The Semi-Weekly World

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THE SEMI-WEEKLY WORLD

FRIDAY.....DECEMBER 6, 1895.

THEY ARE BARBARIANS.

It was Archibald Forbes who declared that the Turk is a barbarian and as such must be judged. When not under the excitement of passions aroused he may be mild enough, but when once his thirst for blood is awakened he resorts to atrocities of the worst description. This estimate of the famous war correspondent temporary on the other side of the line seems to be justified, as a contemporary on the other side of the line, remarks by the history of Turkish affairs ever since the civilized world has been brought sufficiently in touch with the Turks to form an estimate of their character. Within Europe but a very small percentage of the population is Turkish. That race never has established itself in any part of Europe except as conquerors holding a subject country. Europe is not its home, and in the development of modern civilization it has had no part. The verdict that the barbarous Turk must go is in harmony with all that makes for the good of the Balkan peninsula and the elevation of its inhabitants. In respect to the atrocities committed upon Christians there is little or no difference between the case of Armenia and that of Bulgaria, which gave rise to the war between Turkey and Russia. But geographically there is a great difference. Armenia is in Asia, whereas Bulgaria is in Europe. The Turk might be driven out of Europe and a Christian race established in authority in his stead, and probably apart from a feeling of humiliated pride he would care but little, for he does not look upon Europe as his home. He knows that there he is a stranger, a strange land. But he belongs in Asia, and from that continent he cannot be driven. He must remain somewhere. But if Turkish rule is prolonged over Armenia the conditions of the unfortunate inhabitants of that country will not be improved. This is what makes the problem presented by Armenia more difficult of solution than the one which rose in Bulgaria. It would seem that there is no adequate solution except in the dismemberment of the empire. There is not an agreement, however, among the Powers on this question. Lord Salisbury, it will be remembered, indicated in his speech delivered at the Lord Mayor's banquet that he would be unwilling to go further than deposing the Sultan. Inadequate as a solution of the problem though it would be. Trade matters weigh in the balance. It would seem that, according to our despatches to-day, that Abdul Hamid has scored a temporary victory. There can be no doubt, however, that Sir Philip Currie acted under instructions and for the best. Fears of a riot in Constantinople, with dreadful consequences, may have led to the change of base.

THE QUEEN'S FRIENDS.

It is only when old and grey-haired members of the royal household drop by the wayside, exhausted by age and toil, that one begins to realize how far advanced in years is the Queen, and to what extent she is matriarch, not only among the 200,000,000 people subject to her rule, but also to the monarchs of the world. Gen. Sir Henry Ponsonby was a young officer of the guards when he became attached to the court in the capacity of equerry to the Prince Consort at the close of the fifties. Yet the Queen was already a grandmother at the time and had wielded sovereign power over a fifth of the globe for more than two decades. Some time ago, warned by the sudden death at Osborne of his life-long colleague, Gen. Sir John Cowell, like himself a victim to overwork, Sir Henry tendered his resignation to the Queen, earnestly desirous of escaping a similar fate. But at the earnest request of Her Majesty, who pathetically pointed out to him that, broken as she is by age and infirmity, the close of her reign, which would relieve him of his labors, was not be far distant, he kept the position a few months longer. He was the last to save Lord Bridport, of those old and trusted attendants who entered Her Majesty's service while her husband was still alive. It must be very sad for the venerable sovereign to see these, her contemporaries, thus vanishing into the grave, and it is not difficult to appreciate the utter sense of loneliness and desolation which she must suffer by their disappearance.

A THREE-CORNERED FIGHT.

The contest now pending in North Ontario has assumed the aspect of a triangular political fight between Conservatives, Patrons, and Liberals, in which each faction will be afforded a fair opportunity for testing its strength. The constituency takes its political character from the overwhelming strength of the Orangemen in the township of Brock. Outside of it North Ontario hitherto has always been Liberal by a considerable majority. The fact that several of the cabinet ministers have been in the riding since it was thrown open indicates the determination on the part of the Government to carry it no matter what the cost, the consequences being far-reaching, possibly involving the fate of the Administration. The late member, Frank Madill, voted against the disallowance of the Jesuits Estates Act, and was elected in 1891 by a majority of 254. He polled in Brock township 646 votes to 256 polled for A. P. Cockburn. Then, there is a Catholic vote in the townships of Mara and Rama, and, as F. J. Gillespie, the Liberal candidate, is of that persuasion, there is little chance that it will go to a Conservative as it did in Haldimand. Finally, North Ontario is an agricultural constituency. The 600 votes cast in the villages of Cannington, Beaverton and Bracebridge are not 20 per cent. of the total vote. Summing up the situation a Toronto contemporary says: If the Patrons cannot win in North Ontario they cannot win anywhere. If the alleged agricultural dissatisfaction with the Government's trade policy does not give victory to the Grits in North Ontario, Mr. Laurier has cause to be disappointed. And if the Orangemen of Brock township accept a candidate who passively appreves of the remedial order, Sir Mackenzie Bowell may understand that the Orangemen of Ontario will stand by him no matter what he does to Manitoba.

PATRONAGE IN BRITAIN.

The Colonial Secretary made some remarks a while ago at a dinner, in the course of proposing a toast to a new Australian governor, which may suggest a thought or two to Canadian readers. He said: The choice of a governor is part of what is pleasantly called the patronage of the Colonial Office. (Laughter.) I am not fond of the word, and I dislike excessively the impression which it appears to produce upon certain of the public that the Secretary of State for the Colonies has always in his gift a number of eligible and lucrative appointments which are at the disposal of any one who has anywhere failed in other walks of life. (Laughter.) Whenever a new Administration comes into power, I am afraid there are many expectations of this kind which are inevitably doomed to disappointment, and even when they may be gratified without injury to the public service I think that sometimes there is disappointment of the sanguine hopes which have been formed by those who have selected these appointments. At all events, although I myself have but a slight experience, I have come to the conclusion that a large portion of my time will in future be devoted to explaining to a number of estimable gentlemen why it is absolutely impossible for me to appoint nine-tenths of them to positions in the colonies; another large portion will be taken up in explaining to the one-tenth who are successful that I cannot immediately remove them to more favorable situations and to healthier climates. (Laughter.)

Several things follow from this paragraph. It is plain that they are cursed with the patronage system in Britain as we are here, remarks a Canadian exchange, though perhaps not to the same degree or in the same way. Then again the courage of the Minister in resisting the importunities of the patronage-hunters has a distinct relation to our comfort and prosperity in the colonies. In the Dominion, we have hardly guessed that this state of affairs exists; for the Imperial posts here have been manned so magnificently that we have thought of the British Government as picking among the choicest of the United Kingdom for men to represent the Empire abroad. And, despite the humorous confession of the Colonial Secretary that he is much bothered by seekers of sinecures, we suspect that this method of choice is largely employed; and that the place-hunter receives scant courtesy at the hands of the British Minister.

AFRAID OF THE HULK.

Our friends the Conservatives have fallen upon evil days. They can find nobody to step into the shoes that Hon. Mr. Angers left behind him at Ottawa. First Lieutenant-Governor Chapleau was tried and then Hon. L. P. Pelletier but both were afraid to enter the moribund concern and now it is Hon. Mr. Masson whose name is freely mentioned in that connection. Somebody must be got to fill the gap and it might as well be M. Masson as anyone else. If proof, however, were needed of the state of collapse to which a once great party has been brought it can be found in the fact that no statesman of any merit dares to imperil his fortunes by joining a sinking ship. M. Chapleau had a good thing at Spencerwood and M. Pelletier in the Government of the Province of Quebec—they are taking no chances. As for M. Masson he will be a makeshift and can be depended upon to vote all right at meetings of the cabinet. And we are calmly told that a condition of things such as this portends victory!

THE LAST EXTREMITY.

The despatches inform us that our High Commissioner intends to give himself a holiday and come over to Canada—ostensibly in connection with fast Atlantic steamship matters. The public can rest assured that something else brings Sir Charles over to the country that has supplied him with a livelihood for so many years. When the face of the political sky grows so cloudy that Conservatives hardly recognize each other, then Sir Charles is sent for and his advice implored. It was ever thus, and we may be sure that the darkness is almost impenetrable when "the Cumberland war horse" appears on the scene. It does seem peculiar, however, that brainy men like Mr. Ives or Mr. Daly or Mr. Dickey or Dr. Montague are not sufficiently resourceful to avert threatened danger to the party. We hear them lauded, until the operation becomes painful, by the organs, and we listen their services might be useful if they are "turned down" in favor of the old hand. Of course it will be strenuously claimed by the newspapers that a servant of the whole Canadian people is leaving his London duties to further the public good alone, but they cannot make any person familiar with our history believe that Sir Charles has dealt with many difficult situations in his time, but the one now confronting him will require more ability and prescience than he possessed even in his palmiest days.

CONDEMNATION SHOULD FOLLOW.

The communications that have appeared in these columns relating to the recent Liberal-Conservative annual convention have not been contradicted and it is safe now to assume that what they contained was true. It is especially alleged that the gentlemen who sent their letters to this journal rather than to the organ had excellent reasons for doing so. The question is a family one, and we do not intend intruding upon the distracted household, only to say that it is incumbent upon the better portion, the justice loving section, of the party, to see that the wrong is righted and the taint removed. Such conduct ought not to be condoned. We, in Canada, have always sneered at the American ward politics system and boasted that we had them?—and the railway is yet in its infancy. Centuries of misrule and official plunder have rendered the people careless of their opportunities, and no improvement can be expected while the present lack of confidence exists. There would, reading between the lines, seem to be jealousies among the Powers which prevent similar emancipation. Eventually, however, the Sultan will have to submit. The trend of events of the next few days will prove interesting and the outcome will be eagerly awaited by the entire civilized world.

If our morning contemporary thinks it wise to call its party associates "mercenaries" and "hirelings," we do not complain. It is only fair to say, however, that the authors of the various communications which have appeared in this journal concerning the now someing and without foundation. On the 13th of November a correspondence appeared, in The Daily World, from Spallumcheen, concerning the new flouring mill in process of erection there, which we are credibly informed grossly distorted the truth and the actual facts relating to that enterprise. All connected with the undertaking have been misrepresented, wilfully and, we believe, knowingly slandered by our correspondent, Vox, to such a degree that we have to express regret, and that sincerely, that our columns were taken advantage of to make what undoubtedly were derogatory statements concerning the board of directors, and the methods its members pursued in carrying on their business and especially so the manager or chairman, Mr. D. Rabbitt. To that gentleman and those associated with him in the management of the scheme, The World has to express its profound regret that such misleading correspondence was allowed to appear in its columns, as thereby publicity was given to matters which were not true. A new undertaking of the character in which these gentlemen are engaged has always many difficulties to contend with, and it is neither manly or honorable, with neighbors especially, to throw obstacles in their way for no purpose beyond that of causing annoyance and ill-feeling and having a "fling" at those who may be doing their best for the community in which they reside.

TURKEY AND ITS FAILURES.

Columns of matter have been appearing of late in the public journals, sent from Constantinople and other metropolitan points, relating to the existing Turkish difficulty, but how few people really know the extent of that turbulent and badly governed country? It is one of the most remarkable in the world. The European possessions of the Sultan have been much cut down during the past century, the last dismantlement taking place in 1877-78, as the result of the Russo-Turkish war. At that time Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia were constituted independent states, and Bosnia and Herzogovina were placed under the protection of Austria-Hungary, while the island of Cyprus was placed under British control. Prior to this distribution, Turkey-in-Europe embraced 138,264 square miles, with 8,218,000 of a population. Under the Berlin treaty 76,236 square miles of territory, with a population of 4,040,000, were taken from the Sublime Porte, thus very much circumscribing the European sphere of influence of the man of four wives and countless concubines. It is when we cross the Bosphorus, that narrow waterway which connects the Gulf of Marmora with the Black Sea, that the greater historical interest attaches to the Turkish possessions, remarks the London Advertiser. Under the rule of the Turk we find not only the land of Palestine, but that vast territory in Asia Minor which at one time or other was dominated by the Babylonian Empire, the Assyrian Empire, the Medo-Persian Empire, and over which, in succession, swept the Roman and Byzantine conquerors. These in turn were supplanted by the ferocious Turkish hordes, who swept over it in the fourteenth century, and establishing themselves at Constantinople, have ever since held control of that territory. Right in this land, not a few of them in the districts where the fearful slaughter of Christians has recently taken place, were the famous cities of Nineveh, Babylon, Damascus, and Tyre and Sidon. Embraced in the Turkish territory, indeed, is ancient Assyria, Babylonia, Phoenicia, Mesopotamia, Lydia, Ionia, and the land of the Philistines. Here, too, it is believed was the Garden of Eden situated, and Mount Ararat, upon which the ark of Noah grounded after the flood, is also in the possession of the Turk. It is a subject of speculation whether or not if the old patriarch could look down upon the scenes of carnage in the neighborhood of his earthly experiences with the wicked generation of his day, he would not be forced to the conclusion that the neighborhood has not much improved during the last 3,000 years. Constantinople, Smyrna, Scutari and Trebizond are the principal ports. The chief commercial cities are Aleppo, Damascus, Tripoli, Jerusalem and Bagdad, the city rendered famous by the "Arabian Nights' Entertainments." Within Turkish territories, also, are the three great rivers of the Euphrates, the Tigris, and the Jordan. Thousands of islands in the archipelago from Gallipoli to Rhodes, many of them of historical import, because touched at by the Apostle Paul in the course of his journeyings, are controlled by the Sultan. Armenia, where the massacres of Christians have recently taken place, adjoins the Turkish district of Trebizonde at the eastern end of the Black Sea. It shares borders Russian territory, and the population being Christians have far more in common with Russia, where the State religion is Greek Catholicism, than Turkey, with its Mohammedanism. The difference in religion, which is not tolerated in Turkey as we are in the habit of tolerating the religious views of those who disagree with us, has much to do with the bloodshed in Armenia. But there are other reasons for the dissatisfaction of the Armenians with Turkish rule, our contemporary remarks. The inhabitants are oppressed by taxation; much of the money filched from them is stolen by the men to whom the collection is farmed by the Sultan. Those who have been robbed at every turn by public officials, and who are shot down the moment they utter a protest, cannot feel very cordially towards their masters, nor do it to be wondered at that "turned down" in favor of the old hand. Of course it will be strenuously claimed by the newspapers that a servant of the whole Canadian people is leaving his London duties to further the public good alone, but they cannot make any person familiar with our history believe that Sir Charles has dealt with many difficult situations in his time, but the one now confronting him will require more ability and prescience than he possessed even in his palmiest days.

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APOLOGETIC.

The bane of a newspaper's life is the manner in which its conductors are frequently deceived and imposed upon by designing and unscrupulous correspondents, who, frequently, in consequence of their remoteness from the office of publication, take advantage of this circumstance to contribute articles, which they guarantee to be truthful, but which afterwards are ascertained to be misleading and without foundation. On the 13th of November a correspondence appeared, in The Daily World, from Spallumcheen, concerning the new flouring mill in process of erection there, which we are credibly informed grossly distorted the truth and the actual facts relating to that enterprise. All connected with the undertaking have been misrepresented, wilfully and, we believe, knowingly slandered by our correspondent, Vox, to such a degree that we have to express regret, and that sincerely, that our columns were taken advantage of to make what undoubtedly were derogatory statements concerning the board of directors, and the methods its members pursued in carrying on their business and especially so the manager or chairman, Mr. D. Rabbitt. To that gentleman and those associated with him in the management of the scheme, The World has to express its profound regret that such misleading

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Had our attention being drawn to it this would have been done. Mr. Beatty claims to be a heavy loser, both in time and money in connection with the scheme, which he avers he entered into with the best possible intentions of doing all that was right and honest between all parties. The judgment was referred to editorially by The World of the 8th Nov., and Mr. Beatty's name appeared therein frequently, whereas it should have been that of Mr. Bailey. We are certain that none regrets the mistake more than the Chief Justice, and The World is sorry that publicity was given to the wrong name, but it was entirely unintentional on our part. It is a rule of this paper not to interfere with judgments from the Bench, without the authority of Their Lordships. Mr. Beatty's friends will be pleased to learn that he was not the person the Chief Justice intended referring to.

It is difficult to convey an adequate conception of the vastness of Canada. England, Scotland and Wales together form an area of about 128,800 square miles. Ponder such areas could be cut out of Canada. New South Wales contains 309,175 square miles, and is larger by 182 square miles than France, Italy and Sicily. Canada would make 11 countries the size of New South Wales. To extent there are three British Indies in Canada, and still enough left over to make a Queensland and a Victoria. The German Empire could be carved out of Canada and 15 more countries of the same size, with still room enough to fill in corners, with Belgium, Denmark, Greece, Servia and Switzerland. Ireland could then be accommodated, and yet a patch large enough for Delaware and Connecticut, Canada is the largest of all the British possessions, being over 38 per cent. of the British area, which is officially stated to be 9,040,497 square miles, exclusive of protectorates. The continent of Australia, with Tasmania, and New Zealand added, is the next largest, being about 284,800 square miles less than Canada. The combined areas of Canada and Australia, including British New Guiana, comprise nearly 75 per cent of the British Empire. E. G. Ravenstein estimates the world's area at 51,250,880 square miles, and the population of the world at 1,467,920,000. Canada covers one-fifteenth part of the area, and contains under 1-300th part of the population.

Toronto's debt is beginning to alarm its citizens. In 1885 the per capita indebtedness has increased from $66.68 to $95.06. This great increase, says the Globe, has been due to reckless expenditures upon capital account rather than to undue increase in the cost of maintenance of the services of the city. Investigation has demonstrated that scavengering costs a great deal more now than in 1885, street cleaning and watering 22 cents per head more fire brigade 5 cents more, police 4 cents, and lighting under the contract system 4 cents more per head, or 14 cents less than in 1887. These services, therefore which are the principal performed by the municipality, cost but 34 cents more per head now than they cost ten years ago, and 18 cents less than in 1887. Where does the great increase of $4.52 per head in taxation go to, asks our contemporary? The answer is in a sentence. The increase is throughout the amount annually paid for interest and sinking fund on the general and local debt practically accounts for all the increase in taxation. The debt charges, which in 1885 were $5.75 per head, now nearly. Against this tremendous drain economy in other departments can make little headway.

The American protectionist journals as well as politicians still continue to harp upon the enormous increase in the importations from Great Britain. In the six months ending June 30th, the importations of British goods increased $35,166,237 over the corresponding period of the previous year. This means, says the New York Commercial Advertiser, that under the Wilson tariff the manufacturers of England and Wales are able to use their sales in the United States at the rate of about $5,000,000 a month. It also means that while these conditions last Great Britain will draw about $70,000,000 in gold every year from the United States annually to pay for this enormous increase in the sale of her products in the American markets. As a scheme for enriching foreign manufacturers at the expense of the wage-earners and farmers of this country, the existing Democratic tariff is a monumental success. The London Times and the other organs of the British mercantile classes cannot be blamed for advocating Mr. Cleveland's election for a third term. They would be guilty of base ingratitude if they did not.

At a meeting held in Bracebridge, Mr. McGillivray, the Conservative candidate for North Ontario, was asked by a leading Conservative elector to declare himself on the Manitoba school question, but refused to be cross-examined, as the Dominion Government had not heard from the Manitoba Government. In reply to a still more direct question from a Baptist minister of Canada to Mr. McGillivray contented himself by saying that if his questioner would tell him what the policy of the Government would be, he (the speaker) would tell him what his policy would be. "This simply means," said the questioner, "that you go with the Government in any case," a rejoinder which created much laughter.

Various definitions have been given of the new verb "to disunite," that generally accepted being "to withdraw haughtily from the contest as soon as the impossibility of winning it is manifest." Now the meaning of "rise rise" must be considered. The verb is evidently of more complex signification than the other. "The act of a man who, after saying 'Who's afraid?' finds an answer in the mirror" might serve until the real etymologists come to an agreement.—N. Y. Herald.

"Some Chicago people are claiming Canada has no business to interfere with their drainage canal, because the water they need for it they are going to take out of Lake Michigan, which is an American lake and not controlled in any part by Canada." So saith the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. We are of the opinion that the Government at Ottawa will act and water courses between private individuals will likewise be held good as regards nations, and that Canada's right in this matter will have to be considered.

John D. Rockefeller has given the University of Chicago $1,000,000, unconditionally for endowment, to be paid in the year 1896, and $2,000,000 additional, on condition that a like amount be given by other friends of the university before January 1, 1900. If the conditions are met, the total gifts of Mr. Rockefeller to University of Chicago will amount to $7,425,000.

Divers now communicate with persons above the water by means of the telephone. The mouthpiece is placed near the lips, so that a slight turning of the head brings the mouth close to it.

MAKE YOURSELF STRONG

If you would resist pneumonia, bronchitis, typhoid fever and persistent coughs and colds. These ills attack the weak and run down system. They can find no foothold where the blood is kept pure, rich and full of vitality, the appetite good and digestion vigorous, with Hood's Sarsaparilla, the one true blood purifier.

Hood's Pills cure liver ills, constipation, biliousness, jaundice, sick headache.

THE U. S. CONGRESS.

Free Coinage of Silver—Recognition of the Cuban Insurgents.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 5.—There was a very good attendance when the Senate met at noon to-day. The first bill introduced was one by Mr. Mills (Dem. Tex.) for the coinage of silver in the treasury. A bill was introduced by Mr. Chandler (Rep. N. Y.) for the unlimited coinage of gold and silver at a ratio of 1 to 15 1-2, in connections with other nations. After providing for the coining of bullion and issuing of silver and gold certificates, the third section of the bill provides that the law shall take effect and become operative when similar laws shall have been adopted by the Governments of England, France and Germany, "which laws shall in substance provide for the purchase of gold and silver bullion without limit and shall make legal tender the gold and silver principal coins and certificates representing them, the ratio between gold and silver to be the same, provided for in this act, and when such laws have been passed by the Governments aforesaid, The President shall make proclamation accordingly and this act shall then take effect and be in force." It was listened to with great attention by the members and senators. Petitions from Florida for the recognition of Cuba were presented. Mr. Gallinger (Rep. N. H.) introduced a resolution declaring it to be the sense of the Senate that it was unwise and inexpedient to retire greenbacks. At the conclusion of the preliminary routine business, Mr. Call (Dem. Fla.) called up his resolution of Tuesday and addressed the Senate. The resolution provided for recognition by the United States of the state of war between Spain and the Government proclaimed and for some time maintained by force of arms by the people of Cuba, declaring the United States would maintain a condition of strict neutrality between the contending powers and accord each the rights of belligerents in ports of the United States. The resolution further declares that the United States protests and remonstrates against the barbarous manner in which the war in Cuba has been conducted and authorized the President to take such steps as may be necessary to secure the observance of the laws of war as recognized by all civilized nations. Mr. Call drew a graphic picture of the barbarous and barbarous cruelty against which the Cubans are contending in their long struggle for freedom, described former revolutions and declared the progress against tyranny made by the native Cubans who maintained, as we had in 1776, that just government must derive its authority from the consent of the governed, entitled them to recognition as belligerents and the neutrality of other nations. The Senate at 1:22 p. m. went into executive session, and at 1:30 p. m. adjourned until Monday. While in executive session the Senate confirmed Matthew T. Ransom as Minister to Mexico.

AN INDULGENT HUSBAND.

He Sends His Young Wife a Hundred Thousand Dollars.

Boston, Mass., Dec. 5.—Francis L. Higginson, the banker, has sent his wife at Genoa, Italy, a cable money order for $100,000. Mr. Higginson, the extraordinary gift with the words, "Poor things, they'll starve if I don't send them some money." "Poor things" to whom he referred are his eloping wife and her lover, James Wheatland Smith, a wealthy young Boston society man. The Higginson family is one of the first in all New England. Mr. Higginson retired three years ago from the banking firm of Higginson Bros. Co., with a very large fortune. His wife is much younger than he. She was always a favorite with those Harvard students who were in her exclusive set. It was noticed that her constant admirer was Mr. Smith. Her girlish face and willowy form, and a quaint Madonna cast of her features. She is the mother of four children, the eldest 13. She seemed a very suitable companion for the young collegian. Throughout the summer he was her companion in drives about Beverley Farms. Their intimacy became so marked that the young man's friends urged his departure. If only to save the lady's honor. He paid no attention to the warning. All this time Mrs. Higginson and her husband were together. About two weeks ago the banker discovered indisputable evidence of his wife's unfaithfulness. He is said to have exclaimed: "She is not my child; I shall disown it." "Very well then," replied Mrs. Higginson, "I shall go with the man who loves me." The banker interposed no objection. She took $50,000 worth of jewels and about $40,000 in cash. Since her departure she will of her own accord, Beacon Hill, has been probated, which gives $20,000 to Mrs. Higginson. This bit, in addition to the $100,000 parting gift of Banker Higginson, will undoubtedly keep the "wolf from the door" for a time.

A CHESS TOURNAMENT.

Four of the World's Greatest Players Will Compete.

London, Dec. 5.—A despatch from St. Petersburg says that Pillsbury, the American chess player, has arrived there to compete in the chess tournament, which will begin next Sunday. Lasker and Steinitz, the two other aliens who are to compete, had arrived before. This tournament was brought about by the invitation of the fourth participant, the Russian, Tschigorin, who at the banquet of the late Hastings International Tournament challenged Lasker, Steinitz and Pillsbury to compete with him in a four sided match for the championship of the world at St. Petersburg. Steinitz and Lasker accepted at once, as did Pillsbury, with the proviso that he would make the trip unless business reasons prevented. His arrival now creates a battle royal between four of the greatest giants of the chess world. Their chances of winning are about even. Steinitz has defeated Lasker and Pillsbury, single handed, and is more than a match for any one alone. His delicate physique and nervous temperament make it difficult for him to stand the strain of a protracted struggle. Tschigorin, who might be considered the least likely winner, has most circumstances in his favor. He has an excellent physique, and will play at home surrounded by his friends and amidst scenes of congenial atmosphere. Thus the prediction of the ultimate result becomes very difficult. In the opinion of the London Chess Club it looks like a toss up.

THE CUBAN WAR.

Young English Officers Highly Complimented for Brilliancy in the Field.

Havana, Dec. 5.—General Suarez Valdes has addressed to Captain General Martinez de Campos complimenting Lieut. Winston, Leonard Churchill and Lieut. Spencer, both of the British army, who, following the operations of the Spanish troops, for distinguished behaviour during the recent engagement near Clego de Avila, where General Suarez met and defeated Maximo Gomez, who is said to have been compelled to retreat with numerous loss. At the same time General Navarro is reported to have defeated Antonion Maceo at Jicotes. In both cases the Spanish troops occupied the insurgents' positions with insignificant loss. The schooner Sultano, after having been looted by insurgents at Santa Cruz del Sur, was set fire to and burned.

MYSTERY OF THE DEEP.

Scudding Into the Teeth of the Wind Without Captain or Crew.

A New York despatch of recent date reads as follows: One of the most inexplicable mysteries of the ocean has been solved by Captain A. Potjer, of the Dutch line steamer Maasdam, which arrived in port from Amsterdam. When about 400 miles out from the English channel, as he stood on the bridge early one morning before the sun had burned the mist off the water, Captain Potjer thought he saw defined a few leagues to the starboard a full-rigged schooner. Giving the order to slow down, his vessel approached cautiously the strange object. When the Maasdam got within hailing distance the fog lifted and the outlines of the schooner became plainly visible. She was an English two-master, with the Union Jack turned upside down. Across the stern of the boat were painted in gilt letters the words "Modus Vivendi, St. John, New Brunswick." The vessel was as spick and span as if she had just glided off the ways. Her sails glistened white and without a patch. They were double-reefed and the rudder was made fast with two chains. The jib sheet was down but not furled, and flapped lazily in the wind. The decks shone as if they had just been holystoned, and everything in sight was shipshape. Not a soul could be seen aboard of her. As she scudded along in the teeth of the wind, with her lee scuppers well under the sea, but with no human hand at the helm, the Maasdam's sailors shuddered with fright, and cried out that it was the "Flying Dutchman" come out of the South Seas. As the steamer approached the wind died out, and the schooner rose and fell on the huge waves. Captain Potjer ordered the Maasdam hove to and a boat lowered to investigate. Meantime the Dutch liner circled around the derelict schooner, the captain anxiously awaiting the return of his men. They boarded the vessel and plunged into the cabin. Not a sign of life was about. There was no freight aboard, and no indication that there ever had been. The pumps were tried, but no water was found in the hold. The fittings of the cabin were exceedingly neat and seemingly new. A search of the captain's quarters revealed not the slightest clew as to who was the master of this strangely deserted ship. The log book was missing. The cellar tale letters across the stern were the sole means of proving the vessel's identity. There were plenty of provisions on board. All the sailors reported to the captain when they returned. To tow the ship across the Atlantic was out of the question, so she was left to drift or speed at the wind's pleasure, unless she should be picked up by some tramp steamer bound for England.

CANADA AND THE UNITED STATES.

Editor World: A still, small voice from way back in the mountains of British Columbia reaches us by the medium of the editorial columns of a little sheet published every week up there, wind and weather permitting. Said voice in commenting on the United States stand lately taken by some of the leading American rags (Chinook for newspaper), very pointedly pipes a note of warning to the struggling inhabitants of the land across the border. It intimates that the press there should consider well before they inflame the mind of a "gullible public" by dangling before their eyes the "puppets" of anti-British sentiment, that they should think twice before they rouse the sleeping lion across the sea. It proceeds further to state that were the markets of England closed to the United States, and she is becoming less dependent every year on American products, then Uncle Sam would be a ruined man. After considerably digesting the article I have become convinced that Uncle Sam is really only working on wages for England, and in order to hold the job he must satisfy the corrupt and ungrateful press which is so loath to prostrate itself before the glorious traditions of the power that rules the waves so wisely and so well. If the lion can only be kept appeased he may sometime consent to extend the wing, or rather, the paw, of his proticlon over the nation which escaped from him many years ago and has since flourished like a green bay tree. And in view of the friendly attitude assumed by England towards the United States during the Civil War, and which she has always assumed in the hour of peril of the democracy, they should hail with delight the exhilarating prospect of Uncle Sam roaming contentedly under cover of that British paw, although experience has certainly taught them that it is essential that the claws on that paw are carefully "dehorned" before it is allowed to attain any such position. I also gather from the local papers that a large section of the American farming community is desirous of emigrating from their tyrant ridden country to the British provinces of the Northwest, where, I understand, crops are guaranteed by the Government, wheat is legal tender and growing rich is one of the exact sciences. To preclude the possibility of such a catastrophe as the farmers of the United States moving in a body to the North West, early next spring it would not be advisable for Canada to annex the United States which could come in as another province, thus giving us all a most beneficient British rule. Distressed Newfoundland might then be induced to join the Dominion. The suggestion is made in some quarters that as all the advantages of such a union seem to be for the Americans, although the fact that a quarter of a million Canadians are estimated to be employed on the other side, spending their earnings in their own country might be viewed by some in a different light, the sum up the advantages to be gained on both sides: The United States has more arable land, a few odd head more population and a very large system of political machinery, while Canada has an immense supply of rugged and virgin scenery and distinctly more climate measuring by negative degrees of temperature. There is now developing quite a trade in salmon frozen artificially between British Columbia and the Eastern States. There is also quite a field ahead for frozen scenery which can be shipped at Vancouver any month in the year. This should prove a very valuable asset to the Province when a trade is worked up in it.

JINGO.

Vancouver, Nov. 30, 1895.

THE MATSQUI COUNCIL.

The council met on Saturday, Nov. 30th, with the following members present: The Reeve,