### The Killing of Ruiz.

Cubans Disclaim Responsibility for It.

New York, Dec. 22 -T. Estrada Palma, of the Cuban Junta, made the following statement last night:

occur, as the Spanish put it, while he was negotiating as a peace messenger under a flag of truce. Again and again have the Cubans promulgated the law that all who shall come to them with a peace proposition not based on the independence of Cuba should be treated as spies and dealt with accordingly. Col. Ruiz net only knew of the existence of the law, but, according to the Spanish accounts, was personally warned as to his fate. Gen. Blanco and Secretary General Congoste, too, were well aware of the existence of the decree. Nevertheless, these latter took advantage of the unfortunate Quixotism of Col. Ruis and sent him to the Cuban lines The blood of Col Rais is not on the hands of the Cubans, but upon the heads of Blanco and Congosto, who sent him to his fate.

#### PENALTY OF THE LAW.

been carried into effect, doubtless Russo-German entente in China and of the fact to show that the Cubans Gaudenz, anticipated Russia's dewere not in earnest in the rejection of mand for the removal of German drill autonomy absolutely, but were willing to listen to arguments. This decree was not promulgated because the Cubans are afraid of disaffection in their ranks, but because it is known innumerable commissioners would otherwise be sent, and on their return make false statements encour aging the belief that peace might be established on a basis other than inde-

this fact is in our hands, and we are the | in China. more cautious when we remember that in 1879 General Blanco authorized opinion. General Polarieja, in Santiago de hane as the latter thought necessary, as an example.

#### SPANISH BARBARITY.

It is somewhat remarkable that t news of the death of Colonel Ruiz came the announcement of the killing by the Spanish of over forty sick and wounded Cubans found in a hospital, and not a voice was raised in protest thereat. The shooting of Cuban prisoners by the score passed almost without comment; the thousands of wounded Cuban soldiers plain in hospitale attract but little notice According to all the laws of civilized warfare, the Cubans from the beginning had the right to retailate in kind, but they never bave done so. On the contrary, all prisoners taken by them were set at liberty and the wounded attended to. We are denied by the entire world status as bei ligerents, and might therefore claim that we have no obligations to conduct the war as belligerents, but we do not intend to take this stand. The conditions obtaining in Cubs and the character of the Spanish demand, however, that we take the necessary measares to speedily terminate the war by convincing the world that independence alone can satisfy us. We accordingly issue a decree and solmenty warn Spain of its ensorment If, despite this warning, they persuade a man to be rash enough to come to us to treat on the basis of autonomy, we must either acknowledge that our laws are made only to be broken or he compelled by a painful duty to carry them out."

#### Cubans Stand Firm.

#### Repudiate the Suggestion of So-Called "Autonomy."

statement signed by the officers of surance that all Japanese interests in Ar Darlington, the Fourth army corps of the Cuban Hawaii would be amply saferevolutionary army operating in the guarded The desire, therefore, is to department of Las Villas, renewing convert this general assurance into al'egiance to the Cuban cause, and spedific guarantees. It is said that foreswearing autonomy, was receiv this does not include an assurance of ed in this city to-day. This action the continuance of the existing emigraby the officers of the Las Villas de tion treaty between Japan and Hawaii, partment makes the opposition to as that is revocable by its terms in six autonomy practically unanimous months, and the revocation would apply among the Cuban officers The state- in case Hawaii became a part of the ment says in part :

"We are convinced that the promnigation of reforms is an evidence fereces of opinion and rather prolongof weakness on the part of Spain and ed negotations over the extent of the is in itself a triumph for our arms. guarantees to be given Japan. Our fighting attitude will continue just as it is to-day until our unfor- Take JOHNSON'S tunate country is made free.

"We will accept no other settlement than that based upon absolute independence, which must be agreed to with our government and the assembly of representatives."

Among the singers are Juan Maso Pareca, brigadier general of the First division, and Clixto Garcia, adjutant.

#### Take JOHNSON'S

CHILL & FEVER

ACTS OF GERMANY AND RUSSIA MAY RESULT IN WAR.

Chinese are provisioning Port Arthur and will reconstruct the forts there, The death of Col. Ruiz did not Russia supervising and furnishing the money. In the face of this indica tion of permanent occupation the necessity of safeguarding our position in the far east increases. The Russo-Chinese bank, which is the agent of the Russian government, has offered to China 120,000 Berdan rifles, with payment five years hence. has accepted the proposal."

According to a dispatch to the tion. Times from Kobe, Japan, the news from Port Arthur has greatly disturbed the Japanese ministers Long cabinet councils have bean held and the high military officials have atted ed The Japanse newspapers, the dispatch says, are non-plussed at the situation in the far east, while the ministry is involved in domestic troubles connected with its taxation

proposals, to which the diet is hostile

The Times, in an editorial on the situation, sarcaetically asks whether "If the penalty of the law had not the German press, in claming a in would have taken advantage Emperor William in his speech at sergeants from the Chinese army. It adds, with reference to the demand for the dismissal of the Engineers : "Our Pekin correspondent says China is hesitating, and possibly we may be able to appeal to motives at Pekin which will strengthen Chinese disinclination to comply with the Russian request for the dismissal of the Britishers."

With reference to the probability Such statements would only serve of Russia advancing to China money the interest of Spain in gaining time, to pay the war indemnity to Japan with the resulting death of thousands, and thus compelling Japan to evacuowing to the useless prolongation of ate Wei-Hai-Wei, the Times openly the war. Besides, the Cubans are ad- recognizes the advisability of an Anvised that the Spanish are seeking to glo Japanese entente, arguing that enter the insurgent lines with the pur- the combined British and Japanese pose of assassinating the more impor- fleets would be well able to prevent a ant leaders. Documentary proof of disturbance of the balance of power

Other papers express the same

Vienna, Dec. 22.-The Deutsche Cubs, to execute as many unarmed Cu- Zeitung says : "The United States, which from its geographical position has a greater interest in the opening up of China than all Europen pow ers together, cannot possibly consent to its partition or to a division into tral R. R. of S. C. spheres of influence without having Fayetteville-Short Line-and make close a voice in the matter. It would be a connection for all points North. great mistake to underestimate the strength of the United States; and a partition of China would be impossible without America's approval and rive Darlington 8:40 pm, Hartsville 9 35 p participation. The European powers will do well to give timely attention to the just aspirations and interests of the United States "

#### Take JOHNSON'S

#### CHILL & FEVER

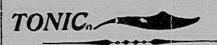
No Further Protest on Part of Japan.

Washington Dec 22 .- Minister Hosbi of Japan was in conference with Secretary Sherman at the state department to-day. The state of the Ha waitan negotiations has changed materially since the minister's return from Japan There is no further protest on the part of the Japanese government to the annexation of the islands, and, indeed, it is asserted that Japan's policy never went to the extent of a positive protest In any event, that branch of the question is considered closed, and the present purpose of the Japanese authorities is to secure specific assurance from the United States that in case Hawaii is annexed all Japanese icterests will be fully protected.

Io the last letter Mr Sherman wrote to Minister Hoshi on the subject of au-New York, Dec. 20 - Copies of a nexation he made prominent the as-United States

There is likely to be considerable dif-

#### CHILL & FEVER



A Horse Book Free.

We have a number of Dr. Kendall's "Treaters, as a premium to those who pay in advance. The book contains much valuable nformations including descriptions of diseases and remedies for same. We will be glad to have our subscribers call and get copies-free to all who pay up.

Washington, December 22.-A delegation of Cherokee Indians, con sisting of W A. Duncan, Simon Walkingstick, David Faulkner, Lacy Hawkins, J. M. Lahy and Shake London, Dec. 23 .- The Pekin cor- Manos, is in the city for the purpose respondent of the Times says: "The of securing a delay in the date at which judicial jurisdiction is to be extended over the Indian Territory, which Act of Congress becomes effective on January 1. Secretary Bliss told the delegation that although the Government had the best interest of the Indiaus at heart, yet in the present case it could not concede to their wishes. Congress had adjourned for the holidays, and it was impossible to do anything in the line indicated without legislative sanc-

> Mr. Geo. W. Vanderbilt, of Bilt more, N C., fame, has insured his life for \$1,000.000, and started on a trip through Europe and India

> There is no reason why the next session of the Legislaure should last longer than three weeks It can easily finish its business in that time if it will work from the start.

Why take Johnson's Chill & Fever Tonic? Because it cures the most stubborn case of Fever in ONE DAY.

#### Atlantic Coast Line. North-Eastern R. R. of S. C.

TRAINS GOING SOUTH

Dated Dec. 20, 1897.	wo.35	Mo.23	¥0.53	
	A STREET STREET STREET	PR.		
	3 25	7 55		
" Kingstree		8 57		
Ar. Lanes		9 15		1
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Lo. Lanes	8 10	6 45		
" Kingstree	8 29			
Ar. Florence	9 35	7 55		
	A.M.	PM	1. M	

\*Daily | †Daily except Sunday. Ne. 52 runs through to Columbia via Cen Trains Nos. 78 and 32 run via Wilson and

Trains on C. & D. R. R. leave Plorence 9 55 a m, errive Darlington 10 28 a m, Cheraw 11 40 a m, Wadesboro 2 25 pm. Leave Florence, daily except Sunday, 8 15 p m, arm, Bennettsville 9 36 p m, Gibson 10 00 p m. Leave Florence, Sunday only 9 55 a m, arrive Darlington 10 27 a m, Hartsville 11 10

Leave Gibson daily except Sunday 6 15 . m. Bennettsville 6 41 a m. arrive Darlington 7 40 a m. Leave Hartsville daily except Sunday, 6 45 a m, arrive Darlington 7 30 x m, leave Darlington 9 00 a m, arrive Florence 9 25 a m. Leave Wadesboro, daily except Sunday 3 00 pm., Cheraw 5 15 pm, Darlington 6 29 pm, Florence 7 00 pm Leave Hartsville, Sunday only 8 20 a m , Darlington 9 05 a m., arrive Florence 9 25 a m.

R. KENLY, JNO. F. DIVIN Gen'l Manager, Gen 18 T M EMERSON. Traffic Manager. JNO. F. DIVINE

#### Atlantic Coast Line. MANCHESTER AND AUGUSTA R. R.

TRAINS GOING SOUTH

Condensed schedule-In effect Dec 20, 1897.

	No. *35 No.		
	€8. m.	8. m.	
Ly Darlington,		7 53	
Lv Elliott,		8 40	
Ar Sumter,		9 25	
Ly Sumter,	4 29		
Ar Creston,	1517		
Ly Creston,		5 45	
Ar Pregnalls,		9 15	
Ar Orangeburg.	5 40		
Ar Denmark,	6 12		
TRAINS GO	ING NORTH.		
	6 No *32		

Ly Orangeburg. 5 03 Dv Pregualls, 5 30 Ly Creston, 6 30 6 55 Lv Sumter, 7 40 8 30 p. m

\*Daily, ' †Daily except Sunday.
Trains 32 and 35 carry through Pullman Palace Buffet Sleeping Cars between New York and Macon via Augusta. H. M. Emerson, T. M. Emerson,

Gen. Pass. Agt. Traffic Manager, J. R. Kenley, Gen'l Manager.

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FIRE WORKS. We have a number of Dr. Kendall's "Treatise on the Horse," for distribution to subscrib-price and to be sold at a close Claremont Lodge No. 64 A. F. M GEO. W. to 80 cents a pound. Your pa-

> tronage appreciated by MOSES GREEN. Telephono No. 58.

BABY'S SMOOTH, FAIR SKIN

A Grateful Mother Writes this Letter-Tells all about Her Troubles when

Baby Broke out with Scrofula Sores. "At the age of two months, my baby began to have sores break out on his right cheek. We used all the external applications that we could think or hear of, to no avail. The sores spread all over one side of his face. We consulted a physician and tried his medicine, and in a week the sore was gone. But to my surprise in two weeks more another scrofulous looking sore appeared on baby's arm. It grew worse and worse, and when he was three months old, I began giving him Hood's Sarsaparilla. I also took Hood's Sarsaparilla, and before the first bottle was finished, the sores were well and have never returned. He is now four years old, but he has never had any sign of those scrofulous sores since he was cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla, for which I feel very grateful. My boy owes his good health and smooth, fair skin to this great medicine." Mrs. S. S. WROTEN, Farming-Get only Hood's. ton, Delaware.

Hood's Pills are prompt, efficient and easy in effect. 25 cents. NOTICE TO FARM RENTERS.

ONE HORSE, TWO HORSE OR three horse farm of excellent land, with good comfortable quarters, can be rented for 1898. Apply to or address, S. G. SPANN,

Samter, S. C. Dec. 22 .- 2t.

#### TAX RETURNS FOR 1898. OFFICE OF

COUNTY AUDITOR SUMTER COUNTY.

SUMTER, S. C., Nov. 24, 1897. TOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that I will attend, in person or by deputy, at the following places on the days indicated respectively, for the purpose of receiving returns of Real Estate, Personal Property, and Poll Taxes for the fiscal year commencing Japuary 1st, 1898 :

At office Sumter, S. C, from Jan. 1st to Feb. 20th, 1898, inclusive. Tindals, Tuesday, January 4th.

J. M. Moseley's, Wednesday, January 5th. Wedgefield, Thursday, January 6th. Stateburg, Friday, January 7th. Hagood, Saturday, January 8th. Rembert's Store, Monday, January 10th. Smithville, Tuesday, January 11th. Mannville, Wednesday, January 12th. Bishopville, Thursday and Friday, Janury 13th and 14th

Magnolia, Saturday, Jan. 15th. Lynchburg, Monday, Jan. 17th. Norwood's Cross Roads, Tuesday, Jan

Shilob, Wednesday, Jan. 19th. J. M. McElveen's Store, Thursday, Jan.

Mayesville, Friday, Jan. 21st. Gordon's Mill, Saturday, Jan 22nd. Gaillards Cross Roads, Monday, Jan 30th. Bossard, Tuesday, Jan. 27th The law requires that all persons owning

property or in anywise baving charge of such property, either as agent, nuso trustee, executor administrator, etc , return the same under outh to the Auditor, who requests all persons to the prompt in making neir returns and save the to per cent. penalty which will be added to the property valuetion of all persons who fail to make returns within the time prescribed by law.

Tax papers return what they own on the first day of Jacuary, 1898 Assessors and taxpayers will enter the first

given name of the taxpayer in full, also make a separate return for each Township where the property is located and also in each and every case the No. of the School District must be given. Every male citizen between the age of

twenty-one and sixty years on the first day of January, 1898, except those incapable of earning a support from being maimed or from other causes, are deemed taxable Polls, and except Confederate Soldiers 50 years of age, on Jao. 1st, 1898.

All returns must be made on or before the 20th day of February next I cannot take returns after that date and all returns made after the 20th day of February are subject to a penalty of 50 per cent

J. DIGGS WILDER, Auditor Samter County.

N. C. Ex. Fast Frgt.

#### Ohio River & Charleston Railway Co SAMUEL HUNT, Agent for Purchaser.

In effect October 18, 1897 ... CAROLINAS DIVISION.

Ly Charleston	7.10 a m	10.00 m
Ly Branchville	8 57 a m	150 a m
Ly Kingville	10 25 a m	5.00 a m
Ly Columbia	7 00 a m	8 00 pm
Lv Augusta	6 20 a m	7 00 p m
Lv Camden	12.05 p m	9 00 a m
Lv Kersbaw	1 05 pm	11 10 a m
Ly Lancaster	1.45 p m	1 00 pm
Ly Catawba Junction	2.30 p m	2 40 p m
Lv Rock Hill	2.55 p to	4.30 p m
Lv Yorkville	3.30 p m	6.00 p m
Ar Blacksburg	4.35 p m	7.30 pm
Lv Blacksburg	4 50 p m	7.40 a m
Lv Shelby	5.20 p m	9.20 a m
Lv Henrietta	5.55 p m	10 05 a m
Lv Forest City	6.12 p m	10 25 a m
Ly Rutherfordton	6 27 p m	10.50 a m
Ar Marion	7.30 p m	12.20 p m
Lv Blacksburg	6 30 p m	6.00 a m
Ar Gaffoey.	7.05 p m	6.40 a m
Lv Gaffney	6 50 a m	7.15 p m
Lv Blacksburg	7 25 a m	7.50 p m
Lv Marion	7 00 a m	1.30 pm
Ly Rutherfordton	8 05 a m	3.05 p m
Ly Forest City	8.20 a m	3 35 p m
Lv Heorietta	8 35 a m	3.55 p m
Lv Shelby	9 20 a m	5 30 pm
Ar Blacksburg	9 50 a m	6.10 p m
Lv Blacksburg	10.10 a m	8 00 a m
Ly Yorkville	11.15 a m	9 40 a m
Ly Rock Hill	11.55 a m	12 40 pm
Ly Catawba Junction	12.15 p m	2 40 pm
Ly Lancaster	1.00 pm	3.50 p m

Ar Charleston ....... 8.00 p m 7.35 s m Dinner at Kershaw. For further information as to rates, Clyde Line sailings, etc., call on local, contracting and traveling agents, of both roads, or E. F Gray, Traffic Manager L. A Emerson, Traffic Manager, S. C. & Ga., R. R., Charles-S. B. Lumpkin,

Ar Kershaw .....

Ar Augusta .....

Lv Kingville.....

Ly Branchville ......

Ar Columbia...... 10 10 p m

#### Gen. Frt. Agt. O. R. & C. R. R., Blacksburg, S. C.

2.00 pm | 5 30 pm

4.44 pm 10.00 pm

5.55 pm | 1.30 a m

11.00 a m

7.05 a m

margin. Candies from six cents THE REGULAR MONTHLY COMMU-NICATION of Claremont Lodge, No-44, A. F. M., will be held on Thursday Evening, Jan. 6th, at 71 p. m. Brethren will take due notice and govern themselves accordingly

L. S. CARSON, W. M. Attest-H. C. Moses, Sec.

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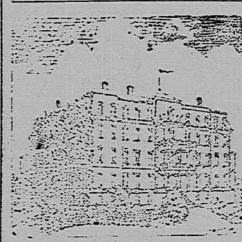
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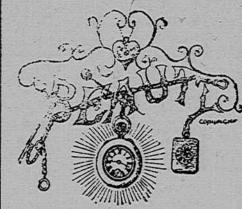


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L. W. FOLSOM, Jeweler and Optician,

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be bad, at low prices. J E. WILSON, Dec 15-3m

Sumter, S. C.

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