

INTERVIEWS CLOSED.

The Cuban Commissioners Complete Their Labors in Washington City.

They Have Two Interviews with the President and Four with the Secretary of War—Interesting Proceedings During Their Last Visit to the White House—Mutual Expressions of Regard and Friendship—Cubans Told that no Economic Questions can be Settled Before a Government is Formed—No Results to be Made Public yet—Cubans Start for Home.

Washington, April 27.—The Cuban delegation completed its labors in Washington today. In the morning the delegates met Secretary Root, who escorted them to the White house, where they had a final and decisive talk with the president. Then they paid visits of courtesy to each of the officials whom they have met, and finally they started for New York at 11 o'clock tonight, homeward bound. They will sail for Havana Wednesday.

The proceedings at the White house were interesting and important. Senator Capote acted as spokesman for the delegation. He thanked the president for the many courtesies shown them, which they accepted as an expression of good will to the Cuban people. He invited the president to visit Cuba, to see for himself the conditions in the islands and learn from contact with the inhabitants of the love and affection which the Cubans have for the United States and their appreciation of what had been done for them by this government in their struggle for freedom.

Senator Capote asked the president to do something for the Cubans upon an economic line, especially in the matter of reciprocal trade relations. He said that it was especially desirable to have something of this kind done before the next crop was harvested in order that the Cubans might realize the advantages to them of closer political and economic relations with the United States.

In reply the president said it was impossible to settle economic questions until the political questions were disposed of. He told the delegates to first form their government and then they would be in a position to enter into negotiations with the United States as to trade relations.

Senator Capote responded that something ought to be done while the Cuban government was forming. He thought that while the United States was exercising control there might be arrangements perfected similar to those under contemplation by the secretary of war in 1898 when the government first passed under control of the United States. He told the president that the Cuban republic did not wish to be born in poverty and rags and if it could not be wealthy it would at least prefer to have something with which to support itself and to have its people in prosperous conditions or with prosperous conditions immediately before them.

The president again reverted to the fact that under the present conditions, as the secretary of war had advised them, he did not see how it was possible to settle any economic questions before the Cuban government was formed. He would appoint commissioners immediately a government was organized to negotiate with similar commissioners from the Cuban government for reciprocal trade relations and he believed that the United States would be ready to deal in a manner which would be beneficial to both countries. He thanked the delegation for the invitation to visit the island and told them to assure the Cuban people of his friendly interest in them and his desire to see them contented and prosperous.

Delegates then shook hands with the president and departed.

General Capote later said to an Associated Press reporter: "We have concluded our business here. We have had two interviews with the president and four with the secretary of war, during which all matters that we came here to discuss have had the fullest and most minute consideration. We came to consider the relations between Cuba and the United States, and these, both political and economical, have had the most careful attention. We return to Cuba and will deliver to the constitutional convention all the information we have obtained, information which is highly important and interesting."

There has been a mutual understanding between the parties to the conferences that have been held that no specific statement as to results should be given out on either side in advance

of the commission's report to the constitutional convention. There are many political jealousies among the Cubans at home and General Wood said that anything made public at this time might be liable to misconstruction and lead to friction. General Wood, however, does not hesitate to state that the Cubans have been impressed with the treatment they have received and the attentions shown them and to say that undoubtedly they return with a more correct understanding of the meaning of the terms of the Platt amendment and of the sincere desire of the American government to put Cuba on her feet as an independent government, than they had before.

CALLERS AT THE WHITE HOUSE

Many go to Say Good-Bye to the President—Souvenirs of the Tour

Washington, April 27.—There was a constant stream at the White house today. Most of them called simply to say good-bye to the president who leaves here Monday for his long trip to the Pacific coast.

Secretary Cortelyou has sent to each member of the president's party a handsomely prepared itinerary of the trip. It is in the form of a booklet with a handsomely embossed cover and contains in addition to a map showing the route to be taken by the party, the names of the members of the party, the day and hour of arrival and departure at each point, the population and elevation above the sea level of the cities at which stops will be made and many other interesting points, including the names of the railroads over which the train will travel, the distance between points, etc. The longest distance to be traveled without a stop is from San Antonio to El Paso, Texas, a distance of 624 miles.

SCHOONER EMMA C. KNOWLES

Towed Into Delaware Breakwater—No News of Crew—Signs of Collision

Philadelphia, April 27.—The wrecked schooner Emma C. Knowles, from Charleston, S. C., passed in the Delaware breakwater this morning in tow of the tug Frank W. Munn. The Emma C. Knowles was first sighted by the steamer Sunningdale on the afternoon of April 24th off Atlantic City. She was lying on her beamends with decks awash, deckhouse gone and appeared to have been in collision. She was picked up by the tug Munn early yesterday and reached the breakwater today. The captain of the Munn reports that the Knowles had evidently been in collision with another craft.

It is the general belief in shipping circles that the crew of nine men has been lost, but the owners of the Knowles cling to the belief that the vessel which was in collision with the schooner had picked up the crew and that the men will be landed at some foreign port.

AUSTRIA AND MEXICO

Diplomatic Relations Established for First Time Since Maximilian Affair

Washington, April 27.—A complete rapprochement between the governments of Austria and Mexico has been brought about and, as a result, each country is about to send a minister to the other. This terminates an international estrangement dating from the days when young Maximilian of Austria sought to gain a foothold in Mexico and lost his life in the adventure. Ever since then Austria and Mexico have suspended all intercourse with each other, commercially and politically.

Recently, however, friendly overtures have been made to terminate the estrangement and have resulted in a satisfactory agreement between them by which their old relations of friendship will be resumed.

A bill has passed the Mexican congress reciting the fact of a rapprochement and providing for a minister to Austria at a salary of \$15,000 annually. Austria will take similar action by sending a minister to Mexico and this will close the long and historic separation.

Court Decisions as to Legion of Honor Possibles

Knoxville, Tenn., April 27.—Judge J. W. Snead of the circuit court today held that the by-laws passed by the American Legion of Honor's supreme council last August invalidating all policies of contract were void and cannot be enforced as applied to J. W. Gaut, of this city, who has for years held a \$5,000 policy, payment of premium on which was accepted.

TO JOIN THE STATE GUARD.

GOVERNOR TO HAVE CONFERENCE WITH FAYETTEVILLE COMPANY.

Another Company from Raleigh to Become Part of the State Militia—Alcohol Discovered by Professor Howell, of Chapel Hill, to be an Antidote for Carbolic Acid Internally—Smallpox Bulletin—This Disease in Eighteen Counties of the State.

(Special to the Messenger.) Raleigh, N. C., April 27.—The governor gave the adjutant general authority to accept at a proper time a new company of infantry at Raleigh. Arrangements have been made for a meeting next Wednesday of the governor and adjutant general and the officers of the Fayetteville Independent Light Infantry to consider the matter of enlistment of that company in the state guard.

At today's session of the North Carolina section of the American Chemical Society the following officers were elected: president, W. A. Withers, Raleigh; vice president, W. J. Martin, Jr., Davidson; secretary and treasurer, C. B. Williams, Raleigh; representative in the council of the American Chemical Society, Charles Baskerville. Vernon Howell, of the state university made a statement of a discovery by him which will awaken great interest. It is that alcohol, taken internally, is an antidote for carbolic acid, based on personal experiments.

A bulletin of the state board of health, issued today, reports smallpox in eighteen counties. There are thirty-eight cases in Durham, forty-five in Mecklenburg, thirty in Orange, thirteen in Robeson, thirty-one in Davidson, seventeen in Greene, twelve in Buncombe. In all there are 231 cases.

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH

The New Hotel will be Completed in Ten Days or Two Weeks—Gangway and Pavilion to be Built out over the Sound in Front of the Hotel.

Mr. W. R. Applegate, contractor for the construction of the double of the Seashore Hotel, on Wrightsville Beach, has made fine progress on the new hotel. The weather boarding is all up, the roof is on, the partitions and ceilings are all in, the floor has been laid, and the blinds hung. The painters are now at work and the construction of the building will be completed in ten days or two weeks.

Captain Edgar L. Hinton, traveling passenger agent of the Wilmington Seacoast Railroad, says the new hotel will be pretty as a peach, and that the ball room will be a grand affair. It will occupy the entire lower floor, and there will not be a column in it to obstruct the dancers. It is laid with a beautiful floor of carefully selected lumber.

The Brown cottage on the hotel plot is also being remodeled, and will be painted the same color as the new and old parts of the hotel. This will make a decided improvement. As soon as the hotel is finished, Mr. Applegate will build a gangway and a pretty pavilion out over the sound in front of the hotel. The pavilion will be over several feet of water, and it will be a column in it to obstruct the dancers. I feel more like a boy than I have felt in twenty years."

Anderson Riggs, of Sunny Lane, Tex. Thousands have testified as did Mr. Riggs. R. R. Bellamy.

ANOTHER CUT IN WAGES

Contemplated by the Cotton Mills on Fall River

Fall River, Mass., April 27.—The reduction in the price of printcloths has not only made further curtailment probable, but a reduction in wages possible. Today the margin between the price at which cloth can be produced and sold is as low as it was when the last reduction in wages was made and when the price of weaving was lowered from 19 to 15 cents per cut, and other classes of textile work paid upon that basis. The price paid for weaving cloth today is the highest in the history of the business and the margin of profit is as small as it ever was. Under such conditions it is feared that wages cannot be maintained with any certainty for a definite period of time.

Captain of a Norwegian Bark Drowned Savannah, Ga., April 27.—Captain A. Nordquist of the Swedish bark Norrkennet, was drowned in the river last night. From the best information available it appears that Captain Nordquist was going aboard at an early hour when he lost his footing and fell between the vessel and the dock. The mate heard the fall of the body into the water and made a search, but with no result. It is supposed the corpse was swept out with the swift tide.

EMPEROR WILLIAM AT BONN.

HE ENJOYS A VISIT TO THE STUDENTS OF HIS OLD CORPS.

Takes Command at the Symposium and Joins in the Students Singing and Beer Drinking—His Night Surprise Visit to a Naval Training Ship at Kiel Among Sleeping Cadets—A Youngster's Ready Reply.

London, April 27.—All accounts agree that Emperor William thoroughly enjoyed himself at Bonn, and among the students of his old corps he became a student again. The emperor wore the white cap and across his breast the black and white ribbon of the Borussia corps. His majesty himself took command at the symposium, issued orders in a firm tone and led off the so-called Salamanders, the thunderous rattling of bear mugs on the table when the leading toast was proposed. He also joined heartily with a loud voice, in singing students' songs, bringing down the flat of his rapier, in the orthodox fashion, with a crash on the table at the end of each verse. The proceedings reached a climax when his majesty called for that grandest of German student songs "Landesvater" ("Father of the Country"). At one of the verses, in which the students swear to live or die for king and county each man crosses his rapier with that of the man opposite him, and caps are taken off and spitted on the rapier points, the youthful crown prince crossed rapiers with the aged General von Loe, himself an old Borussia.

An interesting story is told of a surprise night visit paid by Emperor William to the training ship Charlotte while at Kiel. The ship was anchored in mid stream when the guard espied the emperor's pinnacle approaching and a moment later the emperor was on deck, much to the surprise of the hastily awakened captain. His majesty then began a vigorous inspection of the ship. In the dormitory he was astonished to find the cadets asleep under the glare of electric lights. "I scarcely believed they are asleep under such light," said the emperor.

"They are tired after their day's work," replied the captain. "They would sleep anywhere." The emperor was still skeptical, shook a sleeping cadet soundly and awoke him. "So," said his majesty, "you sleep as well here as at home?" The cadet, recognizing his questioner, promptly replied: "Better, your majesty."

PURSUING THE CHINESE

A Running Fight with German Troops. The Casualties

London, April 27.—A Reuter dispatch from Peking says the headquarters staff has received a telegram from a British officer accompanying the Franco-German expedition to the effect that April 23rd the Germans crossed into Shan-Si, through the Kuk-Nau and Chang-Cheng-Liu passes, in pursuit of the retreating Chinese whom they followed eighteen miles, fighting a sharp action. The French troops remained in occupation of the passes. The Germans returned April 25th and the French handed over the passes to them and returned to their previous outposts. The Germans are said to have had four men killed and five officers and eighty men wounded. The Chinese loss is not known.

A REAL TRAGEDY ON THE STAGE

Fatal Accident in Closing Exercises of a School

Chattanooga, Tenn., April 27.—A special from Burnsville, N. C., says: While playing the tragedy "Last upon the World" in the closing exercises of the Stanley McCormick high school at Burnsville last night a real tragedy was enacted when R. N. McInturf, one of the students, was shot and killed by Bacchus Bailey, a student, both representing characters in the play. When it became necessary for Bailey in his role to defend himself with a revolver against a drawn knife in the hands of McInturf he used by mistake a loaded pistol instead of the one with blanks, and in the presence of several hundred people McInturf was shot dead on the stage. The boys were room mates and special friends.

THE TEXAS ANTI-TRUST LAW

Construed in a Speech by Speaker of the House of Representatives

Austin, Texas, April 27.—The visiting members of the committees of the New York merchants' association and chamber of commerce who were welcomed here by Governor Sayers this noon, are all talking of the speech made last night at the banquet at San Antonio by R. F. Prince, speaker of the Texas house of representatives, defining trusts as understood by the Texas statutes. Speaker Prince said the Texas anti-trust law did not understand as a trust a corporation of immense capitalization because of such price of commodities. What constituted a trust, he said, and what would be driven from the state under the state trust law, was the consolidation of two or more corporations for the purpose of controlling prices, lowering them temporarily to squeeze out smaller competitors and then raising the prices back to old or higher standards. It is said under this construction numerous corporations not now doing business here can enter the state.

EXPRESS SAFE LOOTED

Masked Men Burglarize the Office of the American Express Company in Paris.

Three Men, who are Americans, Enter the Building at Night—Surprise the Negro Watchman Asleep, Gag and Tie Him—They Then go to Work on the Safe—Dynamite Successfully Used and Thirty Thousand Francs Secured The Negro's Graphic Account of His Rude Awakening and the Subsequent Proceedings of the Burglars—Police Have no Clue.

THE SUPERIOR COURT

MR. B. F. PENNY'S VERDICT FOR \$6,000 SET ASIDE.

A New Trial of His Suit Against the Atlantic Coast Line Ordered—Charles Carter, Colored, Gets \$3,000 Damages Against the Cape Fear Lumber Company.

Pursuant to recess on Friday evening, the Superior Court of New Hanover county met yesterday at 10 a. m. His Hon. Judge Hoke presiding.

The \$10,000 damage suit of Charles Carter, colored, against the Cape Fear Lumber Company, was resumed. Congressman Bellamy, of counsel for the plaintiff, concluded his argument begun on Friday afternoon, speaking for more than an hour. Judge Hoke then delivered his charge and the jury retired at 11:27 a. m.

Yesterday afternoon at 4:45 the jury returned a verdict, answering the issues as follows: 1. Was plaintiff injured by the negligence of the defendant? Answer—"Yes." 2. Did plaintiff by his own negligence contribute to the injury? Answer—"No." 3. What damage is plaintiff entitled to recover for the wrong and injury? Answer—"\$3,000."

Iredell Meares, Esq., counsel for the defendant lumber company, moved to set the verdict aside, on the grounds of error and that it was contrary to the evidence. The motion was over-ruled and Mr. Meares excepted. Judgment was then entered, and Mr. Meares took an appeal to the Supreme court. Notice of appeal was waived. The appeal bond was fixed at \$50 and the bond for the stay of execution at \$3,500. Thirty days was allowed Mr. Meares to make up his case on appeal. During the session yesterday, Junius Davis, Esq., made a motion to set aside the verdict of \$5,000 rendered for Mr. B. F. Penny in his suit for \$10,000 against the Atlantic Coast Line. John D. Bellamy, Esq., opposed the motion. Eugene S. Martin, Esq., argued in opposition to the motion and Hon. Geo. Roushree in favor of it. Judge Hoke granted the motion to set aside the verdict and ordered a new trial on the ground that the defendants had failed to offer evidence and he thought the matter should be fully gone into, as it involved such a large amount. The court disposed of other cases as follows:

Samuel Blossom against John Henry Boesch decree of foreclosure made. Murchison National Bank against Cox; 60 days granted plaintiff to file complaint.

Daily C. Vernon against Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, non suited and continued without prejudice. W. F. Alexander against J. W. Plummer, execution ordered to be issued. W. H. Howe against Stone, Rourke & Co., continued.

M. J. Corbett against J. B. Sellers & Co.; alias summons for E. McRae. H. E. McEachern against Wilmington Street Railway Company, settled and non suit entered. Henry Martindale against Joseph Altro set for Wednesday of the first week of the next term. R. E. Zachary against the City of Wilmington and county of New Hanover, non suit entered.

Daily C. Vernon against J. W. Vernon, action for divorce. Verdict and judgment for divorce. Judgment was filed in the case of R. W. Smith against the Interstate Telephone and Telegraph Company, defendant required to pay the costs according to the consent of all the parties.

Judgment was entered in the suit of C. S. Grainger against the American Bonding & Trust Company. It is ordered that the plaintiff recover of the defendant \$175 with interest from April 15, 1891. In the case of the state against Annie Wilson, it was ordered that a capias be issued. Judgment of non suit was entered in the case of Mrs. Elizabeth Vollers against John Henry Boesch and others.

At 5:25 p. m., Judge Hoke retired from the bench stating that he would allow the court to expire. Colonel A. E. Buck, minister to Japan who is ill in Washington with the grip, is not in a serious condition.

Paris, April 27.—Three masked burglars entered the American Express Company's office last night, surprised the watchman asleep, gagged and bound him, and escaped with 30,000 francs. The burglary was carried out most audaciously and was evidently the work of American experts. The manner in which the burglars proceeded indicates that they were familiar with the arrangements of the office. The street door was opened with the proper key, as the lock, which is equal to a safe lock, was not scratched.

An American colored boy, who was sleeping on the second story, says he was awakened about 1 o'clock in the morning by a choking sensation and found a man with his face half hidden by a handkerchief kneeling on his chest with his thumbs pressed on his windpipe. Another man beside the bed pointed a revolver at his head. A third man held a portable electric lantern, the light from which was shining in his eyes. The last said with a good American accent: "Don't move or I'll shoot you. We have come here to do a little job and mean to do it." One burglar, it is claimed, then stuffed a towel into the mouth of the boy, who said he was about scared to death and tried to wriggle his head, whereupon one of the men dealt him a heavy blow on the head with his fist which left a big bruise. The burglar according to the boy's story, then tied his arms and arms so tightly as almost to cut the flesh, while he left the marks of his knees on the boy's chest.

Two of the burglars, after a conversation in English, left the room and the third, according to the story told, "quietly drew up a chair and sat by the bedside with a revolver pointed at the boy and the rays of the lantern directed at his face. The burglar, the boy added, again said: "Now lie still and you will not be hurt; but if you are troublesome I will blow out your brains." The boy, continuing the story, said he then heard the noise of the burglars working below, drilling, hammering and laughing, apparently with not the slightest fear of interruption. Later, he said he heard an explosion and then a second detonation, which shook the premises. After a short interval his guardian, who, from time to time had exchanged "kind of bird whistles" with his confederates below, smeared something on the boy's face and said: "I am going down stairs to help my pals for ten minutes. If you stir I will kill you when I come back." But, the boy added, he never came back. The boy said he then lost his senses and had evidently been overpowered. When he recovered he asserted he was afraid to move.

An office cleaner, who arrived at the express company's office at 6:30 o'clock a. m., found the street door ajar, the safe dynamited and the boy, gagged and bound, lying on the floor besides his bed, upstairs. The burglars had collected the heavy carpets from the reception rooms and wrapped them around the safe in order to deaden the sound of the explosion.

An astounding feature of the burglary is that the policemen heard of nothing of the burglars, in spite of the fact that the latter worked loudly and that the sound of the explosions was sufficient to awaken a porter on the top story of a building across the street and cause him to descend and search his own house for intruders. Later it became known that the police had detained the colored boy watchman, not being satisfied with the story told by him of the burglary.

Mr. Normood will be President In view of the proposed consolidation of the Atlantic National Bank and the National Bank of Wilmington, a rumor was circulated that Mr. J. W. Normood would be only the nominal and not the active president of the consolidated bank and that he would leave the city for another field. He informed a Messenger reporter yesterday that he retains his modest interest and will be here as president of the bank as of yore.