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Leads all Other North Carolina Dailies in Both News and Circulation.

GAGE ON FILIBUSTERS

A Complete Report on Filibustering Expeditions.

ONLY SIX REACHED CUBA

OUT OF MORE THAN 13,000 AMERICAN VESSELS.

A VERY COMPLETE COAST PATROL

And Less Than Fifty Ships Have Had Any Share in Cuban Blockading—Spain's Coast Patrol Not Equal to Ours, Says the Secretary.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 8.—Secretary Gage has submitted to the department of state his report upon the action of the treasury department in suppressing filibustering expeditions to Cuba in violation of the neutrality laws, a synopsis of which was furnished by the department as follows:

"Secretary Gage points out the fact that during two years and a half only six American vessels of an aggregate of 1,331 registered tons are alleged to have successfully landed expeditions from the United States in Cuba. With the exception of the Laurada, the six American vessels alleged to have successfully taken part in expeditions in Cuban waters are small tugs and a pilot boat, each of less than 100 net tons, and obviously incapable of carrying large numbers of men or large quantities of arms and ammunition. Three foreign vessels of an aggregate of 1,773 registered tons are alleged to have been successful in the same effort. Referring to these foreign vessels, the Norwegian steamer Loon, the Danish steamer Horsa and the British steamer Bermuda, the Secretary invites attention to the fact that the crews of these vessels are required to be shipped before the consuls of their respective nations in accord with the laws of those nations, which also impose on the masters of vessels various other duties to be performed before the consuls. He suggests the inquiry might be pertinent, whether the Spanish authorities informed these consuls of the alleged expeditions, and whether if not, some measure of responsibility does not rest on the Spanish authorities for the alleged departure of these vessels, or, if the consuls were notified, whether some measure of responsibility does not rest upon them. The suggestion is made, not to shift the responsibility, but to show that if these alleged expeditions started without the knowledge of the treasury officials, they also departed without the knowledge of the officials of other nations, whose action was a necessary preliminary to clearance.

"With the vessels referred to, it is alleged that there have been associated about a dozen harbor tugs, three or four lighter ships a few small steamers, and about half a dozen of small sloops and schooners, in all less than fifty. On the Atlantic and Gulf coasts in 1896, there were 10,668 sailing vessels under 200 tons, and 2,917 steam vessels of 1,000 tons, or less, a total of 13,585 American vessels of a description and a locality available for filibustering purposes. That only six of 13,585 American vessels succeeded in reaching Cuba, and that less than fifty had any share in these expeditions, Secretary Gage says, is a demonstration, first of the law-abiding spirit of the nation, and of the obedience of the people to the president's proclamation, and second, of a wholesome and repressive fear on the part of those who might be disposed to be lawless and violate our obligations as a neutral nation, and of a belief that their efforts would be frustrated by the authorities of the United States, and that the risk of discovery and punishment greatly outweighed any chance of profit from the exceptionally high money rewards offered to vessel owners by the Cubans.

"Eight revenue cutters with crews of 317 men armed with fifteen guns, have cruised 75,788 miles, occupying 129 months in the aggregate, patrolling the coast to prevent filibustering expeditions. They have captured seven vessels and 115 men; have broken up two expeditions and have held under surveillance thirteen vessels under suspicion. From time to time several revenue cutters have been employed on temporary duty.

"Perhaps the strongest statement in the report is this: If the Spanish patrol of 2,200 miles of Cuban coast has frustrated one half the number of expeditions which were frustrated by the United States authorities along a coast line of 5,470 miles, not one man nor one cartridge would have been illicitly landed in Cuba from the United States. Out of sixty alleged expeditions only four have been broken up by Spain. Illustrating this statement he refers particularly to the expedition that left on the Laurada from Baltimore and landed at Banes, on March 21. Banes is an important port, on the northern coast of Cuba, with which the United States carried on a valuable fruit trade until the Spanish order prohibiting the export of bananas was issued. Yet it appears that the Laurada remained in this sea port two days, landing men and arms, and was not molested by the Spanish authorities in Cuba, who had been informed of her landing and even minutely where torpedoes had been placed. Unless Spain is prepared to avow the inability or indisposition to defend her interests in Cuba, Secretary Gage holds

that the responsibility for the success of this expedition may properly be fixed upon Spanish officials in Cuba, who had been fully informed by the Spanish legation. The Spanish authorities have repeatedly asserted that all of the sea ports of Cuba were in their possession.

"In all, sixty alleged expeditions are examined. Of these Secretary Gage shows that twenty-eight have been frustrated through the efforts of the Treasury Department, five have been frustrated by the United States navy, four have been wrecked, one driven back by storm, one failed from a combination of causes, one—the Delaware—he declines to recognize as other than a violation of the British foreign enlistment act. As Spain has suffered no injury from these forty-three failures, it is assumed that they will be accepted by Spain as evidence of the success of the United States in maintaining its obligations, and that a detailed statement concerning each is unnecessary.

"Secretary Gage then examines in detail the seventeen alleged successful expeditions. He points out that the partial success in one case was due to the weakness of the Spanish patrol of the Cuban coast. That in one case the Spanish authorities at New York have exonerated the officers of the Treasury from all responsibility; that in one case the Spanish minister disagrees with the legal advisers of the Spanish legation and also disagrees with himself as to the date of the alleged successful expedition, and the Department has no information warranting it to request that any proceedings be instituted; that in three cases the vessels have been wrecked and that proceedings against them are obviously impracticable, while the principal in one case is imprisoned, as below; that in five cases the principals have been sentenced to imprisonment, or are in prison; that in one case the vessel is under British jurisdiction and cannot, therefore, be reached by the United States, while the principal has been sentenced to imprisonment in this country, as above; that in three cases the vessels have been labelled for forfeiture on evidence furnished in part by this Department, and are awaiting the action of the courts; that in one case the officers are under indictment; that in one case the libel of the vessel was dismissed by the United States district judge; that in one case the question of instituting proceedings is under consideration; that in one case the Department asks time for a further investigation.

THE MCKINLEY WAVE

IT STRIKES TWENTY-EIGHT THOUSAND FALL RIVER WAGE EARNERS.

With a Reduction of Ten Per Cent—McKinley and Dingley Getting in Their Work.

Fall River, Mass., Dec. 8.—At a meeting of the Cotton Manufacturers Association today it was voted unanimously to reduce all wages in the mills of the city, the amount and time of the reduction being left to a committee which for some time has had charge of the matter. It is understood that the cut will be not less than 10 per cent, and that it will go into effect on January 1. The cut will affect 28,000 operatives, who are paid an aggregate weekly wage of \$180,000.

For some months the executive committee of the association has been investigating the situation in this city. The price of print cloths off a long time has been the lowest in the history of trade, while the demand has been only fair. Under these conditions the mills have been selling at a loss and the stock of goods has been increasing. The committee obtained the signature of every manufacturer in the city, except one, who is understood to be D. A. Brayton, of the Durfee mill, a private corporation.

As no reduction could be ordered without the consent of every mill, the committee decided to report back to the association. This was done at the general meeting today and the committee received the unanimous approval of the association upon its suggestion that a reduction be made.

It is anticipated that the price of weaving a cut of print cloth will be reduced from 18 to 16 cents.

The attitude of the employes on the matter can hardly be stated until they have had a chance to talk it over, and none of the labor leaders will say much about the subject until the meetings have been held.

The feeling is prevalent that before the matter is settled there will be a strike, but how large a proportion of the operatives will take part, it is impossible to say. Every effort, however, will be made to avert such action.

A WINSTON WEDDING.

Two Hearts That Beat as One in the Twin City.

Winston, N. C., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—A fashionable wedding was celebrated in Centenary Methodist church at 4:30 this afternoon. The contracting parties being Mr. M. S. Sherwood, teller in the First National Bank, Greensboro, and Miss Emma Mann, of this city, daughter of the late Rev. J. E. Mann. The church was profusely decorated and the ceremony was impressively performed by Rev. Dr. Creasy, in the presence of several hundred friends of the happy couple. Mr. and Mrs. Sherwood went to Greensboro to-night, where a wedding supper was served at the Sherwood home.

PRITCHARD FOR LOWER TAX.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Senator Pritchard to-day introduced a bill reducing the tax on distilled spirits in bond to 70 cents per gallon.

MR. BRYAN IN MEXICO

Great Courtesy to the Distinguished American

A CORDIAL RECEPTION

WILL BE TENDERED BY THE GOVERNMENT AND THE VARIOUS CITIES.

NEW MEXICAN SILVER BONDS

The New Issue of Sixty Millions in Active Demand in Europe, Mostly Bought by Small European Investors.

City of Mexico, Dec. 8.—The chairman of the Deputies has approved the bill authorizing the Minister of Finance to issue a new series of 5 per cent. silver bonds of the interior debt to the amount of \$20,000,000, making the total authorization \$60,000,000. The bill is now before the Senate. These bonds are issued to convert the floating debt into the form of subsidies, port works, payments, etc., and as a means of making the internal debt uniform. These bonds are always in active demand in Europe, where they are mostly held by small investors, who regard them as an excellent form of placing their savings. The bonds are quoted at 78 to 80 in this market.

There is much interest shown in Mr. Bryan's approaching visit, and the disposition is to treat him as a distinguished American, without regard to his political standing as the chief of the Democratic party. He will be cordially received by the Government and shown many attentions. The American residents in various cities are organizing reception committees.

DURRANT TO DIE.

His Last Hope Dispersed by the Supreme Court of California.

San Francisco, Cal., Dec. 8.—Late this afternoon the Supreme court dispelled the last hope of W. H. T. Durrant, the murderer of Blanche Lamont and Minnie Williams, by disposing in a summary manner of his two appeals. In a written opinion by Chief Justice Beatty, which is concurred in by all but one of his associates, the court affirms the judgment of Judge Babers, in remanding the prisoner to San Quentin until the date set for his execution, but reverses the sentencing of Durrant to be hanged on November 11 and remands the case to the Superior court with instructions to proceed according to law. As the remittitur was ordered issued forthwith and the court holds that execution can only be stayed now by the issuance of a certificate of probable cause, it only remains to re-sentence the condemned murderer, which will probably be done to-morrow.

DUNCAN DECIDED UPON.

He Will Be Recommended for Collector, Other News.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—Congressman White left for home to-night. His wife is quite ill. He says there is nothing new about the Kinston postoffice and that the matter will stand until the President's return from Canton.

It was decided to-day, as stated in these dispatches last night, that Duncan should have the collectorship for the Eastern district, and he will be so recommended, which virtually means his appointment.

Congressman Pearson is hot foot after the civil service fellows. To-day he circulated a petition, which was largely signed by leading Republicans of the House, calling for a conference or caucus on Saturday to outline a plan of attack on the civil service law. Mr. Pearson will be satisfied with a modification of the law that will permit the taking care of the fellows in the trenches.

A SERIOUS CHARGE.

A White Man Arrested in High Point, but Released.

High Point, N. C., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—A young white man named Baumgartin, hailing from Hickory was arrested here this morning charged with attempted criminal assault last night on Carrie Lepp, a white girl about seventeen years old. At the trial here this afternoon before Mayor Bradshaw the case was promptly dismissed on the girl's own evidence.

SENATOR M'LAURIN HAS FEVER.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 8.—Senator McLaurin, of South Carolina, is confined to his bed with an attack of typhoid fever. The Senator was ailing when he arrived here a week ago, but the typhoid attack did not develop until a day or so ago. He is in the care of Dr. Wellington, assisted by a trained nurse. No apprehension is felt over the attack, as it is not of a violent character and the Senator has a rugged constitution.

Baltimore, Md., Dec. 8.—Al Herford, the pugilistic promoter and manager of the Eureka Athletic Club, has deposited \$250 with the sporting editor of the Baltimore Herald, challenging the world on behalf of his light weight boxer, Joe Gans.

MARRIAGE IN GREENSBORO.

In the Midst of a Bower of Beautiful Flowers and Palms.

Greensboro, N. C., Dec. 8.—(Special.)—At the residence of Mrs. Mary E. Small, the bride's mother, this evening at seven o'clock the marriage of Mr. William Baird Merrimon, of Raleigh, and Miss Lillian Small was celebrated. The house was handsomely decorated with cut flowers and palms, the ceremony being performed in the front drawing room. The attendance at the ceremony was limited to the immediate families and near friends of the bride and groom. The bridal procession was led by Miss Alice Small and Mr. Archer Hickley Harris, of New Orleans, the groom following with his best man, Mr. F. P. Haywood, Jr., of Raleigh. The bride entered on the arm of her sister, Miss May Small. Rev. Dr. Weaver of the Methodist church was the officiating clergyman and performed the impressive marriage service that united the lives of these happy young people. The bride's dress was of white satin duchesse with trimmings of pearl passementerie, duchesse lace and chiffon, long tulle veil encircled her slender figure and she carried a bouquet of lilies of the valley. At the conclusion of the ceremony the bridal party were driven to the "Colours," the elegant home of Mr. and Mrs. Branch H. Merrimon, where a handsome reception was tendered them. The bride is of brunette type of beauty and is justly regarded one of the fairest and loveliest daughters of the City of Flowers. The groom is a son of the late Chief Justice Merrimon. His popularity as an extensive acquaintance is widespread. He is the special agent for the Carolinas and Virginia of the Fidelity and Casualty Company of New York. In every part of the State he has friends who will congratulate him on his latest good fortune. Mr. and Mrs. Merrimon left to-night on the north-bound vestibule for an extended trip.

NORFOLK RESTRAINED.

Norfolk, Va., Dec. 8.—Judge Prentiss has rendered a decision in the case of The Norfolk Virginia and other newspapers against the city of Norfolk, in which the plaintiffs sue for permanent injunction restraining the city from collecting a special tax on newspapers. Judge Prentiss makes the temporary injunction he granted perpetual, on the ground that this city cannot levy a tax which the State does not impose. The case will be taken up to the Court of Appeals.

BANK COMMITTEE MEETS

THESE FELLOWS SAID LAST YEAR THAT FINANCES WERE ALL RIGHT.

Now They Are Delving With All Sorts of Wild Currency Legislation, and Monkeying With Money.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 8.—The house committee on Banking and Currency, which will have the shaping of a considerable portion of the financial legislation before the house, held its first meeting this morning and outlined its general plan of action. In view of Secretary Gage's recommendation of a comprehensive revision of currency and banking affairs a resolution was adopted inviting the secretary to embody his views in a bill. The committee was informed that the secretary was now at work on a measure and that it would be available for the committee in about a week.

Mr. Hill, of Connecticut, then precipitated a sharp debate by moving that the committee act at once by reporting to the house a bill embodying three of the financial features which had the president's approval. These were embodied in a bill, heretofore offered by Mr. Brosius, of Pennsylvania, and Mr. Hill, now proposes that the first three sections be placed before the house immediately. The three sections provided: Bank circulation up to the par value of bonds deposited; reduction of the tax on circulation to one-fourth of 1 per cent; the establishment of small banks in rural communities.

Mr. Hill said the committee would do well not to go through the tedious processes of considering and dividing on these three propositions, which appeared to meet with general acceptance, and had received executive approval.

Mr. Johnson, of Indiana, earnestly opposed such hasty action. He said there should be time to hear from the gentlemen forming the monetary commission, and to weigh all propositions. Precipitation on such a vital subject would, he said, seriously prejudice it before the house and the country.

Mr. Mitchell, of New York, also opposed such speedy action. The debate was proceeding with animation when at 12 o'clock the meeting went over, a vote on the Hill motion not having been reached.

Chairman Walker announced four sub-committees, and assigned to each a number of the banking and currency bills already introduced.

DOUBT ABOUT HAWAII.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 8.—It is stated by those in a position to know that the reason the Hawaiian treaty is not rushed in the Senate is because the friends of the measure have grave doubts as to their ability to secure the necessary two-thirds vote to pass it. The impression prevails that it may be necessary to pass a joint resolution and annex the islands by legislation. It has been found that a number of Senators who were confidently counted for the treaty are against it, while others have expressed doubts about hasty action.

Senator Davis, chairman of the Foreign Relations committee, says he is not yet ready to proceed with the treaty, and cannot fix a time when it will be taken up, although he thought it would be considered before the holidays.

RUMBLINGS OF WAR

Prince Henry of Prussia Departs With a Squadron

A TALK WITH BISMARCK

HAYTI'S GOVERNOR ISSUES A PROCLAMATION.

HAYTI YIELDS TO GERMAN FORCE

A Rumor That China Has Ceded Kia-Chou Two Big German War Ships Collide With Serious Results.

Berlin, Dec. 8.—It is rumored to-night that China has ceded Kia-Chou to Germany. Whether the report be true or not, there is every indication in the preparations for the expedition under Prince Henry that a long stay is contemplated.

Emperor William will make the departure of Prince Henry's squadron from Kiel the occasion of an imposing naval display.

The Brandenburg, a first class battleship of more than 10,000 tons displacement, and the Wurttemberg, a second class battleship of nearly 7,500 tons, while coming from Christiania to Kiel to take part in the display, collided. Both vessels were injured, the Wurttemberg so badly that it was necessary to send her to dry dock.

HAPPENINGS IN HAYTI.

The President Issues a Proclamation—Yielded to German Force.

Port Au Prince, Dec. 8.—There was a lively fusillade here at 11 o'clock last night. No damage was done.

Count Schwerin, the German Charge d' Affaires, was received by the President this afternoon. The public mind continues agitated and all the regular and the national guard are in readiness.

Shortly before two o'clock the President issued a proclamation to the people of Hayti, saying that for the second time Hayti had yielded to German force, contrary to its rights. The government, according to the proclamation, had decided to resist even to the last, but owing to the lack of promised moral influence, the character of which is not indicated in the proclamation, it was obliged to accept the ultimatum.

The proclamation invites the Haytian people to cease internal quarrellings and to labor for the raising up again of the nation.

M. Frederique, managing editor of the Journal Impartial and alleged author of the virulent articles attacking the Germans, who is accused of desiring to excite the populace of this place against the government, was arrested to-day and taken on board a Haytian cruiser. At the moment of his embarkation there was much excitement, but order was soon restored. The government has at its disposition a sufficient number of troops and is taking all the necessary measures to maintain order.

PRINCE'S CONFERENCE.

The Venerable Bismarck Discussed the Eastern Situation.

Friedrichsruhe, Dec. 8.—Prince Henry of Prussia, the commander of the second squadron of warships bound for Kia-Chou bay, visited Prince Bismarck to-day, and remained two hours in consultation with the great statesman. It is understood that the far Eastern situation was thoroughly discussed. Prince Bismarck, who is suffering from rheumatism in the legs, was obliged to remain in an invalid's chair throughout the time of the Prince's visit.

On leaving Prince Bismarck, Prince Henry said: "Let me also salute the brow which my grandfather so often kissed." He then kissed Bismarck on the forehead and cheek. The aged statesman wished him a safe voyage, a good success and a happy return.

Dr. Schweringer, Prince Bismarck's physician, says the Prince will soon recover from the effects of his recent neuralgia pains.

CLEARED FOR ACTION.

Berlin, Dec. 8.—The official account of the collection of an indemnity from Hayti, accompanied by a salute of the German flag at Port Au Prince, on Monday last, owing to the alleged illegal arrest of Herr Emil Lueders, says that after the ultimatum of Germany had been delivered to the Haytian government, the German cruiser Stein cleared for action.

FRENCH TROOPS TAKE NIKKI.

Jagos, West Africa, Dec. 8.—Additional advices just received from the interior say the French troops have had five engagements with the natives before effectively occupying Nikki, the capital of Borgu. The King of that country fled to the bush.

Both France and Great Britain claim that the Borgu country is within the sphere of their territory. Great Britain claims the whole country of Borgu under the Anglo-French convention of 1890, which declared that all north of the line drawn from Say, on the Niger, to Bouda, on Lake Tchad, was within the French sphere, and all that south of it was within the British sphere.

NILE TROUBLE ENDED.

London, Dec. 8.—The St. James Gazette this afternoon announces authoritatively that the British Government does not expect any further trouble with France regarding the Upper Nile re-

gions, France having agreed to accept the situation.

The danger was that the occupiers of that part of the country divert the course of the Nile and render Egypt a waste.

CRUISERS TO GO TO CHINA.

London, Dec. 8.—According to a special dispatch just received from Paris, the French cruisers Jean Bart, Isly, Alger and Pascal have been ordered to be prepared for immediate dispatch to China.

JOHN M. CLAYTON'S MURDERER.

A Georgia Convict Confesses That he Killed General Clayton.

Little Rock, Ark., Dec. 8.—Sheriff J. D. Clery, of Bradley county, Arkansas, claims to have information to the effect that the self-confessed murderer of Hon. John M. Clayton is now serving a life sentence for another murder, in Georgia. His name is withheld but it is stated that he is a former citizen of Arkansas who fled from the State immediately after murdering Clayton. At the time of the murder, it was generally considered to be the denouement of a political fight, but according to the confession, politics played no part in the affair, revenge for an old grudge being the motive given by the Georgia convict.

The State authorities say they will leave no stone unturned to bring the murderer to justice in this State, but are in a quandary as to how it can be done, should the murderer be found serving a life sentence for murder in another State.

SUING THE OLD MAN.

Chicago, Ill., Dec. 8.—Mrs. Florence Van Schaak to-day began suit against her father-in-law, Peter Van Schaak, one of the leading business men of Chicago, asking damages in the amount of \$75,000 for alienation of her husband's affections and \$50,000 for libel. Mrs. Van Schaak claims that her father-in-law induced her husband to leave her by means of letters containing charges which she denounces as untrue. The plaintiff recently received a verdict by default of \$65,000 against the defendant in Brooklyn, but that judgment not being operative in Chicago, she has brought another action here.

PINEHURST POSTMASTER.

Washington, Dec. 8.—Fordham G. Wicker has been appointed a fourth class postmaster at Pinehurst, N. C.

MR. "PIETRIOT" PEARSON

HE WANTS A CONFERENCE OF THE ANTI-CIVIL SERVICE MEN.

The Pigeon River "Pietriot" Circulates a Paper—Senator Gallinger Also Takes a Pop at the Hated Civil Service.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 8.—A paper was circulated in the house of representatives today with a view to bringing about a conference of those members favoring a change in the present civil service system. The paper was handled by Representative Pearson, of North Carolina, and received numerous signatures. The purpose, it is understood, is to make the conference non-political in character, and to extend it outside of the membership of the Civil Service Committee, as some of the men most active in urging a revision of the law are not in this committee. General Grosvenor, of Ohio, is among these. He approved the plan of a conference of those interested in the subject, and it is likely to be held at an early day.

GALLINGER'S BILL.

Washington, D. C., Dec. 8.—Senator Gallinger today introduced a bill to define and regulate the civil service. It provides that neither civil service laws nor the regulations under them "shall be construed or held to apply to or control appointments to any office or official employment by, of under the United States, except to the clerical positions in the executive departments as classified by section 163 of the revised statutes, or like clerical appointments in the customs and postal service, in such custom houses and postoffices as shall employ fifty or more clerks, and to the letter carriers and postal clerks of the postoffice department."

The bill provides for the examination of other appointees by the head of the department to which he may have been appointed.

A VERY IMPORTANT CASE.

Validity of \$100,000 of Stanly County Bonds Questioned.

An important case, and one involving a very large amount of money was argued yesterday before the Supreme court.

It is entitled commissioners of Stanly county against Saugz and is brought to test the validity of \$100,000 of Stanly county bonds.

Mr. Saugz is the Treasurer of Stanly county and the suit is brought against him by the county commissioners to prevent his paying the interest on \$100 of Yadin Railroad bonds.

It is claimed by the commissioners that the railroad did not fulfil the terms of the contract and therefore the county is not liable for the bonds. This road was to have been operated between Concord and Albemarle.

Also as the act was not read in the Legislature on three successive days, and not passed by yeas and nays vote, it is claimed, under the Bank of Oxford case, that the law is unconstitutional.

The case was argued yesterday afternoon by Judge Shepherd, Judge Avery and Mr. Schock for the plaintiff. Mr. R. H. Battle appeared for the defendant and Long and Long filed a brief.

The opinion in the case is awaited with much interest, being of great importance to investors and capitalists generally.