

The Week in Stars.

THE SEIZURE OF AMERICAN FLOUR.

Senate Adopted the Resolution of Inquiry Offered by Mr. Hale of Maine.

THE GOLD STANDARD BILL.

A Final Vote on the Measure to Be Taken February 15th-The Philippine Question Discussed-House Proceeds-Gage's Report.

By Telegraph to the Morning Star.

WASHINGTON, January 17.—With-out difficulty and within five minutes an agreement was reached in the Senate to-day to take a final vote on the pending bill fixing gold as the standard of value in the United States. Senator Aldrich, chairman of the Finance Committee, suggested February 1st as a suitable date for the vote. Senator Jones, Democratic, Arkansas, named February 15th, and his proposition was accepted by Senator Aldrich. In the intervening time the measure will be discussed.

After several days of debate the drag net resolution of inquiry regarding the conduct of the Philippine war was adopted. It was introduced by Senator Hale, of Massachusetts, and was adopted as a general substitute for resolutions of a similar but less extended character offered by Senator Pettigrew and Senator Lodge. Beyond a vigorous speech by Senator Pettigrew the resolution aroused no debate, and it is within the discretion of the President to send or not to send any of the information to Congress.

The resolution offered by Senator Hale, Maine, as to the seizure of flour by the British authorities was adopted, but only after a spirited debate and after the resolution had been materially amended.

The Philippines.

When the Hear resolution, amended by Senator Lodge, calling for general information regarding the conduct of the insurrection in the Philippines was taken up, Senator Pettigrew, South Dakota, spoke in favor of its passage. He declared that he had received information since the introduction of his resolution that assured him of the facts he had asserted. "The blood of every individual," said he, "who has fallen since the war began, rests on the hands of the administration. The blood of the sixty soldier boys of South Dakota who lost their lives after being conscripted into an unwilling service after their terms had expired, lies at the door of the administration."

"I charged that the censorship of the press and the suppression of facts are for the purpose of advancing the political ambitions of Mr. McKinley,"

"If this action," said Senator Pettigrew, "puts the administration in a hole, as was stated, it was not his fault. The resolution was then passed without division.

Seizure of American Flour.

Mr. Hale, Maine, called up his resolution, requiring of the Secretary of State information relating to the seizure and detention of American flour by the British authorities in Delagoa bay, South Africa.

Senator Davis, of the Foreign Relations Committee, moved it be referred to his committee, saying it was premature, in view of the present diplomatic situation, to inquire into the question of whether the flour was for the use of an active hostile. Senator Davis thought the real question now under consideration is whether the matter comes within the province of international law. He said it did not become the Senator (Mr. Hale) to introduce such a resolution at this time, and, referring to the paragraphs that further detailed what would be done without warrant and offensive to this government, he ventured to say that no pronouncement upon so important a question was ever made by a government until the diplomatic negotiations relating to it had been completed. It is a statement which is made only on the verge.

Mr. Hale, however, reported that the resolution was limited to one of inquiry; that the country was entitled to know the situation and that he deemed it perfectly clear that the seizure was not of contraband goods. It needed, he thought, no investigation by a committee to determine that flour was not contraband of war. "A majority of this Senate can still this resolution," said Senator Hale, "but, I think, it cannot be suppressed in any other way." He said one of the things he was trying to have answered was whether the flour seized was American flour, the property of American shippers.

The discussion of the question as to whether food products were ever contraband of war was precipitated by a question from Senator Lodge. Senator Hale admitted it very reluctantly in the case of the flour, but he could conceive that it might be in certain circumstances. Such an admission would, in his opinion, however, be fraught with great danger to the United States now and in the future.

A Threat of War.

Senator Hawley, Connecticut, believed the resolution as introduced was a thinly worded threat of war. Our relations with Great Britain ought not to be disturbed unless for very grave reasons.

Sen. C. W. Gilman, South Carolina, called attention to the shipment of miles to the British forces in South Africa from ports of the United States, the government taking no pains to prevent it.

Senator Platt replied that there was no inhibition against the shipment of such supplies to the British. The shippers made the shipments at their own risk.

Sensor Foraker suggested that the resolution be directed to the President instead of the Secretary of State, but Senator Hale heatedly declined to accept further amendments. Senator Foraker then moved that the resolution be amended as he had suggested and the motion prevailed.

The Resolutions.

Without further controversy the resolution, as amended, was passed. As soon as it reads as follows:

"Whereas, It is alleged that property of citizens of the United States not contraband of war has been lately seized by the military authorities of Great Britain in and near Delagoa bay, South Africa, without good reason, and the speaker has been indefinitely postponed. Court, which was in session, has been adjourned, and neighboring towns have quarantined against the place.

The East Carolina Real Estate Agency will sell for cash, or will exchange for desirable house and lot in Wilmington, a farm of 372 acres, three miles from Ross Hill. Address R. G. Gray & Co., Burgaw, N.C. t

If you wish to sell a farm or city property place it in the hands of the East Carolina Real Estate Agency, Burgaw, N.C. t

WHEN others fail, take ROBERTS' TASTELESS CHILL TONIC.

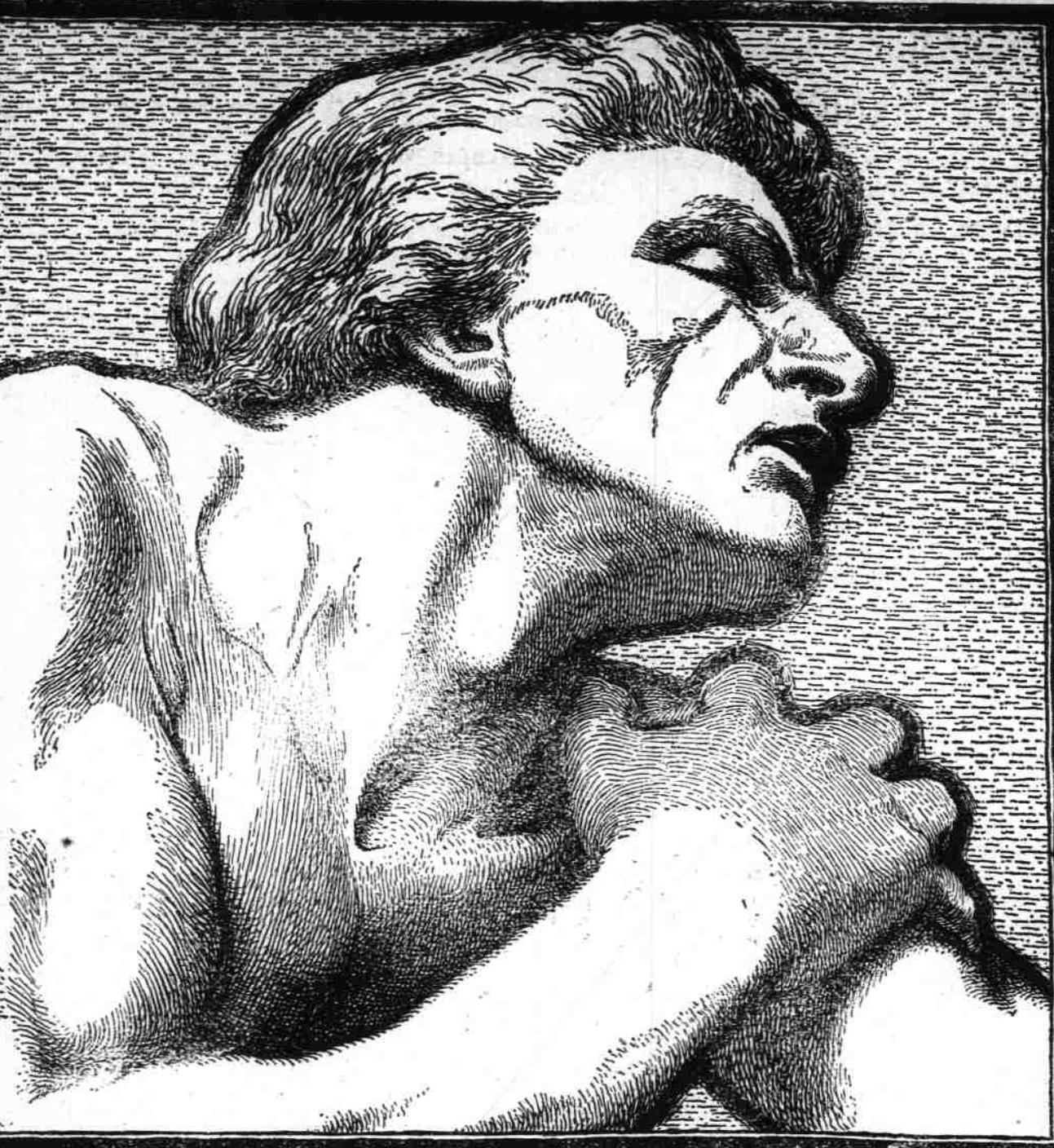
The campaign against the proposed constitutional amendment in this State was to have been opened to-morrow at Rockingham by Senator Pritchard. An outbreak of smallpox will, however, prevent his speaking. Ten well developed cases were discovered, and the speaker has been indefinitely postponed. The court, which was in session, has been adjourned, and neighboring towns have quarantined against the place.

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It is desired to inform the Senate that the resolution, as introduced, was detained by the military authorities of Great Britain, in disregard of the right of the owners of the same; therefore, be it

"Resolved, By the Senate of the United States, that the President is hereby requested to send to the Senate, if in his opinion, not compatible with the public interest, all information in possession of the State Department relating to said seizure and detention, and also to inform the Senate



Suffering with Rheumatism Exhausts Nerve and Strength PAINE'S Celery Compound CURES

H. R. Perry, Sr., Free Stone, Cal., writes:

"I have been troubled with rheumatism for over twenty years and had tried the most skillful physicians in our State without any relief when I began taking Paine's Celery Compound. Before I had used half a bottle, I was relieved. It cured my rheumatism permanently, and I believe it will cure any case of rheumatism."

MOVEMENT OF BRITISH FORCES.

Buller's Troops Cross the Tugela River and Surprise the Boers.

By Cable to the Morning Star.

LONDON, January 18, 4.30 A. M.—General Buller's complete surprise of the Boers on Potgieter's drift hills tends greatly to restore confidence in his tactics. It is shown his forces are concentrated. In Cape Colony Meath has made a demonstration in force, shelling the Boer works. General is skirmishing around Moltzen French is shelling the Boers at Renshaw. Colonel Plumer is moving to the relief of Mafeking, from Bechuanaland, with less than 2,000 men. Mafeking is in a bad way; the siege is being pressed with determination and the Kaffirs are deserting. Plumer, on January 11th, was 100 miles north of the Orange river.

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The Urgent Deficiency bill was passed with only one important amendment. In Committee of the Whole to consider the Urgent Deficiency bill Mr. Sulzer, Democrat of New York, took advantage of the first opportunity to call attention to his resolution to investigate the charges against Secretary Gage. The committee to which it had been referred had not acted. "I understand," said Mr. Sulzer, "that the President does not want them investigated, and that nothing more can be done with the grave charge." If this is true, he continued, it was a remedy he declared, and that remedy would be applied. He quoted President McKinley, while a member of Congress, in criticism of the course of Secretary Fairchild in keeping government funds in national banks.

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