

BRITAIN'S GRAB.

Cause Which Raised the Venezuela Question.

BOUNDARY DISPUTE REVIEWED.

Why We Are Interested in the Encroachment of England on the Territory of a South American Republic—The Monroe Doctrine and Its Present Application.

Since the Venezuela question has developed into an international crisis between this country and Great Britain it is interesting to take a hasty glance at the cause of all the trouble and briefly review the conditions which have led up to it.

It is not a very large tract of country that England wants, but it is very valuable. There are mines there—gold mines—and the glitter of the precious metal has caused the government to look upon it with a peculiar interest.

We are not particularly interested in the welfare of the Spanish American republic in her disputes with adjacent native nations or in her frequent revolutions, but we are interested in upholding the doctrine of President James Monroe, who declared that any attempt on the part of the European powers "to extend their system to any portion of this hemisphere" would be regarded by the United States "as dangerous to our peace and safety" and would be opposed accordingly.

Great Britain has for years held a foothold in South America, gained when she

cannot fight not only be defeated, but be obliged to give place to a feeling of grave concern.

Our First Proposition.

As early as 1858, therefore, the United States government took firm ground on the straightforward proposition that the whole legitimate issue between Venezuela and Great Britain was "one of historical fact," and that the question could only be arbitration according to the evidence. This view found positive repetition in the joint Venezuelan resolution of the last congress, passed unanimously, which declared that the controversy "turns exclusively upon simple and readily ascertainable historical facts."

Consequently Secretary Olney's dispatch of last July 16, above all other considerations, an emphatic reaffirmation of a thoroughly established policy of state. It is also a decided extension of that policy, in that it in terms invokes the Monroe doctrine as applicable to the matter. The entire practical situation may be summed up briefly as follows:

Our government completely refuses to recognize that forcible occupation gives Great Britain any title to territory claimed by Venezuela, whether west or east of the arbitrary Schomburgk line, and insists that the legitimate ownership of the territory "in its entirety" can be decided only by arbitration on the basis of "historical fact."

All considerations of historical fact in the Venezuelan controversy hinge upon one simple question, What were, respectively, the geographic limits of the Venezuelan republic when it declared its independence of Spain in 1810 and of British Guiana when England acquired that colony by treaty from Holland in 1814? There is no other question involved, for England has not since 1814 added one foot of territory to her original British Guiana

Venezuela to send a diplomatic representative to London for the purpose of settling all questions at issue between the two countries, and Guzman Blanco was dispatched accordingly. After protracted negotiations he induced Lord Granville, on June 18, 1885, to approve a treaty which provided (article 15) that any differences between Great Britain and England which could not be adjusted in ordinary ways should be settled by arbitration. But on July 27 of the same year Lord Salisbury, the Tories having come into power meantime, informed General Blanco that "to engage to refer to arbitration all disputes and controversies whatsoever would be without precedent in the treaties made by Great Britain. Questions of this kind, such as those involving the title of the British crown to territory or other sovereign rights, which her majesty's government could not pledge themselves beforehand to refer to arbitration."

IN THE EVENT OF A WAR

Speculations as to the Field of Conflict.

THE FIRST POINT OF ATTACK.

Importance of Halifax to Great Britain. Relative Strength of the Two Powers in Case of a Conflict on the Sea—Comparison of the Two Naval Forces—Views of Army and Navy Officers.

In the event of war with England what would be the first point of attack? The most effective course for the United States would be the immediate invasion of Canada.

Halifax, where Great Britain's chief naval station in North America is located, would be the first point of attack. There is not much doubt that the two fleets which protect that station would strike their colors after a few hours' bombardment by some of our big battleships.

With Halifax in our power, the business naval stores which it stores, seized and appropriated to our own use, and the 14 acres of dockyard closed to British ships, a severe blow would be dealt to the enemy.

The next move would be to throw a strong military force over the border. Our regular army could be vastly increased by the addition of the national guard and a formidable force put in possession of the country. This, it is probable, would soon bring England to her senses, and Uncle Sam could dictate his own terms.

When it comes to a question of sea fighting, we would be placed at a disadvantage. But suppose we did attempt to drive the English out of Venezuela, see in what a position we would find ourselves.

We would lose our regular army on board the American liners, which, as part of the naval reserve, would at once be pressed into service. Such other vessels as could be found would be seized and used as troopships. When our standing army of 27,000 men was added, our entire naval force would probably be mobilized to convey the troops down the Atlantic coast across the Gulf of Mexico and the Caribbean sea to the shores of Venezuela.

Great Britain would send out her big battleships to prevent us from landing troops. Then would follow sea fights which would be the most terrible history has ever recorded.

In the event of a combat for supremacy on the sea it must be confessed that the outlook is not very promising for Uncle Sam. Naval men say frankly that we are not prepared to fight a nation like England on the sea.

Although the following facts concerning the comparative naval strength of the two nations may sound discouraging, it must be remembered that England has other troubles that engage her attention, and that she would not dare to leave all her other colonies unprotected. She has many

England's West Indian stronghold.

St. Lucia in the last two years, according to reports on hand at the department of state, has become the strategic point of Great Britain in the West Indies and is not only



ENGLISH BATTLESHIP BLAKE.

St. Thomas, until St. Lucia became Great Britain's station of great importance in the West Indies, was her main military point and carries a garrison still of several thousand well organized and equipped men. Hundreds of others are understood to be stationed there, ready to be dispatched to St. Lucia in event of trouble.

This country, on the other hand, has not a single possession in the islands where refuge for ships or supplies could be received. Great Britain, naval officers and experts on warfare at the war department say, has realized that if she ever got in trouble with the United States the war would be carried on this side of the ocean, and that without coaling stations, repair shops and supply depots no successful hostilities could be pursued. They point to Halifax, Bermuda and St. Lucia as well as to St. Thomas and Kingston as the network of stations on the east coast of the United States and to Vancouver on the west, where there is one of the finest naval stations in the world.

These stations are not only powerfully garrisoned, but have every facility for docking and repairing warships. The total number of British soldiers in the army is not known, but an officer of the army believes that they would not fall far short of the entire standing strength of the United States army. In observing the power of Great Britain near our coast, and the facility with which she could land thousands of men from St. Lucia, officers of the military service do not take into consideration the resources she would bring into play at home. They predict that, should the United States determine to oppose acquisition of the land in dispute, her fleet would be required to land as many soldiers in Venezuela as she might deem proper and at the same time prevent the United States from getting a regiment ashore. Her policy, naval strategists declare, would be to intercept at once any fleet of warships we might gather for the purpose of giving safe convoy to regulars and national guard, and this, they say, she would have no difficulty in doing.

The Condition of Our Navy. The present available fighting strength of our navy could not be materially increased under three months, with ships ready for active service. The unfinished vessels comprise three battleships, an armored cruiser, three monitors and three light gunboats.

The construction bureau has prepared a table showing the percentages of work required to complete the vessels launched, and of this number the battleships Massachusetts and Oregon are nearest completion.

The list of warships as given in the naval register hardly shows the real fighting strength of the service. Those building, rather than those in commission, would be the vessels the government would have to depend upon chiefly should there be trouble in the next two years. Of ships ranked as first rate there are five—the New York, Columbia, Minneapolis, Maine and Olympia, all new cruises—but not one capable of giving fight to battleship.

Of the second rate vessels there are 16, headed by the Baltimore, which is first, of 5,600 tons and armed with 10-inch guns and Atlanta, of 4,000 tons. These vessels include the monitors Amphitrite and Minotaur, and all of the remainder are of the cruiser class. Of the third rate ships there are about 25 available for service, consisting of ships of the class of the Raleigh, Cincinnati, Yorktown and Machias. These also include all the old wooden vessels. The rest of the navy's actual fighting strength on the water consists of two torpedo boats and a number of smaller cruises. The vessels under construction number 16 altogether.

Inadequate Coast Defense. Our coast defenses are inadequate, but the coast towns are not so absolutely defenseless as is generally imagined, and some of them are supplied with the best of our new guns. Under pressure the naval gun factory, near Washington, could add to the ordnance of the war department, and the army gun establishments could do wonders if urged to speedy work and would furnish in a few months many batteries of powerful guns.

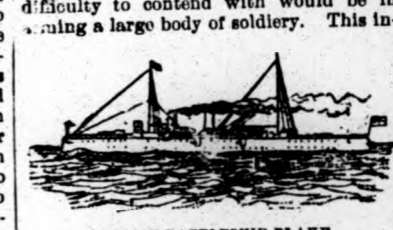
For manning the defenses and for supporting any undertaking by bodies of

W. B. McGIRT, D. D. S.

Offers his professional services to the people of Darlington and vicinity. Office over the store of Edwards & Co. Jan. 19, 1914.

Claude Milling, LOCAL AGENT FOR Wanamaker & Brown's CELEBRATED Gents' Clothing. Veritable bargains now offered. LATEST STYLE, FINEST QUALITY, MOST PERFECT FIT, FULL LINE OF SAMPLES. Examine them and be convinced.

THE PART THE ARMY WOULD PLAY IN THE PROBLEMATIC WAR HAS BEEN DISCUSSED IN THE WAR DEPARTMENT, WHERE IT IS NOT ADMITTED THAT OUR MILITARY RESOURCES ARE LIMITED, CRIPPLED OR INCOMPLETE. IT IS SAID AT ARMY HEADQUARTERS THAT THE ARMY WAS NEVER IN BETTER CONDITION THAN AT PRESENT. IT COULD BE EASILY AUGMENTED BY VOLUNTEERS AND RESERVES, WHOSE SERVICE IS LIMITED, CRIPPLED OR INCOMPLETE. IT IS SAID AT ARMY HEADQUARTERS THAT THE ARMY WAS NEVER IN BETTER CONDITION THAN AT PRESENT.



ENGLISH BATTLESHIP BLAKE.

cludes the question of ammunition, of which there is little on hand. At present the national guard is equipped with a variety of guns, which makes identical ammunition impossible. It would take time to properly equip a large body of troops and a large expenditure of public funds. There is no question that the national guard could be readily mobilized and easily brought within the discipline of the regular army.

General Miles' capacity for command and campaigning is readily agreed to. His youth, activity, experience and ambition combine to make him a fit commander in any operations by land.

Many of the war department officers are of the opinion that the invasion of Canada is less likely as a military operation on account of the present incident than the occupation of Venezuelan territory. An official said in referring to this subject: "The invasion of the neighboring Dominion grows out of the assumption that there we must make the principal strike at Great Britain, since our naval force is pitifully inadequate. England, it is felt, cannot withdraw her armed forces from India, Gibraltar and the colonies to increase the military in Canada, and it is taken for granted that the United States can easily obtain possession of Canada. It seems to me that this will precipitate an attack on our undefended coast, a result of immense cost to our seaboard cities, to say nothing of the loss of innocent life. After all, the contest, if there be one, must be at sea or at least between two navies. The army is more likely, it seems to me, to go to South America, and there sustain the Monroe doctrine, the military allied with the naval force of this country."

MRS. S. H. McGill, Dressmaker. with an experience of seven years, on WOODS STREET, House owned by J. H. Mason.

Will give all work in her line prompt attention. Oct. 3-11.

Does This Hit You? The management of the Equitable Life Assurance Society in the Department of the Carolinas, wishes to secure a few Special Resident Agents. Those who are fitted for this work will find this a Rare Opportunity. It is work, however, and those who succeed best in it possess character, mature judgment, tact, perseverance, and the respect of their community. Think this matter over carefully. There's an unusual opening for somebody. If it fits you, it will pay you. Further information on request. W. J. Roddey, Manager, Rock Hill, S. C.

THE BANK OF DARLINGTON. DARLINGTON, S. C. CAPITAL, ——— \$100,000 SURPLUS, ——— \$50,000 Savings Department. Interest allowed at rate of 5 per cent. per annum, from date of deposit—payable quarterly on the first day of January, April, July and October. Transacts a General Banking Business. DIRECTORS: W. C. Coker, J. L. Coker, R. W. Boyd, J. J. Ward, E. R. Melver, A. Nachman, Bright Williamson, BRIGHT WILLIAMSON, President. L. E. WILLIAMSON, Cashier.

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry. Silverware and Optical Goods. At lowest New York prices for cash. Specialties to suit "all kinds of eyes." Highest cash prices paid for old gold. Repairing of Watches, Clocks and Jewelry a specialty, and satisfactory work guaranteed. Everything I sell guaranteed to be what I represent it. S. WOLFRAM.

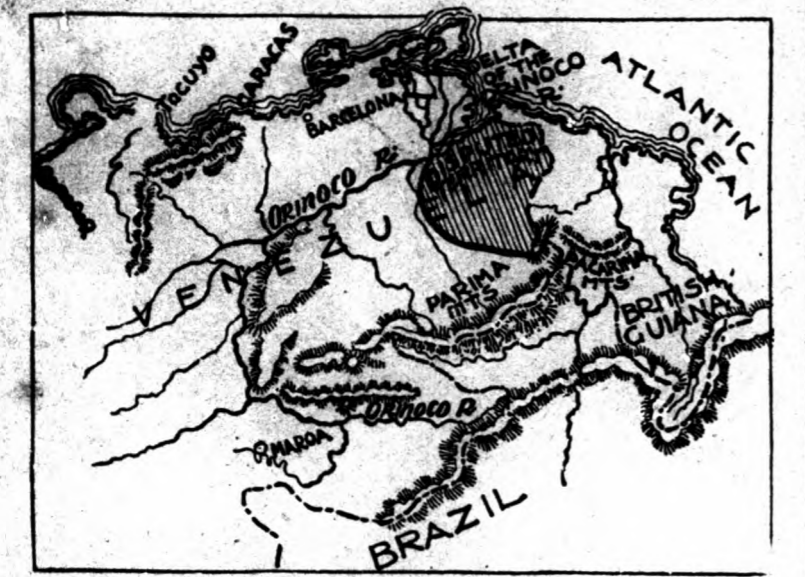
A MARTYR TO INDIGESTION. Cured by Using Ayer's Sarsaparilla. Words of Comfort to All who Suffer from Dyspepsia. "For years, I was a martyr to indigestion, and had about given up all hope of ever finding relief, as the complaint only seemed to grow worse instead of better, under ordinary treatment. At last, I was induced to try Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and I hereby testify that after using only three bottles, I was cured. I can, therefore, confidently recommend this medicine to all similarly afflicted."—FRANKLIN BICK, Avoca, Ia. "I am personally acquainted with Mr. Beck and believe any statement he may make to be true."—W. J. MAXWELL, Druggist and Pharmacist, Avoca, Ia. "I have used Ayer's Sarsaparilla for general debility and as a blood-purifier. It does exactly as is claimed for it."—S. J. ADAMS, Ezzell, Texas. Ayer's Only Sarsaparilla. Admitted for Exhibition AT THE WORLD'S FAIR.

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry. Silverware and Optical Goods. At lowest New York prices for cash. Specialties to suit "all kinds of eyes." Highest cash prices paid for old gold. Repairing of Watches, Clocks and Jewelry a specialty, and satisfactory work guaranteed. Everything I sell guaranteed to be what I represent it. S. WOLFRAM.

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry. Silverware and Optical Goods. At lowest New York prices for cash. Specialties to suit "all kinds of eyes." Highest cash prices paid for old gold. Repairing of Watches, Clocks and Jewelry a specialty, and satisfactory work guaranteed. Everything I sell guaranteed to be what I represent it. S. WOLFRAM.

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry. Silverware and Optical Goods. At lowest New York prices for cash. Specialties to suit "all kinds of eyes." Highest cash prices paid for old gold. Repairing of Watches, Clocks and Jewelry a specialty, and satisfactory work guaranteed. Everything I sell guaranteed to be what I represent it. S. WOLFRAM.

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry. Silverware and Optical Goods. At lowest New York prices for cash. Specialties to suit "all kinds of eyes." Highest cash prices paid for old gold. Repairing of Watches, Clocks and Jewelry a specialty, and satisfactory work guaranteed. Everything I sell guaranteed to be what I represent it. S. WOLFRAM.



MAP SHOWING THE DISPUTED TERRITORY.

compelled the Dutch to cede her a portion of Guiana. This colony is known as British Guiana. It adjoins Venezuela on the south. The boundary line of this province has long been in dispute. The British have occupied the disputed territory, and British miners and colonizers have settled on the fertile fields and gold mines there.

Failing to get any satisfaction from England after various requests to vacate the territory, Venezuela appealed to the United States. For several years our only reply to this appeal was in the form of mild questions to England. These suggestions had little effect.

A little stronger stand was taken in our next communication on the subject. England was asked to submit the question of the boundary dispute to arbitration. Lord Salisbury's recent answer to this was that Great Britain had nothing to arbitrate on that matter until some 50 years later, after it had become the fixed policy of the London cabinet to hold Point Barima and the mouth of the Orinoco by force of arms and without admitting arbitration.

On the Schomburgk line, with its initial point at the center of the Orinoco mouth, was traced in 1841 by Sir Robert Schomburgk, an English engineer. In surveying it he acted entirely in the interests of the British government and without the consent or even the knowledge of Venezuela. Positioning the marks placed by Schomburgk at some points of the country which he had surveyed were simply a preliminary step, subject to future discussion between the two governments; that they were the only tangible means of preparing to discuss the question of limits with the government of Venezuela; that they were placed with that express object and not, as the government of Venezuela seemed to fear it, with the intention of indicating dominion or empire on the part of Great Britain. Soon afterward Lord Aberdeen, then British minister in Caracas, advised Schomburgk at some points of the country which he had surveyed were simply a preliminary step, subject to future discussion between the two governments; that they were the only tangible means of preparing to discuss the question of limits with the government of Venezuela; that they were placed with that express object and not, as the government of Venezuela seemed to fear it, with the intention of indicating dominion or empire on the part of Great Britain.

Three years later (1844) Lord Aberdeen voluntarily proposed to Senator Fortoque, Venezuelan plenipotentiary in England, a boundary line beginning on the coast at the mouth of the river Moroco, which empties into the ocean some distance to the westward of the Essequibo.

On Nov. 11, 1850, Mr. Belford Hinton Wilson, charge d'affaires of Great Britain in Venezuela, sent to the Venezuelan government a note specifically contradicting a rumor that England intended claiming Venezuelan Guiana and adding: "The Venezuelan government is just to Great Britain cannot mistrust for a moment the sincerity of the formal declaration which is now made in the name and by the express order of her majesty's government that Great Britain has no intention to occupy or encroach upon the territory in dispute. Therefore the Venezuelan government, in an equal spirit of good faith and friendship, cannot refuse to make a similar declaration to her majesty's government—namely, that Venezuela herself has no intention to occupy or encroach upon the territory in dispute."

Venezuela accordingly gave the desired assent, and thus was established the celebrated status quo of 1850, which Venezuela has always adhered to in good faith, and which England, during the last dozen years, has violated without scruple or remorse.

On Sept. 19, 1881, Lord Granville, in a note to Senator Rojas, Venezuela's diplomatic agent in England, suggested an agreement on a boundary line to begin on the coast 99 miles east from the mouth of the river Barima. The starting point of this line is well to the east of the Orinoco mouth, and, in fact, Granville explicitly stated that he had endeavored to satisfy the reasonable pretensions and claims of Venezuela, giving to her the so-called Dardanelles of the Orinoco and the complete dominion of its mouth.

Then followed the memorable events leading to Guzman Blanco's mission to England, his actual negotiation of a treaty embracing the arbitration principle and the subsequent repudiation of that treaty by England. In 1881 Venezuela imposed an additional duty of 50 per cent on all merchandise of the British coast, and, as far as its disinterested commercial sense was concerned, had advanced an enormous and generous concession to the United States. We have followed this course on the assumption that the interests of the United States would be best served by the arbitration principle, and that the arbitration principle would be followed by the United States.

Then followed the memorable events leading to Guzman Blanco's mission to England, his actual negotiation of a treaty embracing the arbitration principle and the subsequent repudiation of that treaty by England. In 1881 Venezuela imposed an additional duty of 50 per cent on all merchandise of the British coast, and, as far as its disinterested commercial sense was concerned, had advanced an enormous and generous concession to the United States. We have followed this course on the assumption that the interests of the United States would be best served by the arbitration principle, and that the arbitration principle would be followed by the United States.

Then followed the memorable events leading to Guzman Blanco's mission to England, his actual negotiation of a treaty embracing the arbitration principle and the subsequent repudiation of that treaty by England. In 1881 Venezuela imposed an additional duty of 50 per cent on all merchandise of the British coast, and, as far as its disinterested commercial sense was concerned, had advanced an enormous and generous concession to the United States. We have followed this course on the assumption that the interests of the United States would be best served by the arbitration principle, and that the arbitration principle would be followed by the United States.

cooly by any process wnan can come within the cognizance of the laws of nations. From 1814 to 1841 England never intimated in the slightest manner that she deemed herself entitled to any important portion of the Atlantic coast west of the Essequibo river. Most interesting and valuable evidence is afforded by a long note written on May 29, 1836, by Sir Robert Ker Porter, British charge d'affaires at Caracas, to the Venezuelan authorities, positioning the marks placed by Schomburgk at some points of the country which he had surveyed were simply a preliminary step, subject to future discussion between the two governments; that they were the only tangible means of preparing to discuss the question of limits with the government of Venezuela; that they were placed with that express object and not, as the government of Venezuela seemed to fear it, with the intention of indicating dominion or empire on the part of Great Britain.

On the Schomburgk line, with its initial point at the center of the Orinoco mouth, was traced in 1841 by Sir Robert Schomburgk, an English engineer. In surveying it he acted entirely in the interests of the British government and without the consent or even the knowledge of Venezuela. Positioning the marks placed by Schomburgk at some points of the country which he had surveyed were simply a preliminary step, subject to future discussion between the two governments; that they were the only tangible means of preparing to discuss the question of limits with the government of Venezuela; that they were placed with that express object and not, as the government of Venezuela seemed to fear it, with the intention of indicating dominion or empire on the part of Great Britain.

Three years later (1844) Lord Aberdeen voluntarily proposed to Senator Fortoque, Venezuelan plenipotentiary in England, a boundary line beginning on the coast at the mouth of the river Moroco, which empties into the ocean some distance to the westward of the Essequibo.

On Nov. 11, 1850, Mr. Belford Hinton Wilson, charge d'affaires of Great Britain in Venezuela, sent to the Venezuelan government a note specifically contradicting a rumor that England intended claiming Venezuelan Guiana and adding: "The Venezuelan government is just to Great Britain cannot mistrust for a moment the sincerity of the formal declaration which is now made in the name and by the express order of her majesty's government that Great Britain has no intention to occupy or encroach upon the territory in dispute. Therefore the Venezuelan government, in an equal spirit of good faith and friendship, cannot refuse to make a similar declaration to her majesty's government—namely, that Venezuela herself has no intention to occupy or encroach upon the territory in dispute."

Venezuela accordingly gave the desired assent, and thus was established the celebrated status quo of 1850, which Venezuela has always adhered to in good faith, and which England, during the last dozen years, has violated without scruple or remorse.

On Sept. 19, 1881, Lord Granville, in a note to Senator Rojas, Venezuela's diplomatic agent in England, suggested an agreement on a boundary line to begin on the coast 99 miles east from the mouth of the river Barima. The starting point of this line is well to the east of the Orinoco mouth, and, in fact, Granville explicitly stated that he had endeavored to satisfy the reasonable pretensions and claims of Venezuela, giving to her the so-called Dardanelles of the Orinoco and the complete dominion of its mouth.

Then followed the memorable events leading to Guzman Blanco's mission to England, his actual negotiation of a treaty embracing the arbitration principle and the subsequent repudiation of that treaty by England. In 1881 Venezuela imposed an additional duty of 50 per cent on all merchandise of the British coast, and, as far as its disinterested commercial sense was concerned, had advanced an enormous and generous concession to the United States. We have followed this course on the assumption that the interests of the United States would be best served by the arbitration principle, and that the arbitration principle would be followed by the United States.

Then followed the memorable events leading to Guzman Blanco's mission to England, his actual negotiation of a treaty embracing the arbitration principle and the subsequent repudiation of that treaty by England. In 1881 Venezuela imposed an additional duty of 50 per cent on all merchandise of the British coast, and, as far as its disinterested commercial sense was concerned, had advanced an enormous and generous concession to the United States. We have followed this course on the assumption that the interests of the United States would be best served by the arbitration principle, and that the arbitration principle would be followed by the United States.

Then followed the memorable events leading to Guzman Blanco's mission to England, his actual negotiation of a treaty embracing the arbitration principle and the subsequent repudiation of that treaty by England. In 1881 Venezuela imposed an additional duty of 50 per cent on all merchandise of the British coast, and, as far as its disinterested commercial sense was concerned, had advanced an enormous and generous concession to the United States. We have followed this course on the assumption that the interests of the United States would be best served by the arbitration principle, and that the arbitration principle would be followed by the United States.

Then followed the memorable events leading to Guzman Blanco's mission to England, his actual negotiation of a treaty embracing the arbitration principle and the subsequent repudiation of that treaty by England. In 1881 Venezuela imposed an additional duty of 50 per cent on all merchandise of the British coast, and, as far as its disinterested commercial sense was concerned, had advanced an enormous and generous concession to the United States. We have followed this course on the assumption that the interests of the United States would be best served by the arbitration principle, and that the arbitration principle would be followed by the United States.

Then followed the memorable events leading to Guzman Blanco's mission to England, his actual negotiation of a treaty embracing the arbitration principle and the subsequent repudiation of that treaty by England. In 1881 Venezuela imposed an additional duty of 50 per cent on all merchandise of the British coast, and, as far as its disinterested commercial sense was concerned, had advanced an enormous and generous concession to the United States. We have followed this course on the assumption that the interests of the United States would be best served by the arbitration principle, and that the arbitration principle would be followed by the United States.

Ex-Minister Scruggs' Views. William L. Scruggs, for many years United States minister to Brazil, in a late magazine article on the subject, says: "The real issue involved in the present dispute of the controversy between England and Venezuela is not England's real title, it is about this: Whether, under pretense afforded by the incidents of a boundary dispute which she has persistently refused to settle upon any just or reasonable basis, Great Britain shall be permitted to dismember an important republic, menace the safety of others adjacent, and thus to indefinitely extend her colonial system on this continent, in open violation of public law and in total disregard of the principles of the Monroe doctrine."

"This language may seem a little strong, coming as it does from an impartial source, but it will be found to be fully justified by the facts and circumstances of the case. It is an axiom of international ethics, sanctioned by general consent, that all boundary disputes arising from imperfect surveys or from adverse constructions of treaty provisions, or which turn exclusively upon ascertainable historical facts, or which involve questions of prescriptive right, are, in the last resort, properly referable to a joint commission or to a tribunal of arbitration. The present case falls clearly within these provisions and should constitute no exception."

A Queer Cemetery. A correspondent of the Boston Traveller describes the queer cemetery of the Mexican city of Cuernavaca. There is hardly a room in Guanajuato for the living, so it behooves her people to exercise rigid economy in the disposition of her dead. The burial place is on the top of a steep hill, which overlooks the city, and consists of an area inclosed by what appears from the outside to be a high wall, but which discovers itself from within to be a receptacle for bodies, which are placed in tiers, much as the coffins of their native valleys compare with the coffins of the poor. The wall is large enough to admit one coffin, and is rented for \$1 per month. The poor people are buried in the ground without the formality of a coffin, though one is usually rented, in which the body is conveyed to the grave. As there are not graves enough to go around, whenever a new one is needed a previous tenant must be disturbed, and this likewise happens when a tenant's rent is not promptly paid in advance. The body is then removed from its place in the mausoleum, or exhumed, as the case may be, and the bones are thrown into the basement below.

A Fulfilled Prophecy. At the time of the boom in southern California a gentleman who was about to start for the golden land, which so much was said, and who had a passion for quoting the Bible whenever it was possible, telegraphed to a friend already resident in the west in the following words: "Read the second epistle of John, twelfth verse. 'Having many things to write unto you, I would not write with paper and ink, but I trust to come unto you and speak face to face, that our joy may be full.' The friend was also a student of the Bible, and from his beautiful home in one of the lovely cities of California towns he sent back the words: "Delighted to hear it. Read Deuteronomy, eighth chapter, seventh to tenth verses."

The message translated gives the noblest description of what his grateful inhabitants love to call "God's country": "For the Lord thy God bringeth thee unto a good land, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills; a land of wheat and barley and vines and fig trees and pomegranates; a land where thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack anything in it; a land whose stones are iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass. When thou hast eaten and art full, then thou shalt bless the Lord thy God for the good land he hath given thee."—Youth's Companion.

Slightly Better Off. George Watkins—"Don't you believe the poor is getting poorer right along? Hungry Higgins—"I hadn't noticed nothing of the sort. I owed \$18 ten years ago, and I didn't see them. They ain't got a cent, but their debts is outlawed, so I guess they're one pore man a little better off."—Indianapolis Journal.

Tariff was the name of the Moorish chieftain, Abu al Tarifa, who had a fortress near the strait of Gibraltar and levied toll on ships and merchandise passing through.

President Crespo of Venezuela.



PRESIDENT CRESCO OF VENEZUELA.

enemies, and the complications which might arise from a declared host between England and this country would probably be favorable to us.

Here are two tables which show at a glance how insignificant is our naval force beside that of England. The tables show that where we have but 131 fighting ships of all kinds England has 604, and that where we have but 922 guns, England has 6,790 guns. Not all these guns, however, could be trained on the United States fleet, and our entire naval force could be collected to meet all the ships that England could send into our waters.

The Naval Forces Compared.	
NAVAL STRENGTH OF THE UNITED STATES.	
Class of vessels.	No. of guns.
Armored vessels.....	28
Battleships.....	38
Unarmored cruisers, gunboats, etc.....	25
Wooden and iron ships, unarmored.....	16
Torpedo boats.....	6
Dispatch vessels.....	3
Training ships, storeships, etc.....	0
Commissary ships.....	0
Totals.....	131

ENGLAND'S NAVAL STRENGTH.	
Class of vessels.	No. of guns.
Armored ships.....	83
Unarmored ships.....	142
Armored gunboats.....	2
Unarmored gunboats.....	70
Dispatch vessels.....	4
Training ships, storeships, etc.....	25
Commissary ships.....	22
Totals (including torpedo boats).....	264

Great Britain, every naval officer in the navy knows how powerful military stations within a few days' sail of La Guayra, and her supplies at that point are almost inexhaustible. No comparison between the fighting forces of the two countries on the sea can be made without its becoming vividly apparent that, as at present constituted, the American fleet would be hardly a match for the British fleet now in the Atlantic between Halifax and Venezuela.

The files of the naval intelligence office show that while there are no battleships attached to the fleet the cruisers are innumerable, and most of them are as good as some of our best. As fighting machines of their class they are the equal of vessels of the Raleigh and Cincinnati type, but there are no vessels at the station comparable with either the New York or Columbia.

The British fleet, however, is well understood to be now well mobilized and in excellent condition and was prepared for active service some weeks ago, presumably for duty in the Mediterranean in event of further trouble in Turkey.

While Great Britain could send powerful fleets and thousands of men to Venezuela in two weeks, naval officers assert that this country probably would not be able to get a man there if England once anchored her fleets at La Guayra. Her strength in the West Indies at present is a matter of some little question, but information that has come to the navy department from intelligence officers in the West Indies last winter show that at St. Lucia she has one of the most powerful military stations outside of Great Britain. Not even Gibraltar is said to be better fortified or to have more ample arrangements for caring for large bodies of men and for affording absolute protection to the fleet which might send into its landlocked harbor, with anchorage sufficient for the largest battleships.

enemies, and the complications which might arise from a declared host between England and this country would probably be favorable to us.

Here are two tables which show at a glance how insignificant is our naval force beside that of England. The tables show that where we have but 131 fighting ships of all kinds England has 604, and that where we have but 922 guns, England has 6,790 guns. Not all these guns, however, could be trained on the United States fleet, and our entire naval force could be collected to meet all the ships that England could send into our waters.

Great Britain, every naval officer in the navy knows how powerful military stations within a few days' sail of La Guayra, and her supplies at that point are almost inexhaustible. No comparison between the fighting forces of the two countries on the sea can be made without its becoming vividly apparent that, as at present constituted, the American fleet would be hardly a match for the British fleet now in the Atlantic between Halifax and Venezuela.

The files of the naval intelligence office show that while there are no battleships attached to the fleet the cruisers are innumerable, and most of them are as good as some of our best. As fighting machines of their class they are the equal of vessels of the Raleigh and Cincinnati type, but there are no vessels at the station comparable with either the New York or Columbia.

The British fleet, however, is well understood to be now well mobilized and in excellent condition and was prepared for active service some weeks ago, presumably for duty in the Mediterranean in event of further trouble in Turkey.