

OPENING UP OF CHINA.

British Benefits to Be Derived—German Government Defeated—Conditions in India.

The Porte and the Eastern Question—German Importations of American Petroleum.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The Globe this afternoon says: "It is understood that important negotiations are proceeding, if not completed, whereby Great Britain will derive considerable commercial benefits in the opening up of China, adding that an English syndicate had obtained a concession to construct and maintain a long railroad which will be a powerful counter check to Russian designs."

A dispatch from Cape Town to the Daily Mail says that the burning of Cecil Rhodes' country house was the work of an incendiary.

Thomas F. Bayard, U. S. ambassador, and Mrs. Bayard, will be the guests of Lord Middleton at a birdhouse, Yorkshire, during the Christmas holidays.

Li Hung Chang has bought a residence, and intends to reside in Peking. He has ordered Herr Detring, the Chinese commissioner of customs, to go there.

The committee of the French chamber of deputies on the legion of honor bill recommends that the maximum number of chevaliers be limited to 12,000.

The Daily News has a despatch from Berlin with reference to rumors of reprisals against American petroleum. It is said that the German consumers are likely to suffer more by this move than the American exporters, Russia alone being scarcely able to supply Germany.

The defeat of the German government over the judicial procedure amendment bill, which has been under discussion for two years in the reichstag, is due to the defection of the centrists. The majority of the reichstag insisted upon certain amendments, upon which the government decided to drop the bill.

Rev. Dr. Barrows, president of the Parliament of Religions, landed at Bombay to-day. He was warmly welcomed by representatives of the various religious communities. Dr. Barrows remains in India three months, giving the Havel lectures on Christianity.

It is stated on good authority that there are no new developments in the Eastern question. The powers for months past have been discussing the different plans to bring about a better administration of the Turkish empire. A number of notes on the subject have been presented to the Porte. The Russian ambassador, M. de Nelidoff, on his return to Constantinople from St. Petersburg, will make another presentation of the demand of the powers, and the Sultan is expected to agree to them in due course of time.

The Times Berlin correspondent says that the Porte has recalled Said Eddin Pasha, the port's special envoy to Crete, in accordance with the joint command of the powers. Said Eddin was accused of thwarting the reforms in Crete promised by Turkey to the powers.

A times dispatch from Berlin says that the reichstag having rejected the judicial procedure amendment bill, it is probable the same fate will befall the scheme for the reform of the military court.

The French appeal court has confirmed the sentence of two years imprisonment upon Emile Arton for bribery in connection with the Panama scandal.

M. Philippe Eugene, Cussart, radical deputy for the first division of Laon, is dead.

A dispatch to the Observer from Rome says that Premier Di Rudini is desirous of bringing about the dissolution of parliament, hoping thereby to preserve the radical vote, the special object of which is to bring about an abandonment of the triple alliance for the purpose of forming an alliance with France.

A dispatch from Singapore says the natives of Minandano island, which after Luzon is the largest of the Philippine islands, have revolted against many native troops are deserting to the insurgents. The situation in Manila is full of anxiety. A dispatch to the Imperial from Singapore admits that there has been a general strike in Cavite, the fortified seaport town on the island of Luzon. It adds that a hundred and fifty prisoners revolted, killing six soldiers, seized arms and tried to raise the native inhabitants against the garrison. Continuing these advice say the revolt failed.

A Times dispatch from Berlin says that an explosion occurred on Saturday afternoon in the Moabit quarter in the house of the scientist, George Isaac, who was experimenting with the manufacture of acetylene gas. Isaac and three assistants were blown to atoms. It is stated that Emperor William had intended to visit Mr. Isaac's laboratory, as his experiments had attracted the Emperor's attention.

The London Amnesty Association has taken up the defence of Edward Ivory, alias Bell. Messrs. Day, Russell and Brougham have been instructed as solicitors, and at their request, upon the ground of their recent introduction to the case, the treasury has consented to postpone the case until the January sessions at the Old Bailey. It will probably be called January 11.

Le Temps announces that an international conference of the representatives of Germany, Austria, Belgium, France and Russia will meet at Paris in March of next year for the purpose of considering the best means of bringing about the abolition of the sugar bounties.

The great dockers' strike at Hamburg is practically ended, and numbers of the strikers are returning to work. The railway announces that in future there will be prompt delivery of freight.

The members of the Sailors and Firemen's Union, of Clyde, have decided to strike if the increase in wages is not granted. It is said in the event of a strike the dock workers of New York and along the Mersey will refuse to unload vessels coming from Glasgow.

The victory of India has sent a statement by cable to the effect that the past week has been rainless. Owing to previous rains, however, the number of those requiring relief has been reduced from twenty-five to thirty per cent. Rains at Bombay have considerably reduced the area of distress.

U.S. TARIFF REPRISALS.

Their Effect in Germany—To Shorten Term of French Military Service.

Old and New World Struggles—French Defences—The Argentine Wheat Crop.

LONDON, Dec. 16.—The Standard's Berlin correspondent says he believes that the tonnage dues reprisal put in force by President Cleveland's proclamation against Germany, is due to Germany's failure to settle the status of American insurance companies.

Prince Zollme-Hohenzollme-Lich has been elected president of the Prussian Upper House. He was born in 1833. He is a major-general in the Prussian army, and succeeds the late Prince Otto von Stollberg-Wernigerode, who died on November 30.

During the discussion of the army budget in the reichstag, to-day, M. Jaures, Socialist deputy from the Tarn, moved that the term of military service be reduced to one year.

General Billot, minister of war, opposed the motion. He said he could not forget that the frontiers of France were open, that one year of service would reduce the strength of the army and that in the present times the army reserves must be ready to take the field at any moment. The motion was rejected by a vote of 482 to 54.

M. Deluns-Montaud, deputy for Lot et Garonne, in a speech in commemoration of the establishment of the Egyptian republic, said that England should be regarded as Egypt. He also urged concord among nations regarding their colonies; for the older world, he declared, was confronted with the hostility of the new world and must league together in order to hold its own in the industrial struggle between the two continents.

An adventuresome named Comtesse Rossi, who was born in America, has been arrested in Paris for a series of burglaries.

Senator Pym, ex-President of the Spanish republic and now leader of the republican party in Spain, has a long letter in Le Gaulois, quoting numerous precedents to prove that Europe has no right to complain of American interference in Cuba.

The big prize in the Panama lottery, amounting to £20,000 sterling, has been won by a Marseilles market woman.

Replying to a deputation urging the prompt nomination of a successor to M. Meine, the president of the council, said he was unable to hold out any hope that the bill for that purpose would pass at this session of the chamber.

The chamber of deputies to-day passed the naval budget. Admiral Benard, minister of marine, replying to Admiral Vallon, representing one of the districts of Finistère, promised to introduce schemes for the defence of Cherbourg and the tariff commission left for Montreal to-night.

Hon. Mr. Laurier will speak at Cornwall to-morrow.

Through trains between Ottawa and Parry Sound will commence to run on Monday next.

Mr. Bostock is here en route to British Columbia from England. He says there is a great awakening of interest in England respecting British Columbia.

Mr. Mara was here to-day, and left for Toronto to-night.

The free dairy school, under government auspices, will be held at Sussex, N. B., from January to March. Last year fifty-four students attended a similar school.

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MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.

WINNIPEG, Dec. 15.—(Special)—The municipal elections were held to-day throughout Manitoba. In Winnipeg, there was a hot contest for the mayoralty between five candidates. Alderman McCreary led the poll and was elected by 100 majority over E. F. Hutchins. A. Black, A. McMillen and J. Sproule followed Mr. Hutchins in the order named. For aldermen, the candidates are: Ward 5, D. J. Dyer; Ward 4, C. H. Wilson; Ward 3, John White; Ward 2, J. F. Mitchell.

In the outside towns there were several hot contests. In Selkirk the mayoralty fight was strictly on party lines, Colclough, Liberal, defeated Bullock, Conservative by 98 majority. In St. Boniface there was a warm contest for the mayoralty between Senator Bernier backed by the Conservatives and the Archbishop. Bernier was elected by 17 majority. In Portage la Prairie E. Brown was elected mayor. In this city by-laws providing for new waterworks and electric light plants were both defeated.

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SPAIN STILL PASSIVE.

Gen. Weyler's Statement Regarding Maceo's Death—"He Was Not Killed in Ambush."

Resolutions Introduced in Congress—Cuban Expeditions Forming in the United States.

LONDON, Dec. 15.—The Times commenting on the Cuban situation expresses the hope that the Spaniards will continue to disregard the vituperation of jingo senators and abstain from imitating them, adding: "The American government maintains the correct and neutral attitude. As long as it does Spain can afford to smile at Senator Chandler's off-hand recognition of the Cuban republic."

The Globe says: "When these wild men rave at England, British feeling regards them as amusing lunatics, whose roving antics do not carry over to either country, but the Spaniards are more easily inflamed to anger, and there is some danger of Spain falling into the trap when the practical Laura reaches Valencia. Spain has endeavored much to diminish the value of the great republic, but there are many indications that this passive submission to insult will not last much longer. It would be well, therefore, for the Washington government to place restraint on Senator Chandler and his colleagues. If Spain is goaded to uphold her honor by arms, a naval war might have results not at all agreeable to the American Chauvinists."

A special copyrighted cablegram to the World from Madrid, via Havana, France, says: "The European governments friendly to Spain are much impressed by the killing of Antonio Maceo, and strongly recommended Spain to adopt a course which shall ward off intervention in Cuba by America."

The World's correspondent at Havana sent last night the following statement from General Weyler, on Maceo's death: "Havana, Dec. 14.—Maceo died as a result of the battle which was the insurgents' band in Havana province. Doubtless, before the sudden attacks and constant persecution of the battalion at San Quintine, they were losing ground. To re-organize these bands he put himself at their head, and for that he died, with a part of the staff accompanying him. In the same manner have all the many generals in wars all over the world."

Maceo was not killed in ambush. My assertion can be proved by facts. The Spanish column which fought against the forces had to maintain itself against the fire of the insurgents and the insurgents were strong enough in number to re-take the bodies of Maceo and the son of Maximo Gomez, which they carried away from the field. Maceo was surrounded by his own men, who embarked with him and passed the torch, as affirmed by his own physician, Dr. Zertucha.

"It is not true that Maceo was coming for a conference with me. I can prove it by two reasons. The first is, if I was in the province of Pinar del Rio, how could I summon him to the province of Havana? The second is, knowing myself the situation in which Maceo was, I would not be so innocent as to agree to a conference with him in a place where he would be out of the trenches. Once in Havana he would have broken the circle in which I had him and his forces in Pinar del Rio. Maceo died as all our command forces, who, at the sight of the enemy fly away. This discouraged band was brought to Havana with the hope of making a fight. Any other chief of similar circumstances, as his men disbanded, would be sure to die, and that is what happened Maceo. (Signed) Weyler."

From all parts of the United States, Mexico and Paris telegrams have been received by the Cuban junta and prominent Cubans of New York, expressing sympathy with Cuba and offering financial assistance to the men who are making the fight for liberty.

The governor of New York yesterday sent an important telegram to the President of the United States relating to the critical condition of affairs in Cuba. The governor's message contains a suggestion that the President invite President-elect McKinley to Washington to discuss the most feasible plan to be followed by the President concerning the attitude of the United States toward Cuba, during the remainder of President Cleveland's term of office.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Representative Woodman, of Illinois, to-day introduced a resolution directing the President to intervene in Cuban affairs. The resolution after reciting General Maceo's assassination and Spanish cruelties in Cuba, says the President has failed to carry out the wishes of the people. The President is directed to express severe condemnation of the Spanish methods of warfare, and the probable murder of Maceo, and to recognize the independence of Cuba and demand Spain to withdraw all troops from Cuban soil. He is also directed to take proper steps to see that Cuba is sustained and protected from the Spanish captain general, who is outcast from the family of nations, and to recognize the independence of Cuba, and to recognize the independence of Cuba and demand Spain to withdraw all troops from Cuban soil. 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