong advocate of plenary religious liberty in America, and, in fact, the world over." He refused to express himself further.

Opposed to Sugar Bounty. Washington, Dec. 2.—A prominent southern senator said this morning that a vigorous fight will be made on the sugar schedule, as reported by the ways and means committee, when the bill comes before the senate. From what he said it can be assumed that the senators from sugar states will oppose endorsement of the bounty system and will fight to the bitter end the tariff that has been fixed upon sugar. The senator stated that an effort would be made in the senate to change this so the bounty feature could be eliminated and a tax of not less than one and three-eighths cents placed upon refined sugar and one and three-quarter cents upon raw sugar.

Defend Their Inferior Goods. San Francisco, Dec. 2.—The association of wholesale grocers of California and the San Francisco board of trade have declared war on the new Wilson tariff bill as prepared by the committee on ways and means. Resolutions protesting most vigorously against the proposed reduction of one cent a pound in the duties on foreign raisins and prunes were yesterday unanimously adopted. Prominent fruit growers assert that the reduction contemplated in the bill means absolute destruction of the prune and raisin industries of California, and all parties interested are earnestly asked to co-operate with the wholesale grocers and the board of trade in fighting the obnoxious proposals.

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HAS LEFT RIO.

Disappearance of Admiral Mello From the Insurgent Fleet.

Washington, Dec. 1.—News of the departure of Admiral Mello reached Washington today in the shape of a cablegram from United States Minister Thompson, at Rio, as follows: "Admiral Mello left the Bay this morning on the Aquidaban, going south." Probably the high tariff on cable messages from Brazil caused the minister to confine his news to this meagre statement, so the officials are ignorant as to the reasons for the rebel admiral's intentions, and the strength of the naval force he left behind him. It is, however, surmised that he has taken forces with the revolutionists to join his flagship towards Desterro to join the forces with the revolutionists in that vicinity, leaving the partial siege of Rio to be prosecuted by the vessels remaining in that port. There has been a supposition entertained here that the admiral, when he left Rio, which movement was expected by the officials, would steam north with the intention of meeting the Niechery, lately Old. It is thought that probably in that case, the light armed cruiser would fall an easy prey to the admiral's heavy armed vessels, but the fact that Mello has gone south gives color to the story that his vessel is in bad condition, and unfit to cope with the fleet cruiser. It is probable also that the admiral's flagship is so far from long exposure to the quiet waters of Rio bay, that the commander has found it absolutely necessary to go to some safe place where her bottom may be cleaned. Meanwhile the further movements of the Aquidaban are the objects of great solicitude in official circles here, and it is expected that when she next appears in port, the nearest United States diplomatic consular officer will promptly report the facts.

Washington, Dec. 1.—The Niechery is awaiting at the West Indies the arrival of her consort the America. The two steamers will start together for Rio, which they are expected to reach in about seven days. Minister Mendoca says: "I do not put any confidence in the report that Mello has left port and is going south. I do not believe he has left the bay at all. It is possible some vessels which will not be allowed to check the advance of the Niechery and America, but as the fastest vessel Mello has outside the bay cannot make 14 knots an hour we do not anticipate any trouble, because our ships are much faster."

London, Dec. 1.—The Times publishes the following, giving Rio de Janeiro advice to November 28: "The artillery fire of the forts continues. Insurgent General Saravia, with 6000 irregular cavalry, is reported 90 miles south of San Paulo. The government ordered the national guard of the state of San Paulo to proceed south to meet the insurgents. The national guard refused to comply with the order, and the government will send 1200 men from Rio against the enemy. The Aquidaban is at Rio awaiting the rendezvous of the Aurora, Bahia and Tardantes, and will then proceed to attack Admiral Gama states positively that he will not bombard the city unless the city fires upon his ships. Eight thousand men are awaiting at Desterro, ready to march against the government forces. Political arrests continue in Rio and 1500 persons are now in prison. President Peixoto has become alienated from all sympathy of decent people, and stands alone with his army. Many persons join the insurgents daily. The strikers of Bahia and Para favor the insurgents."

A dispatch to the Exchange Telegraph Company from Rio de Janeiro states that the insurgent admiral, Mello, has finally succeeded in forcing a passage through the forts guarding the entrance of the bay of Rio de Janeiro, and that his flagship, the Aquidaban, is now on the high seas. The passage was not effected until desperate fighting had taken place. The entrance is guarded by Fort San Juan and the water battery on the strip of land extending northeast from the Sugar Loaf, Fort Lage, Fort Santa Cruz and Fort Pico. Advice from another source states that when the Aquidaban was seen approaching the forts, a heavy fire was directed against her. She replied briskly and the fight was kept up until she had run past the forts and was out of range. It was seen that some of the shots from the forts took effect, and it is believed that the Aquidaban sustained considerable damage. The government forces, particularly the troops manning the batteries suffered severely from the effects of the rapid firing. Considerable damage is said to have been done to the forts by the big guns of the Aquidaban, which appear to have been well served. The government forces suffered severely. After the Aquidaban went out of range she stood away for the south. It is conjectured at Rio de Janeiro that she will effect repairs as rapidly as possible at sea, and then cruise in the vicinity of the Bay of Santos, intercept the Niechery and America, the improvised warships now on their way from New York to reinforce Peixoto. The Aquidaban was accompanied by an armed merchantman, the British commander sent the British warship Beagle after them to ascertain the course which they took.

In the House of Commons this evening, a member said he had heard that President Peixoto of Brazil had been assassinated, and asked if the government had any such information. Sir Edward Grey, parliamentary secretary of the foreign office, replied that the government had received no word concerning any attempt upon Peixoto's life.

Buenos Ayres, Dec. 1.—The insurgents in Rio Grande do Sul have been victorious in a battle with the government forces near Bage. General Isidoro, of the government forces, was taken prisoner. Both sides suffered heavy losses. The government forces at Rio continue to command the insurgent warships. The transport Magica was set on fire by the explosion of shells from the forts, and the Aquidaban, the most powerful vessel of the insurgent fleet, seriously damaged.

Montevideo, Dec. 1.—A doubtful rumor is current that President Peixoto of Brazil has been assassinated.

London, Nov. 30.—The life mine owners have agreed to concede six and a quarter per cent advance in Wales to their men. This concession will probably end the dispute at the mines in the

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PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL

The President of the United States Sends Congress

HIS YEARLY OFFICIAL MESSAGE.

He Reports Peace, Progress and Prosperity at Home.

The Boston Pension System Denounced—The Navy is Flourishing—A Plea for Cleaner Courts of Law—Foreign Relations are Excellent—Better Times in Financial Matters Coming Soon.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 4.—The following is a synopsis of the president's message to congress: It is hardly necessary for me to state that the questions arising from our relations with Hawaii have caused serious embarrassment. Just prior to the installation of the present administration, the existing government of Hawaii had been suddenly overthrown, and a treaty of annexation had been negotiated between the United States and the islands and the United States submitted to the senate for ratification. This treaty I withdrew for examination and dispatched Hon. James H. Blount, of Georgia, Honolulu, as a special commissioner to make an impartial investigation of the circumstances attending the change of government, and of all the conditions bearing upon the subject of the facts as developed, and extended to me his report, showing beyond all question that the constitutional government of Hawaii had been subverted with the active aid of our representative to that government, and in the presence of an armed naval force of the United States, which was landed for that purpose at the instance of our minister. Upon learning the facts as developed, it seemed that the only honorable course for our government to pursue was to undo what had been done by those representing us, and to restore as far as practicable the status existing at the time of our intervention. With this view of accomplishing this result within the constitutional limits of our executive power, and recognizing all our obligations and responsibilities growing out of any changed conditions brought about by our unjustifiable interference, our present minister at Honolulu has received appropriate instructions to that end. Thus far no definite results have been received. Additional advice are soon expected. When received they will be promptly sent to congress, together with all other information at hand, accompanied by a special executive message fully explaining the steps necessary to a complete understanding of the case and presenting a history of all material events leading up to the present situation.

While our foreign relations have not during the past year been entirely free from perplexity, no embarrassing situation remains that will not yield to the spirit of fairness and love of justice, which, joined with consistent firmness, characterize a truly American foreign policy.

The outbreak of domestic hostilities in the republic of Brazil found the United States alert to watch the interests of their citizens in that country, with which we carry on an extensive trade. Several vessels of our new navy are now and for some time have been stationed at Rio de Janeiro. The trouble between the established government, which controls the machinery of administration, and the provisional government, which does the elements of undivided administration, I have failed to see that the insurgents can reasonably claim recognition as belligerents. In continuation of our fixed policy of partial neutrality in such a state of affairs as now exists, I deemed it necessary to disavow in a manner not to be misunderstood the unauthorized action of our late naval commander in those waters in saluting the revolted Brazilian admiral.

The legislation of last year, known as the Geary law, requiring the registration of all Chinese laborers entitled to reside in the United States, and the deportation of all not complying with the provisions of the act within the time prescribed, met with much opposition from the Chinamen in this country. Acting upon the advice of eminent counsel that the law was unconstitutional, the great mass of Chinese laborers, pending judicial inquiries to its validity in good faith declined to apply for the certificates required by its provisions. It is believed that under the recent amendment of the act extending the time for registration, Chinese laborers thereto entitled who desire to reside in this country will now avail themselves of the renewed privilege.

The relations with the French republic continue to be intimate and cordial. I sincerely hope that the extradition treaty with that country, as amended by the senate, will soon be operative.

While occasional questions affecting our naturalized citizens remain in the land of their birth have arisen in our intercourse with Germany, our relations with that country continue satisfactory.

The questions affecting our relations with Great Britain have been settled in a spirit of friendliness and effective progress between the two governments with a view to such concurrent action as will make the award and regulations of arbitration practices more effective, and it is not doubted that Great Britain will co-operate freely with this country for the accomplishment of that purpose.

The dispute growing out of the discriminating tolls imposed on the Welland canal upon cargoes of cereals bound to and

from the lake ports of the United States was adjusted by the substitution of a more equitable schedule of charges, and my predecessor thereupon suspended his proclamation imposing discriminating tolls upon British transit through our canal. A request for additional facilities of extradition offences covered by the existing treaty between the two countries is under consideration.

Our relations with Mexico continue to be of that close and friendly nature which the revenue character of the intercourse of two neighboring nations. Led by a desire to compose differences and contribute to the restoration of order in Samoa, the United States, departing from its policy entered four years ago into the treaty of Berlin, thereby becoming jointly bound with England and Germany to establish and maintain Malietoa Laupepa as king of Samoa. Early in the life of this triple protectorate, the native dissensions it was designed to quell, revived, Matafafa, an aspirant to the throne, and a large number of his inactive adherents were in open rebellion on one of the islands. Quite recently, at the request of the powers, and in fulfillment of its treaty obligation, this government agreed to unite in a joint military movement of such dimensions as would probably secure the surrender of the insurgents without bloodshed. Matafafa was defeated, and a number of his men killed. The chief and ten of his principal supporters were deported to a German island of the Marshall group, where they are held as prisoners under the joint responsibility of the three powers. This incident and the events leading up to it signify illustrate the impolicy of entangling alliances with foreign powers.

Since the passage of the act of March 3, 1893, authorizing the president to raise the grade of our envoys to correspond with the rank in which foreign countries accord their agents here, Great Britain, France, Italy and Germany have conferred upon their respective envoys the title of ambassador, and I have responded by accrediting the agents of the United States in those countries with the same title. A like elevation of mission is announced by Russia, and I have accordingly responded with the position the United States holds in the family of nations.

MARKED ADVANCE

marked advance in the education of the army and a commendable ambition among its officers to excel in the military profession and to fit themselves for the highest service to the country.

The report of the attorney-general contains the usual summary of the affairs the proceedings of the department of justice for the past year, together with certain recommendations as to needed legislation on various subjects. I can not too heartily endorse the proposition that the fee system, as applicable to the compensation of United States attorneys, marshals, clerks of federal courts, and United States commissioners should be abolished with as little delay as possible. It is clearly in the interest of the country that the business of the courts, both civil and criminal, shall be as small and as inexpensively transacted as the ends of justice will allow. The system is therefore thoroughly vicious which makes the compensation of court officials depend upon the volume of such business, and thus creates a conflict between the proper execution of the law and private gain which cannot fail to be dangerous to the rights and freedom of the citizen. The irreducible temptation to the unjustifiable expenditure of public funds. If in addition to this reform another was inaugurated which would give to the United States commissioners the grade of misdemeanors, especially those coming under the internal revenue laws, a great advance would be made towards a more decent administration of the criminal law, at general in the appearance of the system given in 1885 for a change in the manner of enforcing the federal criminal law have gained cogency and strength by lapse of time.

The report of the postmaster-general contains a detailed statement of the operations of the postal department during the last fiscal year and much interesting information touching the important branch of the public service. The business of the country has with it absolute certainty the condition of the business of the country, and depression in financial affairs inevitably and quickly reduces the postal revenues. There is a large discrepancy that exists between the postoffice receipts and expenditures is the expected and unavoidable result of the distressing stringency which has prevailed throughout the country during much of the time covered by the postmaster-general's report. At a date when better times were expected it was estimated by his predecessor that the deficiency on the 30th day of June, 1893, be only a little over a million and a half dollars. It amounted, however, to more than five millions.

The report of the secretary of the navy exhibits a most gratifying condition of the personnel of our navy. During the past six months the demands for cruising vessels have been many. There have been revolutions calling for vessels to protect American interests in Nicaragua, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Honduras, Argentine and Brazil, while the condition of the navy has been such that the constant presence of one or more ships. Progress in the construction of new vessels has not been as rapid as was expected. There have been delays in the completion of the necessary vessels, but for the most part they have been such as are constantly occurring even in countries having the largest experience in ship building. The most serious delays, however, have been in the work upon armor of the ships. The trouble has been the failure of contractors to deliver armor as agreed. The difficulties seen however, to have been all overcome. As a result of the experience acquired by shipbuilders and armorers, the armor which is believed that the armor when vessels will be completed can now be estimated with reasonable accuracy. Great guns, rapid firing guns, torpedoes and powder are being promptly supplied. While I am naturally in favor of consistently pursuing the policy we have inaugurated of building up a thorough and efficient navy, I cannot refrain from the suggestion that congress should carefully take into account the important subjects that it is of special value and interest. On the 30th day of June, 1893, there were on the pension rolls 996,012 names, or an increase of 29,946 over the number on the rolls on June 30th, 1892. The discovery having been made that many names had been put upon the roll by means of wholesale and gigantic frauds, the commission under the act of June 30th, 1892, has made perjury more common and false and undeserving pensioners rob the people not only of their money but of their patriotic sentiment, which the survivors of a war fought for the preservation of the union, ought to inspire. Thousands of neighborhoods have their well-known fraudulent pensioners, and recent developments by the bureau establish appalling conspiracies to accomplish pension frauds. By the least wrong done is to drive away deserving pensioners, who certainly ought not to be condemned to such association. Those who attempt in the line of duty to rectify these wrongs should not be accused of enmity or indifference to the claims of the honest veteran.

The condition of the Indians and their ultimate fate are subjects which are relegated as a sacred duty to the government and which strongly appeal to the sense of justice and the sympathy of our people. Our Indians number about 248,000; most of them are located on 161 reserves containing 80,118,531 acres of land. About 110,000 of these Indians have, to a large degree, adopted

civilized customs; lands in severity have been allotted to many of them. I am glad that secular education and moral and religious training must be important factors in any effort to save the Indian and lead them to civilization. I believe, too, the relinquishment of tribal relations and the holding of land in severalty may, under favorable conditions, do very much to improve the condition of the Indian people. The solution of the Indian problem depends very largely upon good administration. The personal fitness of their agents and their adaptability to the preliminary duty of caring for their wards is of the utmost importance. The law providing that, except in special cases, army officers shall be detailed as Indian agents it is hoped will prove a successful experiment.

I am glad to call the attention of congress to the statements contained in the secretary's report concerning forestry. The time has come when efficient measures should be taken for the preservation of our forests from indiscriminate and irreparable destruction. The report of the secretary of agriculture will be found exceedingly interesting, especially to that large part of our citizenry whose interests are primarily concerned in agricultural occupations.

The continued intelligent operation of the civil service law and the increasing approval by the people of its workings are most gratifying. The recent extension of its limitations and regulations to the employees at free delivery postoffices, which has been honestly and promptly accomplished by the commission with the hearty co-operation of the postmaster-general, is an immensely important advance in the usefulness of the system. I am, if possible, more than ever convinced of the incalculable benefits conferred by the civil service law, not only in its effects upon the public service, but also what is even more important, in its effect in elevating the tone of political life generally. The course of civil service reform in this country instructively and interestingly illustrates how a bold movement gains upon our people which has been undertaken in a sentiment of justice and right and which at the same time promises better administration of government. It seems to me that the system of civil service reform is in its infancy, and that its best enforcement to oblige the commission to rely upon the clerks for details from other departments. I earnestly urge that the clerks necessary to carry on the work of the commission be regularly put upon its roster and the system of obliging the commissioner to rely upon the services of clerks belonging to other departments be discontinued.

Economy in public expenditure is a duty that cannot consistently be neglected by the government. The control of money drawn from the public for public uses after a hard struggle tariff reform is directly before us. Nothing so important clearly presents itself as both an opportunity and a duty to our people to do their duty and a duty imposed upon us by our repeated professions and by the emphatic appeals of our people. After full discussion our countrymen have spoken in favor of this reform, and they have confided their work and its accomplishment to the hands of those who are solemnly pledged to it. Nothing should intervene to distract our attention or disturb our effort until this reform is accomplished by wise and careful legislation. While we should staunchly adhere to the principle that only the necessity of revenue justifies the imposition of tariff duties and other federal taxation, and that they should be limited by strict economy, we cannot close our eyes to the fact that conditions have grown up amongst us which in justice and fairness call for discriminating care in the distribution upon which duties and taxation as the emergencies of our government actually demand. Manifestly through tariff reform, one of its most obvious features should be a reduction in present tariff charges upon the necessities of life. No less closely related to our people's safety and well-being is the removal of restrictions upon the importation of raw materials necessary to our manufactures. The world should be open to our national ingenuity and enterprise. This cannot be while federal legislation, through the imposition of a high tariff, forbids to American manufacturers as cheap materials as those used by their competitors. It is quite obvious that the enhancement of prices of our manufactured products within our own borders is not only to the direct disadvantage of our manufacturers, but also increases their cost to our citizens. The interests of labor are certainly not less injured, included in this feature of the tariff system. The sharp competition and struggle among our manufacturers to supply the limited demand for their goods soon fill the narrow market, to which they are confined; there follows a suspension of work in mills and factories, a discharge of employes, and distress in the homes of our workmen. Even if the often disproved assertion could be made good that a lower rate of wages would result from free raw materials and low tariff duties, the intelligence of our workmen leads them quickly to discover that their steady employment, permitted by free raw materials, is the most important factor in their position to tariff legislation. Measures have been prepared by the congressional committee embodying tariff reform on the lines herein suggested, which will be promptly submitted for legislative action. It is the result of much careful and unselfish work, and I believe it deals with this subject consistently and as thoroughly as existing conditions permit. I am satisfied that the reduced tariff duties provided for in the proposed legislation, added to existing internal revenue taxations, will in the near future, though perhaps directly produce sufficient revenue to meet the needs of the government.

In conclusion, my intense feeling of responsibility impelled me to invoke for the manifest interests of a generous and confiding people the most scrupulous care, and to pledge my willing support to every legislative effort for the advancement of the greatness and prosperity of our beloved country.

(Signed) GROVER CLEVELAND, President of the United States, Washington, D. C., 1893.

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