

Oestreicher and Company

28 S. MAIN ST.

We have some odds and ends, broken lots of different lines gathered during stock taking, and placed on sale to be closed at ridiculously low prices.

Children's and Misses' Caps in price from 25 to 50c Choice 15c.

25c Ladies' Cloth Sailors 15c
48c " Walking Hats 29c
45c Sailor " 29c
90c Walking " 50c

Fur Collarettes
Only a few on hand; choice \$5 Furs at \$2.75.

Cloaks

This department is still prepared to supply some high-grade Capes or Jackets at surprisingly low prices.

Children's Wraps

Nobby things at less than cost of material.

LOST!

Somewhere between sunrise and sunset, one golden hour set with sixty diamond minutes.

No Reward Offered.

Remember your time is never lost when looking through our large and well selected stock of groceries.

G. A. GREER.

MINCE PIES.

Nearly everyone likes mince-pies—makes the right sort of a windup to a good dinner. A good pie lies to a great extent in the mince meat. If the real flavor isn't there your pie will be flat, no matter how good the crust is. And above all, mince meat wants to be clean. We have got a mince meat that we think will please anybody. It is made by one who knows the art from beginning to end, every ingredient which will improve it is in it and it's as pure as wax. If you will only try it we are quite sure you will like it.

10c PER POUND.

P. L. Byard's

PURE FOOD STORE

Phone 49 19 Merrimon Ave.

ESTABLISHED.
Good paying business for sale. For particulars address N. O. P., Gazette.

ON HAYDON AVENUE, NO. EIGHTEEN CORNER STORE FOR RENT. APPLY TO H. C. CHESTER, FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING.

THE MAINE SENT TO HAVANA

Does this Mean Intervention by United States?

Navy Department Says it is a Friendly Move.

A Result of Persistent Requests From General Lee.

President Acted When State Department Held Back.

The Battleship is for the Protection of American Interests—Two German Warships Now in the Cuban Port.

Washington, Jan. 24.—The battleship Maine is under orders to proceed to Havana. She will reach there in a day or two, probably sooner. There is a feeling that this new move of the administration marks the beginning of the end of the conflict in Cuba. Many persons see in today's action another logical step in the chain of recent events which seem to lead up to intervention by the United States. Significance is attached to the fact that the Maine, a target battleship is the one ordered to Cuba instead of a cruiser.

It was said at the state department that the ordering of the Maine to Havana is done with entirely a friendly purpose, and

that this visit is to be taken as an indication that there is no longer any reason for keeping American warships away from that port, the relations between this country and Spain being amicable.

The secretary of the navy this afternoon issued the following statement: "Matters are now in such a condition that our vessels are going to resume friendly calls at Cuban ports and go in and out just as vessels of other nations do. The Maine will go on just such a visit."

It is reported that when the president read this morning's information that two German warships were in Cuban waters he immediately called a conference of his advisers, which resulted in a decision to send the Maine to Havana. The German vessels are undoubtedly the Stein and Charlotte, which appeared off Port au Prince to back up the demand of Germany for the payment of the indemnity to Louisiana. They are armed with five rapid fire guns and have five inch rifles in the main batteries.

New York, Jan. 24.—A World special from Washington to-day says: "The administration decided to send the Maine to Cuba only as the result of the persistence of Consul General Lee, who to-day sent a personal telegram to the president in which he stated that he is tired of waiting time with the state department. He declared that the perpetual feeling of apprehension in Havana could be endured no longer and repeated former statements that the situation is cyclonic, and that some definite steps should be taken for the protection of American interests. The president based

his step upon the promise given Lee when last in this city that he would be supported in every way. It was only on this promise that General Lee returned to Cuba. Finding nothing could be accomplished through the state department Lee as a last resort appealed to President McKinley and the obligation to provide support was kept."

BLANCO LEAVES HAVANA.

Havana, Jan. 24.—In accordance with his plans Gen. Blanco left Havana this morning on a special train for Batabano. The greatest precautions were taken to prevent an attack by the insurgents. The train was composed of seven cars, three armored and filled with troops. The governor general occupied one of the armored cars with his staff and escort. A pioneer locomotive preceded the train to examine the track and report any danger.

News of the battleship Maine has been received but the censor gave notice that the papers would not be allowed to print Gen. Congo's in charge of the palace during Blanco's absence.

TO REMOVE THE "BUCK"

IMPORTANT IMPROVEMENTS HINGING ON A COURT CASE

Supreme Court to Pass on the Legislative Act Affecting the Smith Will in April—A Matter of Much Interest

It is thought that the Smith property, embracing the old Buck hotel on North Main street and extending from North Main to Spruce street and from College north to a point near Woodfin street, will soon be placed on the market for sale. A case involving the constitutionality of an act of the legislature passed at its last session is now pending in the supreme court.

The will of James Smith, the former owner of the property left the title to it in such a shape that the present owners cannot sell it. The last legislature at-

tempted to remove this legal impediment by passing an act authorizing a commissioner to be appointed to sell the land and hold the fund realized from the sale upon the same terms as the land is now held.

The commissioner appointed, C. H. Miller, sold a portion of the land and the purchaser having refused to pay the purchase money on the grounds that the commissioner could not make a good title to the land, the commissioner brought suit for the purchase money. Judge Norwood who heard the case decided that the commissioner under the act referred to could make a good title and the purchaser appealed to the supreme court. The case was not reached at the last term of the supreme court but will in all probability be argued in April.

The decision of the supreme court in this case is awaited with interest, not only by those who are directly and financially interested, but by the public generally. The "Buck" as it is called, located in a central portion of the city, has been an eyesore to the public for many years and any prospect of its removal will be hailed with satisfaction.

The land embraced in this litigation has a frontage on North Main extending from the corner in rear of the Gazette press rooms on College street to a point nearly opposite the Farmers' warehouse. The entire tract is assessed for taxation at fifty thousand dollars. The original assessment was a great deal more but was reduced by the equalization board.

The commissioner, C. H. Miller, who owns an interest in the property, informs the Gazette that if the supreme court sustains the decision of Judge Norwood the old hotel will at once be removed and the valuable space utilized in the erection of handsome and commodious brick buildings, and that other portions of the property will be improved.

The complications growing out of the legal feature of the Smith will have prevented the owners of the property from selling any portion of it or improving it themselves. An effort was made several years ago to sell a portion of it under a proceeding for partition but the supreme court decided that no sale could be made, hence the act, the constitutionality of which will soon be passed upon and the matter settled.

FRENCH WARSHIPS DEPART.

Paris, Jan. 24.—The French warships Bruix and Vauban, called for China today. Admiral De Beaumont, who has been appointed commander-in-chief of the French squadron in the far east, is on board the Vauban.

The Bruix is a steel vessel of 4,754 tons displacement and 9,949 indicated horsepower. She has an armored belt about four inches thick, carries two 7.5-inch guns, six 5.5-inch quick-firing guns, four 3.5-inch guns, four 1.8-inch guns and six 1.4-inch rapid-firing guns.

The Vauban is a steel vessel of 6,208 tons and 10,900 indicated horsepower. She has an armored belt ten inches in thickness, carries four 3.4-inch guns, one 7.5-inch gun, six 5.5-inch guns and twelve rapid-fire guns.

YESTERDAY IN CONGRESS

Proposed Increase of Pensions Discussed.

Amendment to Raise the Minimum Rate.

Morgan Replies to Ex-President Cleveland

To Prove That He Favored Hawaiian Annexation.

Representative Simpson Ridicules the Report of the Committee That Investigated New York Slums.

Washington, Jan. 24.—There was no consideration of the Hawaiian treaty in the executive session of the senate today. The whole question was reviewed in an elaborate speech by Senator Morgan, the purpose of which was to refute ex-President Cleveland's denial of the statement of the senator that Cleveland had favored the annexation of Hawaii.

The resolution declaring United States bonds payable optionally in gold or silver was advocated by Senator Turpie and went over without action. The remainder of today's session was occupied in the consideration of the pension bill appropriating over \$141,000,000. An amendment was offered by Senator Allen, raising the minimum rate of pensions from six to eight dollars a month. Senator Perkins raised a point of order against the amendment and Senator Gallinger declared himself unalterably opposed to it. The committee on pensions had sent to the pension bureau for an estimate of what the additional cost would be and had not yet received an answer.

"You might as well send it," Allen exclaimed, "to Caesar or Emperor William. There's no greater enemy to old soldiers than the republican party. The pension roll has not reached its maximum yet. The great and powerful metropolitan journals, advocates of the holders of government bonds, have whipped the committee on appropriations and the committee on pensions into line in hostility to the old soldier. The time will come when the great masses of the people will take possession of the government and then the old soldier will receive justice."

The discussion lasted two hours and the senate adjourned without the point of order being decided.

IN THE HOUSE.

Washington, Jan. 24.—The house spent most of today's session in political debate, participated in principally by Jerry Simpson, Dingley and western members. Simpson ridiculed the report of the committee that investigated the condition of the poor in New York slums. The committee reported that the miserable condition of these people is due to extravagance, declaring that the extravagance consisted in buying beefsteak and bananas and urged as a measure of economy that they be taught to eat cheaper food which had more nutriment in it than steak. The discussion branched off into the populist government in Kansas, Simpson declaring that the wise administration had restored prosperity, other speakers declared the state bankrupt and unable to pay its obligations.

The house adjourned without accomplishing much on the Indian appropriation bill.

A GOLD BUG CONVENTION

TODAY'S GATHERING IN THE CITY OF INDIANAPOLIS.

To Consider the Report of the Monetary Commission—May Affect Legislation.

Indianapolis, Ind., Jan. 24.—The monetary convention will be called to order at the Grand opera house to-morrow by Hugh H. Hanna, chairman of the executive committee. Governor Leslie M. Shaw, of Iowa,

BRIBERY INVESTIGATION

Failure to Secure Some Desired Evidence.

Cincinnati, O., Jan. 24.—At the senate investigation of the Hanna bribery charges today the manager of the Western Union Telegraph office said that the dispatch which the investigators called for had mysteriously disappeared. Allen O. Meyers and detectives testified regarding the movements of the mysterious Boyce who is supposed to have bribed Representative Otis. The cashier and officials of the Union savings bank refused to testify regarding cash said to have been deposited with them by Hanna or his agents, or to whom the money, if any, was paid.

BIG FIRE AT VERSAILLES.

Lexington, Ky., Jan. 24.—Fire broke out in the post office at Versailles at 9:30 o'clock tonight. At this late hour the town is threatened with destruction. The post office and a number of business houses and residences have already been destroyed. The loss at midnight was \$40,000.

DALLAS COTTON SWINDLERS.

New York, Jan. 24.—It is stated here that the cotton swindling gang in Dallas, Texas, which was exposed by the supposed suicide of William Falk, the Dallas cotton buyer, and one of the conspirators, secured \$200,000 from New York cotton brokers. The operations of the swindlers went on for a period of ten years before detection. They worked their game by means of bogus drafts and checks, which when returned and protested would find the swindlers missing.

A NEGRO CANDIDATE.

Parker Johnston, the colored janitor of the court house requests the Gazette to state that he will be candidate for the nomination for alderman before the republican convention and that if he or some other colored man is not nominated the blacks "will run a ticket of their own."

THE RIOTING IN ALGIERS

Report That the City is in Flames

And That 100 Jews Have Been Murdered.

This Sensational News Lacks Confirmation.

The Known State of Affairs Are Bad Enough.

The Governor General Narrowly Escapes Serious Injury in Trying to Check the Disorders—More Troops Sent to the City.

Algiers, Jan. 24.—The anti-Semitic disorders were renewed this morning, the mobs plundering and burning shops owned by the Jews. Governor General Lepine endeavored to check the rioters. One of the mob threw a chunk of burning wood at the governor, who narrowly escaped injury. His appeals had little effect. The rioters are mainly bent upon plunder. They brutally beat prominent Jewish merchants. Many arrests have been made.

Paris, Jan. 24.—M. Jaures, one of the socialist leaders in the chamber of deputies, received today a despatch from Algiers saying that riots of a most serious character have occurred there. The houses of Jews and others have been pillaged, and 100 Jews massacred, and many others badly injured. The town was set on fire and when the message was sent the fire was burning fiercely.

No confirmation has been received here of the despatch received by Jaures reporting the massacre of Jews in Algiers. This last despatches stated that the town was comparatively quiet. Additional troops have been sent.

CAUCUS FOR McCOMAS

BUT MARYLAND SENATORSHIP IS NOT SETTLED.

Four Votes Short of an Election—Twenty Futile Ballots at Nashville.

Annapolis, Md., Jan. 24.—After three hours' session to-night the republican caucus by a vote of 46 decided to support Judge McComas for United States senator. J. C. Mulliken, of the Eastern Shore, received 7 votes. McComas was afterwards made the unanimous choice of the caucus. Fifty-three were present. This is four short of the necessary number to elect. None of the bolters were present.

It is not believed that the senatorship will be settled to-morrow, although some of those on the outside expressed a purpose to abide by the caucus. A coalition between democrats and bolters, in favor of another candidate, is strongly spoken of to-night.

Nashville, Jan. 24.—Twenty ballots were taken by the democratic caucus of the general assembly for senator to-night without result. The changes in the vote were unimportant. There is no likelihood of an early break in the deadlock. The caucus adjourned till Wednesday.

NORTH CAROLINA GEMS.

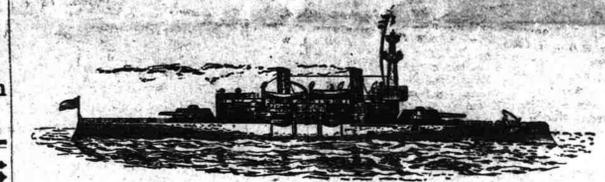
The rare beauties of nature, so well represented in Western North Carolina, are becoming better known every day as people who are better educated in the formation and utility of minerals have from time to time shown their appreciation of these gems by using them in all kinds of adornment.

We have decided to close out some of these gems and offer them at prices that should make them all sell in a very few days.

WE OFFER:

One lot of 41 gems at 50 cents each.
One lot of 40 gems at 60 cents each.
One lot of 169 gems at 75 cents each.
One lot of 40 gems at \$1.00 each.
One lot of 22 gems at \$1.25 each—Sold.
One lot of 5 gems at \$1.50 each.
One lot of 3 gems at \$2.00 each.
One lot of 5 gems at \$2.50 each—Sold.
One lot of 3 gems at \$4.00 each.
One gem for \$4.00.

ARTHUR M. FINE, D.
LEADING JEWELER,
Church Street and Patton Avenue, Asheville, N. C.



Chairman Hugh H. Hanna.



Governor Shaw, Presiding Officer.