

THE TREATY WITH CUBA.

An Interesting Object Lesson in Reciprocity.

Washington, Dec. 19.—The friends of the reciprocity treaty recently negotiated between the United States and Cuba, have been assured by members of the Senate committee on foreign relations, that the treaty will be taken up by that committee as soon as practicable after the Christmas holidays. There were several conferences on the subject at the Capital today, which resulted in this understanding. The terms of the treaty require that it shall be ratified by the 31st day of January.

The treaty makes more liberal provision for the importation of American articles into the Republic of Cuba than has been stated heretofore, there being given for reductions in some cases of as much as 40 per cent, in others of 30 per cent, and in still others of 25 per cent. On all American-grown or American-made articles, except tobacco, imported into Cuba, and not specified in the 25 30 and 40 per cent classes, there is to be a uniform tariff reduction of 20 per cent. In return the United States agrees to a uniform reduction of 20 per cent without exception on all importations from Cuba. The new island republic does not agree to any reduction on tobacco grown in the United States or in the territory of any of its possessions and imported into Cuba. The products of the United States, which are to be admitted into Cuba at a reduction of 25 per cent, from the rates of the existing Cuban tariff include pottery, salt fish, copper made machinery, cast and wrought iron and steel, and articles manufactured of them; glass, cotton and some cotton goods, ships and boats, whiskey and brandy. The 30 per cent reduction includes, cutlery, shoes, plate ware, drawings, photographs, engravings, etc.; materials used in making labels and bands for tobacco, common soaps, preserved vegetables, butter, drugs, bottled beer, etc.; mineral waters, articles made of hemp and kindred fibres; musical instruments and writing and printing paper. The list of American importations into Cuba on which a 40 per cent reduction is made, includes watches, umbrellas, knit cottons, preserved fruits, perfumery, woolen and silk goods.

There is a specific declaration to the effect that the rates fixed for each of the two countries by the other shall be preferential in favor of each party to the convention, as against all other countries.

The treaty is to go into effect ten days after its ratification by the authorities of both countries.

Havana, December 19.—President Palma sent the Cuban-American treaty to the Senate today with a message, urging that early action on it be taken.

AN HONEST DEBT.

Bonds That the State of South Carolina Should Pay.

Columbia, Dec. 17.—The bill generally known and referred to as "the Lord bond bill" will come up again before the Legislature at its meeting next month. At the last session a resolution was adopted instructing the State Treasurer to write these bonds off his books, but Gov. McSweeney will veto the resolution, because he holds that the bonds are a just debt of the State, and ought to be paid, and because the resolution amounts to repudiation. This will open the whole matter again, though if the resolution had been signed by the governor that would not have prevented those interested from again making application for payment of money justly due. It has long been a source of wonder that the legislators refused to pay these bonds, amounting to about \$37,000, when those rightfully entitled to them offer to secure the State against all loss should the lost bonds ever turn up again, and thus prevent a double payment of them. Perhaps the members have not clearly understood the situation, but this year they will have every opportunity of obtaining a thorough knowledge of the case. Mr. H. A. M. Smith, receiver, and Messrs. McCrady & Bacot have issued a pamphlet giving the full history of the case, the findings of the Court, Legislative action, opinion of the Attorney General as to the justness of the claim and the messages of the Governors on the question. It is a thorough exposition of the whole matter, and is being sent out in advance to Legislators, so that they may be thoroughly informed when it comes up next session.

Including the interesting portion of the pamphlet it is said: "The undersigned, the receiver of the State Bank and the attorneys of the creditors of the bank, assured of the absolute justice of the claim they represent a claim upon which the Attorney General, the law officer of the State, has given it as his official opinion that it constitutes 'an existing and adjudicated part of the debt of the State,' a claim, which the highest courts of the State have recognized as legitimate and binding upon it, and to which his excellency, the governor, has so earnestly and repeatedly called attention, urging upon the legislature its duty to meet and provide for the same—take this method of laying before you in advance a statement of the case upon which your action will be required very soon after the meeting of the General Assembly in January, 1903."

Philadelphia, Dec. 19.—Volaire Le Cloyre, a noted anarchist and a teacher of languages, was mysteriously shot and mortally wounded today by Herman Helscher, a former pupil. The woman is dying in a hospital and Helscher is in custody. Unrequited love is said to have prompted the deed. When arrested Helscher's only explanation was the following: "We were sweethearts, she and I; she broke my heart and deserved to be killed."

Mr. Bryan's newspaper is said to be successful financially, giving him a profit of thirty thousand dollars a year. The circulation is given as more than one hundred thousand. Mr. Bryan is healthy, wealthy and waiting. He thinks that if the Democratic party gets away from him in 1904, it will come back in 1908, and he is young enough and prosperous enough to look six years in the face with coolness.

ADVOCATE DEALS WITH THE NEGRO.

Sarcasm Dealt Out to Its Chicago Contemporary.

In the Christian Advocate of this week there appears an editorial dealing in rather a sarcastic manner with certain utterances of the Chicago Christian Advocate, and incidentally making a by no means complimentary reference to John S. Wise, of New York.

The discussion by the Advocate is over the assertion by its Chicago contemporary that Moses married a "negress" and that "God justified that action," making Miriam a leper for laughing at the black woman "as a punishment." The Advocate of Richmond wants to know of the Advocate of Chicago if Moses fell in love with a "genuine African woman, flat nose, thick lips, kinky wool and musky odor," and also "what became of the 'yaller' progeny of Moses and the 'negress.' Did this superior man, Egyptian prince, law giver, leader, hero, leave in Palestine a lot of mulattoes of high station?" The Richmond paper wants to know what became of them.

From this point the Advocate branches off into a discussion of the negro problem. It says in part:

A GREAT WRONG.

"Mr. Lincoln did them a great wrong in taking them from such environment—from the industrial training of the patriarchal and Christian civilization needed for 400 years by the race, the selected ancestors of Jesus. 'One of the glories of our Southern Church is the number of Christians among the 'servile progeny of Ham,' as Wesley styled them. When their training was disrupted their morals were far superior to their character now. They protected the homes of their absent masters in days of war. They now, rather than their sons, ruined by 'freedom,' license, idleness, are committing hideous crimes, unheard of in the days of their regulated lives and religious schooling by devoted white missionaries. By their fruits we know civilizations. The negro, left to his own guidance, goes back. Hayti at our doors, illustrates."

JOHN WISE'S SYMPATHY.

"The dominant race of this continent, in part mistaking a negro for black Caucasian, is shedding its fanaticism and gauging the African by his record. If left to himself he is a failure. Never race had such coddling as the Southern ex-slave. Money by millions, teachers by the hundreds, enthusiasm riant—all at his service. In health, moral fibre, decent behavior, he has retrograded. Here and there a white man with negro blood, like Booker Washington, made progress and became a show negro. The animal in the African has grown over the civilization gained under the pupillage of the Anglo-Saxon."

"The fate of the negro in America is dark. Slowly but surely it is coming to balanced men that the negro peon of the South will in the end bewail the day when 'freedom' made him the victim of a pitiless and masterful power."

"Last week a lawyer of New York lamented that he only, in all the land, cared for the 'rights of the negro,' and the sap of his sympathy flowed only when warmed by a fee that emptied the pocket of the race in Virginia."—Richmond (Va.) Times.

UNDER THE OHIO.

Bluefield, W. Va., Dec. 19.—Every acre of coal land in West Virginia fronting on the Ohio River has been sold and there is considerable controversy as to the ownership of the coal seams under the river, which, if not settled by the legislature and the courts of this State, will come before the United States Supreme Court.

West Virginia inherited from Virginia the jurisdiction of the Ohio River, the West Virginia State line extending to the lower water line on the opposite shore, hence the State of Ohio will not figure in the remarkable controversy that has suddenly sprung up. The issue is whether the State of West Virginia or the abutting property owners can give title to the coal under the wastr.

From the apex of Hancock county, which touches Pennsylvania, down to the Big Sandy river, the Kentucky boundary, there are 225 miles of West Virginia fronting the river, and there is a great acreage under the river that is valuable almost beyond estimation, and land owners along the river are considerably interested.

Why the South is Solid.

Buffalo, N. Y., Dec. 19.—Hon. Emory Speer, judge of the United States court for the southern district of Georgia, was the guest of the Independent club at its second annual dinner tonight. Two hundred guests including Mayor Knight and other prominent men of the city listened to an address by Judge Speer on the subject "The Solid South."

It is undeniably true, the speaker said, that the political attitude of the southern people toward the government is directly ascribable to the swift bestowal by the reconstruction acts of unlimited manhood suffrage upon the members of the African race, which, he asserted, was no part of Lincoln's plan for the restoration of the union. The solution of the race problem, said Judge Speer, will be found in the enactment of impartial laws for white and black men alike, which will admit to the franchise the intelligent, the upright and the responsible of both races and exclude the venal, the ignorant and worthless.

Martinez, Cal., Dec. 21.—As a result of a rear-end collision between the Stockton flyer and the Owl train on the Southern Pacific at Bryon last night 16 deaths already have been recorded and there are fears that the total will reach 20.—Most of the wounded passengers who were severely injured to be taken to their homes, were taken to the Southern Pacific hospital at San Francisco today and on the way to that place five of the victims died. Twenty-two of the injured reached the hospital, where it was announced tonight that R. W. Post of Fowler, Cal., and Lee Sou, a Chinaman of San Francisco, probably would succumb. Of the 22 patients only three were permitted to receive visitors, so seriously were they suffering.

BRADSTREET'S TRADE REVIEW.

The Most Active Holiday Trade on Record.

New York, Dec. 19.—Bradstreet's tomorrow will say: Wholesale trade is quieting down as the stock taking period approaches, and activity is noted by jobbers in forwarding supplies of goods needed to reinforce stocks of retailers, depleted by what is conceded to be the most active holiday trade on record. Cold weather north and west has helped sales of furs, heavy clothing and sleighs, and further stimulated general retail buying. Holiday buying, it is noted, is for a rather more expensive grade of goods than ordinarily experienced. There are, of course, some drawbacks, such as unsettled weather or bad roads at the south, the coal shortage at the east, and the continuance of the railway congestion at the west, affecting the movement of coke, bituminous coal and general freight, but taken as a whole, the mercantile community contemplates the approach of the end of the year with complacency and satisfaction. Knowing as it does, that most lines of trade will show gains over 1901, and therefore, over any preceding year, the feeling is that the year has been a good one, while the fine wheat crop outlook and the volume of orders already booked for next year gives promise of future good conditions. Even the knowledge that some manufacturing plants are, like many domestic consumers, short of coal and are contemplating a rather earlier than usual holiday shut down, fails to arouse the pessimistic feeling noted earlier in the year when the fuel shortage was more talked about. Business failures during the week number 225, against 262 last year.

Hester's Cotton Statement.

New Orleans, Dec. 19.—Secretary Hester's weekly cotton statement issued today shows for the 19 days of December a decrease under last year of 126,000, and a decrease under the same period year before last of 176,000.

For the 110 days of the season that have elapsed the aggregate is ahead of the same days last year 128,000 and ahead of the same days year before last of 105,000.

The amount brought into sight during the past week has been 351,731 against 398,635 for the seven days last year and 407,382 year before last.

The movement since Sept. 1 shows receipts at all United States ports to have been 4,433,311 against 4,276,670 last year; overland against the Mississippi, Ohio and Potomac rivers to northern mills and Canada 484,506 against 532,842 last year; interior stocks in excess of those held at the close of the commercial year 468,675 against 525,713 last year; southern mill takings 744,500 against 670,168 last year.

The total movement since Sept. 1 is 6,130,992 against 6,003,393 last year and 6,025,615 year before last.

Foreign exports for the week have been 200,761 against 197,861 last year, making the total thus far for the season 3,085,878 against 3,125,800 last year.

The total takings of American mills north and south and Canada thus far for the season have been 1,642,211 against 1,597,813 last year. Stocks at the seaboard and the 29 leading southern interior centers have increased during the week 38,871 bales against an increase during the corresponding period last season of 93,857.

Including stocks left over at ports and interior towns from the last crop and the number of bales brought into sight thus far for the new crop, the supply to date is 66,346,066 against 6,363,080 for the same period last year.

A FAMINE IN FINLAND.

Great Distress Caused by Shortness of the Crops.

St. Petersburg, December 21.—The average grain crop gathered in Finland is valued at \$30,000,000. The estimated value of the 1902 crop is \$20,000,000. While this loss is generally distributed throughout Finland, it is almost total in the northern third of the country.

Peas and beans generally have failed, and the potato crop has not been gathered: the hay has rotted or been swept away by floods. The disaster is due to the late spring, the nearly continuous chilly rains and the early frost, which was recorded on August 10. In the north there have been only half a dozen days when it did not rain. The rains also spoiled the fishing. So complete was the failure of vegetation that dead birds by the hundred have been found in the forest. The crop failure is the worst that has been experienced for the last fifty years.

It is hoped, however, that better methods of communication will facilitate the work of relief and avoid wholesale deaths by hunger and typhus. Count Bobriokoff, Governor General of Finland, has issued an appeal for help in Russia, and a voluntary relief committee has been throughout the country. The Anglo-Saxon Church here is affiliated with the committee.

St. Petersburg, December 21.—The Russian Government has drawn up a comprehensive plan for feeding the people who today are in a state of semi-starvation as a result of crop failures and generally relieving the distress which is widespread throughout the ten governments of Eastern Siberia. The sum of \$3,381,500 has been already expended in relief work, but further great sums will be necessary to support the populace of the afflicted districts and enable them to resume farming in the spring.

Florence, December 21.—Alton B. McLeod, a young flagman on the Atlantic Coast Line, while walking over the top of an incoming freight train, fell between the cars, and his body was fearfully mangled by the wheels. The young man was walking along the track near the transfer station on the freight yard, and in order to save a walk up-town to his boarding house, boarded a passing train and was walking on top, going towards the engine, when he fell between the cars. Several cars passed over his body, which was literally cut to pieces.

TRYING TO ARBITRATE

FOR VENEZUELA.

England and Germany Ask Security for any Award That May be Made by Arbitrators.

Washington, Dec. 19.—Secretary Hay has received partial responses from the governments of Great Britain, Germany and Italy respecting the proposal to arbitrate the Venezuelan difficulties. Great Britain is favorable to arbitration with proper safeguards; Germany accepts arbitration in principle but finds a multitude of small adjustments to be made before entering into the agreement; Italy, as the junior partner of the allies declares that she is favorable to arbitration, but will be bound probably by the action of the senior partners.

To secure these results the American embassies at London, Berlin and Rome have been working energetically to carry out the instructions of Secretary Hay to ascertain how the proposal would be received. As far as England is concerned, the safeguards referred to are believed to relate to the question of guarantee which is full of difficulties. In this connection some consideration is again being given to the feasibility of the assumption for responsibility for any award assessed against Venezuela by responsible private agencies, but the United States government is determined not to allow itself to be drawn into the position of a guarantor in this case, for the precedent once established, might require the United States to become the financial backer of all South and Central America. However, if private concerns can be induced to enter the field the United States government will do what it can to reduce their risks. Secretary Hay, Sir Michael Herbert, the British ambassador, and Senator Dewey were in conference today and it is suspected that this phase of the case was touched upon, although no confirmation can be had at this time. The German position presents the greatest difficulties for not only does it involve a demand for apologies which are extremely repugnant to Venezuelans, but also presents so many points requiring adjustment that it is evident that many days or perhaps weeks must elapse before that adjustment can be effected and the case prepared for arbitration. And the danger of delay in the face of a blockade which seriously cripples neutral commerce and invites hostile collisions with the Venezuelans cannot be over-estimated. The efforts of the United States therefore must be directed toward hastening Germany's action on the arbitration proposal.

The Italian position is, of course, of less concern than that of the other allies. The Italian ambassador here, in his intercourse with the state department, has been extremely moderate and considerate, giving Secretary Hay the impression that he is well disposed to second any efforts of the United States to terminate the present dangerous situation.

The French government has served notice that without abating her claims, the payment for which have been arranged, she also claims the right to have the claims of French citizens which have arisen since the adjustment above spoken of, considered by the joint tribunal which will adjust the Venezuelan debts on a basis of equality with those of the other nations. This contention is strongly resisted by some of the allied powers and is one of the points which is likely to lead to the consumption of much time and which must be disposed of before a final arrangement can be made to arbitrate the case.

ROOSEVELT ASKED TO ARBITRATE.

The President First Suggested The Hague Tribunal.

Washington, Dec. 20.—President Roosevelt has proposed to the allied powers that the Venezuelan dispute be submitted to the arbitration of The Hague tribunal. The powers have replied with a counter proposal that President Roosevelt himself arbitrate the issues.

The development over night in the Venezuelan matter and they seem to justify the prediction made in these dispatches that the critical point had not passed. President Roosevelt does not wish to act as arbitrator in this dispute for as such it is felt here would be at once, judge, jury and constable and would be under the moral obligation to exercise his own judgment. The president feels that a reference to The Hague tribunal would vastly strengthen the cause of arbitration.

Still rather than see the present dispute proceed to extremes, it is probable the president will reluctantly assume the duties of arbitrator. It is fully realized that any decision rendered by him in that capacity would be sure to bring him the enmity of one or the other of the parties to the controversy and this fact was pointed out to the president early in the week by a leading senator who had been called into consultation. Nevertheless to prevent bloodshed and the destruction of property and interference with great commercial interests that would result in loss it is believed that the president would assume the charge, providing his own view cannot prevail.

An important fact developed today is that the punitive measures about to be instituted, and in fact now in force in some degree, will not be suspended by the allies until a definite agreement is reached as to arbitration.

Venezuela also has been told through Minister Bowen that the president would welcome a reference of the dispute to The Hague tribunal. While no direct reply has been received it is not doubted that the reply would be favorable if the other parties consented to such reference.

the security of foreign interests against vexatious and extortionate interference on the part of the Venezuelan government and will insure the administration of exact justice in the settlement of claims and especially will it relieve foreign residents of Venezuela from forced loans and persecution in the times of revolution.

London, Dec. 21.—It is believed that President Roosevelt's answer to the proposal made by the allied powers that he arbitrate the Venezuelan issues has been received in London. The strictest secrecy with regard to every phase of the negotiations is preserved, however, but such indications as are obtainable point to President Roosevelt's acceptance of the office of arbitrator.

A constant interchange of cablegrams is proceeding night and day between the United States embassy here and the state department at Washington. It is believed that the president's answer will be submitted formally to the foreign office tomorrow. By Wednesday unless some unexpected complications arise, it is believed the negotiations will reach a stage assuring a definite arrangement and obviating hostilities.

It must be said that the acceptance of the office of arbitrator by President Roosevelt would greatly surprise the foreign office, which always has been doubtful of the issue of the arbitration negotiations on account of the belief that President Roosevelt, or the United States, was not willing to undertake the responsibility thereby involved.

La Guayra, December 21.—The Italian cruiser Giovanni Bausan has captured a sloop, which was coming from the east.

The British cruiser Tribune left here at noon today for Port of Spain, Trinidad, with the schooner Mercedes in tow.

The German training ship Stosch left port this afternoon to take Mme von Pilgrim-Baltazzi, wife of the German charge d'affaires, to Curacao.

A German cruiser, supposed to be the Gazelle, passed this port today, towing two large schooners in the direction of Trinidad.

One of the results of the blockade is that the harbor corporation and shipping firms here have dismissed their laborers. Over 500 men are therefore out of work.

ROOSEVELT WAS NAMED.

It is Generally Regarded as a Shrewd Diplomatic Move to Ensure the Collection of Claims.

Washington, Dec. 22.—President Roosevelt has not accepted the position of arbitrator of the controversy in which the republic of Venezuela is involved with Great Britain Germany and Italy. In fact, when the official day closed, he had not received formally or officially a request from the European powers that he act as arbitrator of the dispute. These statements are made on the highest authority.

In an informal manner, the president has been notified that the European powers intimately concerned in the present South American difficulty desire that he should undertake the responsibility of acting as arbitrator of the points at issue between them and Venezuela. Thus far, they merely have been taking "soundings," with a view, probably, of ascertaining how he would receive a formal proffer to act as arbitrator.

It can be said that, in response to the suggestions he has received, the president, from the first intimation he had that he was desired as arbitrator of the Venezuelan controversy, has expressed emphatically his judgment that the matters to be arbitrated should be referred to The Hague tribunal. His view of the suggestions made has been conveyed to the European powers, together with a strong presentation of his reasons for the view he holds. To this latest phase of the Venezuelan question, no response of a formal nature has been received.

The president and Secretary Hay had a long conference today after the former's return from his Virginia trip. They went over carefully the situation as it had developed since Saturday, but it is understood that nothing has arisen during the past 48 hours to warrant the president in changing his opinion as to the undesirability of his acceptance of the position of arbitrator.

The acceptance of the powers of the principle of arbitration as applied to the Venezuelan question is a matter of great gratification to the president and his cabinet. That all the powers have intimated too, that they would prefer that the president should arbitrate the present dispute than that it should be referred to The Hague tribunal is taken as a notable compliment to the personality and to his administration. It is the hope of the president and his advisers, however that, while there is precedent for his acceptance of the post of arbitrator, the powers will consent to a reference of the controverted matters in the Venezuelan question to the tribunal at The Hague.

The United States government is awaiting the reception of formal answers from the allied governments to the president's last suggestion that the Venezuelan dispute be referred to The Hague. So far those responses have not come to hand but it is pretty well understood that they will hold out for the arbitration of President Roosevelt himself. Signs point to the president's ultimate acceptance of the trust though nothing positive is yet known on this point. The state department has learned that President Castro would welcome the selection of President Roosevelt as arbitrator, and as all the parties interested are united the pressure will be hard to resist.

Opinion varies as to the termination of the blockade of the Venezuelan ports. In some quarters it is assumed that if President Roosevelt accepts the duty of arbitrator the allies will call off the blockade at once. On the other hand it is pointed out that custom requires the terms of the arbitration to be pretty accurately defined and this will consume time, pending which the blockade will continue.

It is quite evident from the developments here that Germany is the originator and promoter of the suggestion that President Roosevelt act as arbitrator. Great Britain and Italy, it is believed, incline toward arbitration by The Hague Tribunal, but of course they would not indicate any preference

officially in the matter if President Roosevelt gave the faintest intimation of accepting the charge. Indeed, officially the allies stand on record as supporting the German lead in this matter.

SOFT WORDS FROM GERMANY.

Germany Will be Well Satisfied With Roosevelt as Arbitrator.

Berlin, December 22.—The blockade of the Venezuelan coast will continue until a definitive arrangement for arbitration has been reached. Germany will be well satisfied if President Roosevelt undertakes the task. His acceptance would be considered a sufficient guarantee that Venezuela would pay if she lost. Asking President Roosevelt to arbitrate was the Emperor's personal suggestion. An indirect inquiry three or four days ago not eliciting a refusal from the President, a request has now been made in direct form. Although Germany is ready to submit the case to any impartial tribunal, she would prefer President Roosevelt, for the reason that President Castro is more likely to accept the decision of the President of the United States than that of The Hague Tribunal. If President Castro evades payment under President Roosevelt's award, the people of the United States, it is claimed here, would with positive pleasure see the allies compel him to pay up.

The United States are considered here as emerging from the affair with all credit. The Monroe doctrine has been acknowledged by two of the greatest Powers of Europe, President Roosevelt has been accepted as arbitrator by all the parties concerned, and the South American States have been persuaded by events that the United States is the only Power between them and Europe. The only annoying thing to the German Government has been the alleged readiness of Americas to suspect Germany of secret designs. The reported extraordinary distrust of Germany has been a painful surprise to the Emperor and to the Cabinet.

CROWN PRINCESS DISAPPEARS.

A Tremendous Sensation in the Kingdom of Saxony.

Dresden, Saxony, December 22.—The Crown Princess of Saxony fled from her home on the night of December 11. The Dresden Journal of today says:

"The Princess, in a state of intense mental excitement, suddenly deserted her family at Salzburg and went abroad. The Saxon Court functions for the winter, including the New Year's reception, have been cancelled."

The foregoing paragraph in today's official journal, which was inserted by order of the King and Crown Prince of Saxony, has turned into truth what for several days past has been regarded as an incredible tale. The Crown Princess of Saxony, surrounded by her ladies in waiting and numerous attendants and servants of the royal household, has vanished so utterly that the police of every kingdom of Europe have for ten days been unable to trace her. The official announcement was made in order to obtain the aid of the general public in finding the Princess, and because the Court fiction that she preferred to remain in retirement at Salzburg rather than to return to her husband and children at Dresden can no longer be maintained.

Accompanied by the Crown Prince the Princess went to the castle of Emperor Francis Jose, near Salzburg, a month ago. A week after their arrival at the castle the Prince broke his leg while hunting and was brought back to Dresden. The Princess, however, remained at the castle. Why she did so the people of the Court did not know, except that with gloomy tenacity the Princess usually does what she pleases. For a little while this explanation sufficed, then fragments of gossip began to reach Dresden. It was said that the Princess had surrendered herself to periods of nervous excitement and that her eccentricities of deportment caused much concern to her suite and to some of her Austrian kinsfolk, who were staying in the castle with her. It is now believed that she was under surveillance, and if this is true it makes her disappearance the more extraordinary.

The narrative of the events at Salzburg, during the night of December 11-12, as told in Dresden, is that the Princess, who appeared to be in an unusually tranquil mood, retired before 12 o'clock. Three hours later, when a maid looked into the royal bed chamber, something in the appearance of the bed prompted her to go closer and examine it. Instead of the Princess the maid perceived a dummy figure. She awakened the lady-in-waiting, and the latter, with other members of the Princess's suite, searched all the neighboring apartments, then the entire castle, and finally the grounds of the castle for the Princess, but no trace of the missing woman was found. At dawn the police of Salzburg were informed of the disappearance, and inquiries were made throughout the whole country side, but with no tangible result. A number of what had seemed to be traces of the Princess were shown to be without foundation upon careful examination by the police. The inquiry by the end of that day had extended to all parts of the Kingdom of Saxony and on authority from Dresden, by the end of the second day, to all Europe. The theory of suicide was suggested and a fruitless search for the Princess's body was made. All the ponds and other pieces of water in the vicinity of the castle have been dragged without result.

The disappearance of the Princess will doubtless cause the circulation of many stories. It is already related that she eloped, but inquiries have brought out nothing to substantiate or support this statement.

Mexico City, December 21.—The superior board of health, with offices in this city, has sent a commission to study a mysterious disease which has alarmed the people of the Pacific port of Mazatlan. Nineteen persons have died there and the local physicians regard the disease as the Asiatic plague, presenting all the symptoms of the cases which occurred recently in San Francisco. Neighboring towns are forming a local quarantine against Mazatlan.