

The Watchman and Southron.

THE SUMTER WATCHMAN, Established April, 1850.

"Be Just and Fear not—Let all the Ends thou Aims't at, be thy Country's, thy God's and Truth's."

THE TRUE SOUTHERN, Established June, 1846.

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Spaniards Still Bitter.

TWO OF THE PEACE COMMISSIONERS TAKE TO THEIR BEDS.

Paris, Dec. 7.—There was no joint session of the peace commissions to day as the Spaniards are still occupied in translating the Americans' answer to their proposals in regard to the status of Spanish subjects in annexed territories.

As cabled last evening, the eight principal articles of the treaty are settled and all that remains for the commissioners to attend to is the settlement of the minor points of the treaty. The latter will probably be signed on Saturday next, for the Spaniards are as anxious as the Americans to finish the work in hand.

Secretary Ojedo of the Spanish commission said to-day: "It is very painful for us to remain here haggling over details, since the main points have been settled and we have been obliged to relinquish our colonies. All work will be finished this week. The commercial treaty between the United States and Spain will be negotiated upon the reestablishment of diplomatic relations, and the question of Spanish ships and products in Cuba and Puerto Rico will be included therein."

Paris, Dec. 8.—The United States and the Spanish peace commissioners concluded their work to-day and finally settled the terms of the treaty of peace. They will meet once more in formal session, on Saturday or Monday next, when the Spanish commissioners, sorrowfully, and the Americans, with a feeling of relief, will write their signatures upon the document which embodies the results of the war and the preparation of which has consumed eleven weeks, a longer time than the war itself. In the meantime the treaty will be engrossed under the supervision of Mr. Moore and Senor Ojedo, the secretaries of the respective commissions.

The Spaniards are exceedingly bitter over the result, though observing the forms of friendliness and courtesy to the end. Senor Montero Rios, whose strong and persistent struggle to save for his country every possible asset from the wreck of her colonial empire, has commanded the respect and admiration of his opponents, went from the council chamber to-day to his bed in a state of complete collapse as the result of the long strain and his chagrin over the small fruits of his efforts. Senor Ojedo has been prostrated since yesterday and was unable to attend the joint session to-day.

The Spaniards charged equal blame upon the European powers and the United States for their downfall. One of the Spanish commissioners said this evening: "The European nations have made a great mistake in deserting Spain and leave her to spoliation by the conscienceless giant. They all know that in the Philippines America has taken more than she can digest. She will ultimately sell the islands to England or Germany and when the transfer is attempted it will precipitate general European strife."

"We have refused to sell any island in the Carolines. We never thought of considering an offer. Nor have we consented to negotiate upon any question except those directly involved in the protocol signed at Washington."

THE DAY'S SESSION

Paris, Dec. 8.—The treaty is finished. The Spaniards have declined to grant most of the requests of the United States which were unsettled at the beginning of the session. They refuse to cede a coaling station in the Caroline islands to the United States.

Judge Day to-day said: "We have settled all the points on which we can agree. It only remains to engross and sign a treaty. That will be done in two or three days."

The members of the commissions say the treaty will contain little outside the scope of the Washington protocol and the matters directly based thereon, like the provision for the evacuation of the ceded territories, the transfer of public property therein and guarantee of the safety of the property and rights of the Spanish citizens remaining there.

The details of the last class of questions covered by the statement which the Americans handed to Senor Montero Rios at the last meeting were considered to-day, but all the commissioners refuse to divulge the details of the conference.

Several points upon which they were unable to agree were left open for diplomatic negotiations. The Spaniards refuse to admit that they had failed to respect former treaties guaranteeing religious freedom in the Caroline islands or that there was a necessity for new guarantees.

The conclusion of the work was, according to the commissioners, marked by politeness and all outward evidences of good feeling and relief at the fact that the task was accomplished.

When all the propositions had been discussed, Judge Day, president of the American commission, remarked: "There seems to be nothing more to do but to engross and sign the treaty."

Senor Montero Rios, president of the Spanish commission, acquiesced to this and the Americans bowed themselves out before the Spaniards, according to their custom.

The American commissioners entered the joint conference to-day in a nervous frame of mind. They evidently had reasons to believe that a possibility existed, even at this late hour, that there might be a rupture. This feeling of apprehension was based on the temper the Spaniards have displayed lately.

The Madrid papers are disposed to revive the question of the Maine and excite public opinion against the United States on account of the reference made to this subject in President McKinley's message to congress. They report that Senor Montero Rios, president of the Spanish commission, made an impassioned denunciation of President McKinley at the last joint meeting of the commissions. But, these reports are practically without foundation.

Senor Rios did refer to the Maine, but in only one calmly worded sentence, expressing regret that the president had spoken, as Spaniards thought, unjustly of them. The Spaniards had already proposed at this conference to have the responsibility of the Maine reported upon by a joint commission of the European powers. The American commissioners refused to listen to this and permitted Senor Rios's reference to the president's message to go unchallenged, as a discussion would have provoked debate and bad blood.

Diplomatic circles in Paris predict, as one of the results of the treaty, a diplomatic contest between France and the United States which may have an important chapter in history.

The French government is reported to have resolved to take up the case of the French holders in Cuban bonds and it is believed that France will declare that the repudiation of the bonds is the result of the treaty which the victorious nation imposed upon Spain. They argue that through the treaty, responsibility has been shifted upon America, and therefore the French government will endeavor to exact some pledge for the payment or guarantee of the bonds.

Americans Parade in Cuba.

The 202 New York First American Force in Habana

Habana, Dec. 9.—The first United States troops to march through the streets of Habana will be the Two Hundred and Second New York regiment, which, with a band playing and colors flying, will march Sunday from San Jose wharf after landing there from the transport Minnewaska, through the heart of Habana to the Western railroad station. The line of march will be through the Prado and Central park. These troops will be sent to Pinar del Rio province.

Gen. Davis, with the general headquarters staff and one battalion, will be at Pinar del Rio city, the regiment headquarters and the Second battalion will be at Guanajay. The Third battalion will be stationed at Mariel and the Higgins signal company will be quartered at the City of Pinar del Rio.

The correspondent of The Associated Press called the attention of Gen. Davis to the fact that he would find Cuban troops occupying Pinar del Rio city and asked him what he should do.

"The authority of the United States must be recognized as paramount," he replied, "but I can see no reason why the Cuban troops may not remain organized as militia companies, though naturally, when the necessity for their remaining in arms shall have passed, I suppose they will disband. I have no apprehension of trouble."

Gen. Davis said he did not intend to disarm the Cubans or to interfere with them unless that should be necessary to preserve order.

Birmingham, Ala., Dec. 7.—An explosion of gas occurred in the Z-media mines, 15 miles south of here in Shelby county, to-day killing three men and perhaps fatally wounding three others.

News From Habana.

How Capt-Gen. Castellanos Receives Official Visitors at the Palace.

Habana, Dec. 5, via Key West, Fla., Dec. 7.—The official visit of Gen. Wade, as president of the Cuban evacuation commission to Capt. Gen. Castellanos at the palace to-day, was accompanied by a display of official and military courtesy and honors fully in keeping with the rank of the visiting officer, and in sharp contrast to the system which prevailed under the regime of Capt. Gen. Blanco, when these ceremonies were totally disregarded. During the latter's term of office visiting generals and admirals of the United States on reaching the palace entrances were forced to elbow their way through the groups of lounging soldiers always abounding about the palace doors and courtyard. Their exit heretofore had also been as unceremonious as their entrance.

The reception accorded to Gen. Wade to-day, however, was a revelation in the matter of official ceremony and Spanish courtesy. At the conclusion of the interview Gen. Castellanos in person descended the stairs with his visitor and conducted him to where his carriage was in waiting, remaining there until the American general drove away. The palace guard drawn up in double file presented arms as Gen. Wade and his party passed through the lines. The arrival of the Americans had been heralded by a bugle blast.

A FINAL SHOT

A petition purporting to represent the sentiments of 200,000 Spaniards remaining in Cuba and which is addressed to the queen regent, is published in the local papers here. Asserting that the accession of authority by the United States has been attended in Puerto Rico by acts of violence, which may be repeated in Cuba, the petitioners ask that the Spanish government "demand with firmness a solid and responsible guarantee from the United States," or "make an alliance with some European power to insure our protection."

The Maine Charges.

Madrid, Dec. 9.—The Imparcial to-day publishes another inflammatory article on the subject of the Maine charges. The paper intimates that the explosion was the outcome of an intense desire upon the part of certain factions in the United States to see the outbreak of war, which was unpopular with the majority of Americans.

The Imparcial adds: "The partisans of the war realized that something startling was necessary to arouse national sentiment—it was a remarkable chance. Almost all the Main's officers were on board another ship at the time of the catastrophe. Those who charge the Spaniards with being capable of such a monstrous act are well capable of committing it themselves."

"In conclusion, The Imparcial says: 'Spain cannot remain under such an infamous charge. It would be preferable to give the world the spectacle of national suicide.'"

Habana, Dec. 7.—The United States cruiser New York arrived here at 3:25 p. m. to-day. Immediately afterwards the New York saluted and Capt. Chadwick paid a visit to Admiral Manterola and Gen. Castellanos. A naval lieutenant promptly returned the visit on board the New York.

London, Dec. 9.—The Paris correspondent of the Times, says: "The secret dossier certainly proves a treasonable traffic in documents on the part of officers of the general staff having access thereto, but no names are indicated and there is absolutely nothing to prove or disprove that Dreyfus was connected with the traffic. No doubt the dossier cannot be revealed to the public, because it contains reports emanating from certain agents at certain places which it would be dangerous to divulge."

New York, Dec. 7.—Assistant Naval Constructor Hobson will go to Manila to superintend the raising of the sunken war vessels. He expects to leave about the 20th of this month. Hobson will shortly visit his home in Alabama, but only expects to stay three or four days. He has not yet given up hopes of successfully raising the Colon, but it is doubtful whether or not the navy department can be induced to go to additional expense in this work.

Denver, Col., Dec. 7.—The Rocky Mountain News has received the following telegram from the secretary of war: It is proposed to send regular troops to relieve the volunteers in Manila just as soon as transportation can be arranged. The volunteers will be returned to the United States in the order in which they left. Russell A. Alger.

The Anti-Imperialism Sentiment Heard From.

John Sherman Even Comes Out Against the Policy.

Boston, Dec. 7.—At the meeting of the anti imperialism league's executive committee to-day a letter was read from John Sherman saying:

"My hope is that the senate of the United States will reject the treaty and leave the people of the islands free from the shackles of Spain and the distant domination of the United States. I sympathize with Aguinaldo in his ambition to found a republic in the China sea near the equator and hope he may become the Washington of a new nation, absolutely free from European and American influence."

Bishop Potter of New York and James C. Carter of New York were added to the list of vice presidents of the league. More than 500 petitions protesting against an imperialistic policy regarding Spain's conquered possessions have been received at the Washington and Boston offices of the league, each petition bearing many signatures, and it was decided to-day to begin at once presenting the petitions to the senate.

EX PRESIDENT CLEVELAND

Princeton, N. J., Dec. 7.—Former President Grover Cleveland was interviewed to-day on the new policy of the United States and dictated the following for the Associated Press:

"Without going at all into details, I wish to say that I am ardently opposed to every feature of this annexation and expansion policy. The public ought to know well what my convictions are from the Hawaiian question during my administration. I have not changed my mind and remain opposed to all this annexation from Hawaii to the Philippines."

ADMINISTRATION IN ACQUIRED ISLANDS.

Washington, Dec. 9.—The discussion of the details of the administration of government affairs in Cuba, Puerto Rico and the Philippines under the treaty of peace, which is about to be signed in Paris, occupied a large part of the time at to-day's cabinet meeting. The establishment of a new postal system in Cuba was regarded as a pressing necessity. The present purpose is to fashion the new system as far as practicable upon our own model. Cablegrams were read from Admiral Dewey and Gen. Otis at Manila, giving their views as to the number of troops that it would be necessary to keep in the Philippines during the administration of the military government.

Further than this, the contents of these messages were not made public, but the information received is stated, was entirely satisfactory to the president.

Nothing had been made public from the cabinet meeting. An official denial is authorized that the sale of the Philippine islands to any other nation has ever been considered by this government, and it is stated that the published statements to the effect that their sale to Japan had been under discussion was altogether false.

The cabinet also talked over an elaborate tariff measure which is now in preparation here to go into effect, as now planned, contemporaneously with the entire relinquishment of the island by the Spanish January 1st. This tariff measure, it is said, will show an average reduction all along the line, of about 50 per cent from the Spanish tariff rates. The understanding now is that there will be no export duties and that in other ways the burden of taxation will be reduced.

Postmaster General Emory Smith remained in consultation with the president almost the entire afternoon talking over the scheme of postal administration of Cuba.

A Swedish Company.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The navy department has communicated with the commandant of the navy yard at Norfolk with a view to bringing to Washington for display in the navy department, the coat of arms of the Spanish battleship Cristobal Colon. This is a splendid specimen of bronze work, and if its size will admit, it will be placed on exhibition in the large reception room of the secretary of the navy.

Assistant Secretary Allen, who is directly in charge of the wrecking operations on the Spanish vessels, has been informed that the Neptune company of Sweden has dispatched a vessel with a number of divers to the wreck of the Colon. They will make a thorough inspection of the hull under water and upon their report the company will base its proposition to the department to attempt to float the vessel.

DEATH OF COL.

R. M. SIMS.

Volunteered as a Private, Surrendered as a Colonel.

The State, Dec. 10.

Col. R. M. Sims died at his residence in Shandon yesterday after an illness of a fortnight. For some time he had been in declining health, but he bravely battled against disease till the last. Surrounded by his family and a few friends he entered tranquilly into rest.

Robert Moorman Sims was born December 8th, 1836, and was reared in Lancaster county, and graduated at the South Carolina Military academy in 1856. He had scarcely settled in business when the outbreak of the war gave the signal for him to rally in defense of his State. He volunteered as private in Capt. John D. Wylie's company of the Ninth South Carolina volunteer regiment commanded by James D. Blanding. It was not long before he was appointed adjutant and inpector general of Bratton's brigade, and in that capacity he saw hard fighting and bore his full share of it. He was of that cool, unobtrusive courage that stops not to think of ostentation in the performance of duty, but seems simply to ignore danger. After passing through several desperate campaigns Col. Sims rose by promotion to the adjutant general of Longstreet's corps. He was several times wounded. In the trenches around Richmond he saw the corps gradually dwindling under the hammer strokes of overwhelming numbers, and it was his sad duty to bear the flag of truce at Appomattox that led to the capitulation of Lee's shattered columns. This flag, a simple towel, was borrowed by a Federal officer on the field and was not returned. It is now in the possession of Mrs. General Custer, who preserves it as a precious souvenir.

Returning home Col. Sims was elected to the State senate by the Democrats of Lancaster, at a time when the Legislature was overwhelmingly Republican. Finding that he was powerless he refused to serve longer.

He was engaged in business in Rock Hill when the year 1876 opened in the midst of a political storm. Whipper and Moses had been elected judges and Gov. Chamberlain refused to issue them commissions. In an incredibly short time the whole State quivered with excitement. Mass meetings were held everywhere to declare stern resistance to this attempt at debauching the judiciary. Out of this turmoil arose the new born Democracy. All eyes in two worlds were turned to South Carolina. The whole union was in such a state of political tension that it seemed as if our Palmetto State would again inaugurate a contest that would end in civil war. Northern Democrats, especially Mr. Tilden, feared the hot temper of our people. But Democratic policies were under prudent guidance. The aggressive and conservative element closed hands in compromise, and in August nominated an entire State ticket, representative in character, composed of men of whom it could be truthfully said, they sought not the positions but the positions sought them.

On that ticket Col. R. M. Sims was nominated for secretary of State. Col. Sims served as secretary of State for three terms and voluntarily declined reelection, although a re-nomination was reasonably assured.

During Cleveland's first administration Col. Sims was boarding officer of the port of Charleston. Since then he has been in private life.

A skillful floriculturalist and arbor-culturist, Col. Sims began the adornment of the capital square.

Col. Sims was a brave man, an honest man, a true man and a Christian. Duty with him was love, he never shirked it. When in the storm of battle, the vicissitudes of politics, or the trials and temptations of private life, his pleasant, genial unaffected manners made him friends everywhere. In him passes away another of the Old Guard—valiant in arms, patient and courteous in peace. Col. Sims was first married to Miss Catharine C. Lucky of Mecklenburg, N. C., who bore him two sons and died in 1867. In 1869 he married Miss Ada Sims, of Columbia, who with several children survive him.

TICKET SCALPERS ARE IN TROUBLE.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The house passed the anti-scalping bill by a vote of 119 to 101. This action is the culmination of a ten years' struggle on the part of the railroads to put an end to the business of ticket scalping. The interstate commerce commission first called attention to the subject in its report of 1888 and it has been before congress every since in one form or another. During the last session extensive hearings were given both to the representatives of the railroads and the scalpers and Mr. Sherman of New York secured 174 pledges for the measure.

It was, however, deemed inadvisable to bring the measure forward until the present session.

S. C. Conference Meets.

Greenwood, December 7.—The one hundred and thirteenth session of the South Carolina annual (Methodist) conference convened in the court house of Greenwood county, and was called to order at 9:45 this morning by Bishop W. W. Duncan, who is affectionately spoken of by the brethren as "Our Own Bishop." The Bishop announced the 228th hymn, which was sung with the marked power which generally characterizes the singing of the conference body. He then led in prayer, after which he read a Scriptural lesson, 1 Cor., 13th chapter, and then followed an earnest, emphatic, heart searching exposition of some of the truths contained in the lesson, especially emphasizing the virtues of modesty and humility.

The conference then united in the Communion of the Lord's Supper.

The secretary of the last session, Rev. E. O. Watson, called the roll and 152 clerical and 14 lay members responded to their names.

Rev. E. O. Watson was elected secretary with Rev. W. H. Noland, assistant.

Rev. S. H. Zimmerman, ed. statistical secretary, J. Cauthen, Jr., M. B. H. Noland, as assistants.

The various committees were then nominated and elected, visitors were introduced, and the conference is ready for business.

Washington, Dec. 7.—The annual report of Attorney Gen. Griggs to-day submitted to congress refers to the many questions arising from the war revenue act and calls the attention of congress to them in order that they may be corrected. If such action is deemed advisable, during the war 56 vessels were brought into United States ports as prizes and the sale of these condemned as lawful prizes netted \$701,034. The necessity for a more complete and adequate form of government for Alaska is pointed out.

Louisville, Ky., Dec. 7.—A special to The Post from Clarksville, Tenn., says:

At 1:30 this morning City Marshal A. D. Bryant of McKenzie was shot in the back of the head three times and almost instantly killed while seated in the telegraph office there. The murderer was a boy of McKenzie, named Hughley McGill McCall, fled to his home and committed suicide by taking morphine. The cause alleged for the murder was that Bryant arrested McCall last Saturday for drunkenness and city law violations.

Fate of all Inferior Races.

All history tends to prove that conquest is never complete until the inferior race is practically exterminated. And this fact should have due weight in the current consideration of the imperial problem before the United States enters upon an expensive policy of extending American jurisdiction to alien races.—Pittsburg Dispatch

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