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CRONJE NOT YET SUBDUED

HIS TERRIBLE COURAGE CAUSES ADMIRATION IN ENGLAND.

No One Can See How It Is Possible for Him to Resist so Long—Latest News from a Correspondent Says the Boer Langer Was in Flames When He Left—Cronje's Wife Urges Him to Surrender—Boer Main Army Said to Have Fled from Natal—Buller's Advance.

London, Feb. 24, 4:15 a. m.—Mr. Dal- four announced in the house of commons at 12:30 this morning that no further news regarding General Cronje had been received by the government. He had sent to the war office during the hour and he asserted that nothing had come to hand there. This bore out the statement of the war office given an hour before that it had no news to give out. General Cronje, therefore, is presumably still unbeaten. No other construction is placed on the three days' silence of Lord Roberts.

Yet no one sees how it is humanly possible, judging from the description of his situation Wednesday, for him to resist so long. Great Britain does not withhold admiration for the valor of a losing fight against such odds. "Englishmen feel something like pride in Cronje, even as a foe," says the Daily Mail. "In a position covering only a square mile, hemmed in on all sides, circled by a chain of men and howitzers, played on by deadly lydlite, bursting by its own sickly green light, his hastily built trenches enflamed by a stream of lead sweeping down the river from the north bank, General Cronje still elects to fight. It is a magnificent courage."

General Cronje's wife is described by the prisoners as urging him to surrender in order to save the lives of his men, but he would not.

The British cavalry patrols sent by Lord Methuen north of Kimberley discovered the Boers concentrating whether for offense or defense is simply conjectured. The Boers seem to be retiring from General Gatacre's front at Sterkstroom in order to reinforce the Free Staters.

Lady Smith had not been relieved when the latest news left Natal two days ago. The Boers had then retired half way between Ladysmith and Colenso. It only six thousand went to the Free State, as both the Boer and the British accounts assert, the 12,000 who are left may purpose to maintain the siege and to resist General Buller within contracted lines, although the impression at General Buller's headquarters is that the Boers are merely covering a retreat.

Boer Langer in Flames.
London, Feb. 24.—The correspondent of the Daily News telegraphing from Modder River Thursday morning says: "As I left Koodoos Rand a heavy shell and rifle fire was in progress. The Boer laager was a mass of flames and the Boers were seen making shelter in the trenches. General Cronje's wife, according to some of the prisoners, is urging him to surrender. Too much stress cannot be laid upon the importance of sending cargoes of horses for remounts. The necessity of rapid movement, which was grasped by Lord Roberts, had altered the whole campaign."

The Daily News assumes that the foregoing dispatch refers to Wednesday morning. More likely, however, it refers to Tuesday.

OFFICIAL BOER DISPATCHES.

Their Losses in the Recent Fights Given as Very Small.

Pretoria, Wednesday, Feb. 21.—The following official war bulletin has been issued here:

"A report was received this morning of cannon firing west of Colesberg. At Petrusburg cannon firing commenced at 6 o'clock in the morning. A big fight was expected to develop with the loss yesterday from Petrusburg that all was quiet, except several cannon shots and small skirmishes. Yesterday evening the British stormed the federal positions as far as Schaefer, but were driven back.

"A message from General Cronje is to the effect that his loss yesterday was fourteen dead and wounded. Dewet's loss was nil. Commandant Pronoman reports that from February 15 to February 20 he was surrounded by the British at the Modder river, when, with a small number of men, he broke through the river.

"On Sunday there was a heavy fight. The British prepared to lay siege to the Boer laager, with fighting general. We were surrounded by 2,500 British five miles from the chief laager. At night we cut our way through with the loss of seven dead and sixteen wounded. The loss of the British was heavy. Yesterday we cut our way through to reach Dewet, who was in the neighborhood. Fifty-three prisoners formally taken have been forwarded.

"It is reported that the British continually attacked Koodoos Rand yesterday with infantry and lancers, but that they were driven back."

BOERS ESCAPE WITH GUN.

The 100-Pounder Which British Cavalry Were Sent to Capture.

London, Feb. 23.—The Daily Chronicle has the following dispatch from Kimberley, dated Wednesday, February 21: "Cavalry patrols that went north to capture the Boer one-hundred-pounder report that the weapon has been taken

beyond Riverton station, drawn by thirty-two oxen. The British cavalry say that they saw Boer parties, but they did not go beyond Riverton for fear of being cut off. They learned, however, that the Transvaalers were being concentrated on the border to the north. A party of Boers fired into the British camp. Fifty thousand pounds of ammunition was captured at Magersfontein. Cecil Rhodes will leave for England shortly. W. E. Chapman, with thirty men, held out for weeks against the Boers at Otto Kopje mine until relieved from Kimberley."

METHUEN AT KIMBERLEY.

Arrived Tuesday—No More Siege Soup—64 Boer Prisoners.
Kimberley, Thursday, Feb. 23.—Lord Methuen arrived here Tuesday. He will act as administrator of the Kimberley district extending southward to the Orange river. Colonel Kekewich will remain in command of the local forces. The issue of siege soup ceases to-day. There are sixty-four Boer prisoners here.

SITUATION IN NATAL.

Report That Main Boer Army Has Fled—Butter Fighting.
Chieveley, Thursday, Feb. 22.—The main body of the Boers has fled, evidently with the object of stemming the tide of Lord Roberts.

London, Feb. 23.—A dispatch from Chieveley, dated Thursday, February 22, to the Daily Chronicle says: "At dawn on Tuesday we found that the Boers had vacated all their positions south of the Tugela and were in positions among the high hills midway between Ladysmith and the river and making a determined stand. Two Curatote guns were in action. All the British naval and other heavy guns were brought to bear upon the new positions. We believe that this show of Boer strength was only intended to cover a retreat. Yesterday (Wednesday) the Boers were retiring all day. General Buller continued to harass them, compelling them to give way."

A SORTIE FROM LADYSMITH.

White Said to Have Made One—Boer Wagons Captured.

London, Feb. 23.—The Daily Telegraph has the following dispatch from Chieveley, dated Wednesday, February 21: "It is reported that General White, sortied from Ladysmith yesterday and captured a number of Boer wagons. There is heavy firing in the direction of Ladysmith, either on the part of Sir George White or of the Boers."

A dispatch to the Daily Telegraph from Pietermaritzburg, dated Thursday, says: "Fighting is proceeding in the vicinity of Pietersburg this morning. Buller's advance is being opposed by both big gun and rifle fire.

The Daily Chronicle has the following from Ladysmith dated Saturday, February 17: "All day men gathered on the convent hill and try to see General Buller's shell bursting in the distance. The siege has been incessantly tedious for the last fortnight. Boer camps have entirely disappeared from the old positions within the last few days, and large parties with wagons are trekking westward. It is assumed that the Free Staters are going to resist the advance of Lord Roberts."

We estimate that about 6,000 have gone. Near the foot of Bulwana the Boers have been constructing a work near the river, possibly a dam. We can see a figure like an old lady in a red petticoat directing operations."

MASSING OF RUSSIAN TROOPS.

Czar Not Willing to Confrontance Potentially in England's Way.

London, Feb. 24.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Daily Telegraph says: "General Kuropatka, Russian minister for war, who is a strong Boer sympathizer, is responsible for all the recent movements of Russian troops in the Kuskh district. He obtained the approval of the military council for a plan to seize Herat, and he therefore submitted it to the czar, suggesting that it would be a good time when England's hands were tied in South Africa to execute the plan which he said could be done without a hitch.

"To his surprise the czar declined to give any countenance to any movement in favor of utilizing Great Britain's difficulties. His majesty said: 'It is my intention to maintain the strictest neutrality through the war, notwithstanding the display of popular sympathies towards the Boers.' This is tantamount to a victory for the Russian foreign office. Count Muraviev was strongly opposed to the scheme of General Kuropatka, whose position is regarded as considerably shaken."

The National Democratic Club.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The executive committee of the National Association of Democratic Clubs met here to-day, Chairman McMillan presiding, and decided for the good of the party. This committee will also have charge of the selection of a president. His name will be announced at the dinner on Jefferson's birthday in this city on April 23.

BRITISH NAVAL ESTIMATES

ENORMOUS TOTAL OF £27,552,600 REACHED FOR 1900-1901.

Increase of 220 Officers, 4,030 Men and Several New Ships Provided For—Negotiations for a Reserve Fleet in Canada—Wireless Telegraphy Successfully Tried—Reserve Stocks of Coal to be Added To.

London, Feb. 23.—The naval estimates for 1900-1901 total £27,552,600, an increase of £225,100, providing for an increase of 220 officers and 4,030 men for new service. Several new ships are provided for. Negotiations, it is added, are in progress for the formation of a naval reserve in Canada, the difficulty created by the present war making this necessary.

Of the 108 destroyers, the turbine Vipers preliminary trials reached thirty-five knots. Exhaustive experiments will be made with her as great importance attaches to her novel system of propulsion.

The Marconi system of wireless telegraphy was tried in the naval maneuvers and proved very successful. As long as only one ship was signalling the signals were successful for sixty miles. Negotiations are in progress between the government and Marconi, but the terms are not decided.

The arrangements in connection with the coaling of the fleet have received consideration and steps will be taken to increase the reserve stocks at coaling stations. The experiments are in progress with the object of selecting a patent fuel suitable as a special reserve for the more distant stations. Efforts will also be made to secure local coal at the colonial stations, when it is shown that it is suitable in quality and price.

DOG SHOW CLOSURE.

Mr. Dole, of New Haven, Elected Vice President of Bull Terrier Club.

New York, Feb. 23.—The twenty-fourth annual dog show of the Westminster Kennel club at Madison Square Garden closed to-night. The show as to the dogs on exhibition, was about the same as in previous years. In a number of classes the dogs showed a marked advance in standard. In other classes the number of dogs was rather smaller this year than last, and some championships were won by dogs which failed of it last year at the last show. The feature of the show to-day was the judging of packs of hounds. The Genesee Valley Hunt and the Monmouth county hounds were the two packs that appeared for judgment. The packs had five couples apiece, the Genesee Hunt being shown by J. S. Wadsworth, master of the hounds, and the Monmouth county hounds by P. F. Collier. The cup for the best pack was awarded to the Genesee Valley Hunt.

The annual meeting of the Bull Terrier club of America was held to-night in the Garden and a number of cups were offered for future shows. John Arden was elected president and F. F. Dole of New Haven vice president. Mr. Dole offered the "Champion Starlight" cup, \$100, for the best bull terrier, dog or bitch, bred and owned by the exhibitor shown at the Westminster Kennel club show. Arthur Thomson offered a breeder's challenge cup, \$100, for the best bull terrier bitch and two of her produce, the produce only to be considered, the cup to be won three times by the same owner at the Westminster Kennel club show.

William Favorsham offered a cup to take the place of the Produce Exchange cup, now open for the best American-bred puppy, dog or bitch, under thirty months, dog or bitch, American bred, to be won three times by the same owner at the Westminster Kennel club show. The winners at the shows of either the Westminster club or the Pet Dog club count toward this and Mr. Favorsham's other cup. Guy Standing offered a cup, to be known as the "Belle Balsamo Cup"—\$100—for the best American-bred pair, dog and bitch, to be won three times at the shows of the Westminster Kennel club or the Pet Dog club.

A Difficult Problem.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The secretary of war has confronting him a difficult problem requiring a decision whether or not the United States is in a state of war. In time of peace any United States soldier may purchase his release from the army upon certain prescribed conditions. More than two score applications of this kind are now before the department. If it be held that this is a time of peace, that decision might carry with it the reduction of the pay of all the soldiers now in the Philippines by one-half, a contingency that cannot be contemplated without apprehension. War department officials contend that a decision should be required at this time.

Yacht Race Incident Recalled.

New York, Feb. 23.—The steamer Georgianna row during the yacht races last fall was recalled to-day by the acquittal in court of Charles Berry, who was charged with assault by Charles Q. Horton of Hartford, Conn., a veteran. Horton testified that a fight occurred because the boat which had a lot of gamblers aboard did not go to the race at all. He was stabbed in the body and he claims Berry did it. The defense was lack of jurisdiction and the jury returned a verdict that the crime, if any, was not committed within the jurisdiction of the county and on the return of the verdict Berry was acquitted.

ANTI-IMPERIALIST MASS MEETING

Fervid Addresses by Boutwell and Cockran—Much Enthusiasm.

Boston, Feb. 23.—Hon. W. Bourke Cockran of New York eloquently championed the cause of the anti-imperialists at a mass meeting held in Faneuil hall to-night under the auspices of the Anti-Imperialist league. While the attendance was not as large as at some previous popular meetings, the audience was an unusually intelligent body of men and women, and the telling points in the oration were generously applauded. Although there were many in the audience who were not in sympathy with the sentiment of the speaker they were forced to applaud his oratory. Former Governor George S. Boutwell of this state, president of the Anti-Imperialist league, was the presiding officer and when he appeared upon the platform, accompanied by Mr. Cockran and Edward Atkinson, he was given a round of applause. Upon the platform were gentlemen whose anti-imperialist views have gained for them national distinction, together with many others whose public expressions upon this subject have not been pronounced.

Mr. Boutwell called the meeting to order and delivered from manuscript an address of some length, which elicited more or less applause. This was the case when he declared that England's supremacy was passing away, which led him to remark that one must look to the audience was not in favor of an alliance with England. He called attention to the non-partisan character of the meeting and declared that their sole purpose was to defeat imperialism. At the conclusion of his speech he introduced Hon. W. Bourke Cockran, who was accorded a great reception. His speech was that of a born orator and was a treat, even to those who differed from his conclusion. At times the audience seemed almost carried away by his eloquence and when he declared that he would rather "ten thousand times be a traitor with Edmunds and Sherman and Hearst and Boutwell, than a traitor with—well, say, Hanna" the applause was terrific. Mr. Cockran's reference to the laboring men, and his statement that "the badge of nobility in this country ought not to be the knapsack but the dinner pail" was another sentiment that found instant approval from the audience.

COLLEGE ATHLETICS.

Meeting of the Executive Committee of Interstate Association.

New York, Feb. 23.—The executive committee of the Interstate Association of Amateur Athletes of America, held a meeting at the Fifth avenue hotel to-night. There were present Oliver Shirlens of Cornell, Keith Donaldson of Princeton, J. B. Van Vleck of University of New York, J. D. Quinn of Columbia, Charles McKee of University of Pennsylvania, Guy Gundaker of Cornell, J. D. Dora of Yale and C. J. Norris of Harvard. As a result of the meeting several important recommendations will be made to the annual meeting of the I. C. A. A., which will take place to-morrow.

The committee decided to recommend that the application of the University of California for re-instatement in the I. C. A. A. be acted upon favorably. The Californians got into trouble with the parent body two years ago and was suspended. Some time ago they appealed for reinstatement. According to statements made to-day the Californians have arranged dual games for this spring with Princeton and the University of Pennsylvania. Negotiations are also pending for games with Yale and Cornell. If California is reinstated these negotiations will be completed and the Pacific coast college athletes will have a busy time in the east.

Brown made application for membership and the executive committee decided to report favorably on the request. The Providence collegians finished a close second in the New England intercollegiate championship last year and will be important factors in the big body. It was expected that an application for membership would also be received from Carleton, but up to the time the committee adjourned no representative of the Indians had appeared.

Hit by Whips Choyinski.

Hartford, Feb. 23.—Eugene Smith, proprietor of the Klondike saloon at 188 Front street, has two rattlesnakes in captivity. Two patrons, known as Louis and Frank, were bitten by the reptiles early this afternoon. Louis was bitten on the wrist and Frank on the hand. They were taken to the Hartford hospital in the ambulance. The chances for Louis' recovery are slim.

Small Fire Last Night.

A small fire occurred at the home of Oliver J. Walp, 1375 Boulevard, last evening about 6 o'clock. An alarm was rung from box 617, but the fire was out by the time the department arrived. The damage was light. Mr. Walp's son was lighting a match in the parlor and a spark caught some lace on a sofa near by causing quite a blaze, but it was quickly extinguished. The damage done was slight.

THREE DESTRUCTIVE FIRES

HEAVY LOSSES SUSTAINED IN THREE CITIES YESTERDAY.

Women Killed in Philadelphia Where Property Loss Amounts to \$500,000—Masonic Temple, London, Ontario's Finest Business Block, Destroyed—In Birmingham, Ala., the Metropolitan Hotel is Wiped Out.

Philadelphia, Feb. 24.—One woman lost her life and several other persons were severely injured, and property valued at half a million dollars was destroyed by fire, which broke out to-night in the heart of the wholesale millinery district. The burned district covered nearly two acres. The woman killed, Clara Cohen, was a seamstress in the employ of Harris and Bernard Cohen. She met her death by jumping from the fifth floor. Among the most seriously hurt were Clara Udor, who fell from the third floor of the same building; George Sweeney, a fireman, who was badly hurt by flying debris. The greatest losers are Bowen, Dunagan & Co., \$250,000; Simon May, \$100,000; Harris & Bernard Cohen, \$15,000; John W. Calver & Co., \$60,000; Philip Quillwauser, \$75,000; Finley-Acker, grocer, \$20,000. The losses are partly covered by insurance.

Masonic Temple Destroyed.

London, Ontario, Feb. 23.—London's finest business block, the Masonic Temple, was destroyed by fire this morning. The total loss will reach \$250,000; insurance \$100,000. The building comprised the Grand opera house, the Masonic lodge rooms and a dozen offices and stores. The heaviest loss was on the Masonic Temple building, \$100,000, covered by \$45,000 insurance, while various Masonic lodges will suffer to the extent of \$20,000. The Great Northwestern Telegraph company, R. G. Dun & Co., the Northern Life Assurance company, the Western Ontario Commercial Travelers' association, the Young Opera company were among the other losers. The members of the Young Opera company lost their wardrobes. Manager. Roots of the opera house barely escaped from the burning building and his wife was rescued with a ladder from a window.

Hotel Destroyed.

Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 23.—The explosion of a gasoline stove in the basement of the Metropolitan hotel to-day was followed by a fire which burned that building and the Hewlett block adjoining, causing a loss of about \$100,000. The insurance amounts to about three-fourths of the loss. A number of guests in the Metropolitan narrowly escaped, some having to be lowered from their rooms by ropes.

INDOOR TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP.

Hackett and Allen of Yale Are in for the Double Match.

New York, Feb. 23.—Law tennis for the year's indoor championship of the United States reached its final stage to-day on the Seventh Regiment armory courts. John A. Allen of Yale earned his way into the final of the doubles, where he and Hackett will play Paret and Cragin for the championship, and also beat both Bostwick and Tallant in the singles, winning a place in the final round of this event; also where he will meet Calhoun Cragin of the Seventh Regiment.

A feature of to-day's play was the semi-final match between Cragin and Davidson, the southern champion. Davidson won the first set, and made a good bid for the second, but faded away when the deciding set was reached. Scores: Championship singles: Second round—J. A. Allen beat O. M. Bostwick, 6-4, 6-3. Semi final round—Calhoun Cragin, Jr., beat J. C. Davidson, 3-6, 6-4, 6-3; J. A. Allen beat Hugh A. Tallant, 6-2, 6-4. Championship doubles: Semi-final—Hackett and Allen beat Bostwick and Tallant, 6-2, 6-0. Consolation singles: First round—L. J. Grant beat E. L. Teller by default; S. T. Skidmore beat A. L. Williston, 6-4, 5-7; J. P. Paret beat S. H. Gillespie, 6-1, 6-1. Semi final round: H. H. Hackett beat L. J. Grant, 6-2, 6-1.

Walcott Whips Choyinski.

New York, Feb. 23.—At the Broadway Athletic club to-day Joe Walcott, the Barbadoes negro, and Joe Choyinski of California met for a twenty-five-round bout at catchweights. Walcott weighed 163 pounds and Walcott 147. To the surprise of everybody Walcott won, the referee stopping the bout in the seventh round and giving the decision to Walcott. Before the fight Choyinski was the favorite, odds of 100 to 30 being freely laid on his chances, but after the first round, in which Choyinski went to the floor five times, the odds shifted and at the beginning of the second round Walcott was a two to one favorite. Walcott was the aggressor throughout the fight. In the seventh Choyinski was badly punished and was almost out when the referee stopped the fight.

Aged Man Killed.

South Norwalk, Feb. 23.—Barney McGill, aged seventy-four years, was found dead along side the railroad tracks between Darien and Noroton early this morning, having evidently been struck by a train during the night. McGill was an inmate of Fitch's Soldiers' Home, coming from Bridgeport, where he had resided for some time. The body was taken in charge by Undertaker Birchard.

New Britain Man Asks.

Hartford, Feb. 23.—William H. Carpenter of New Britain to-day filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy in the United States district court. His liabilities are \$10,097.63, consisting of unsecured claims, with no assets.

HILLHOUSE CHORAL CLUB.

Entertainment and Dance Last Night at Warner Hall.

The second annual entertainment and dance under the auspices of the Hillhouse Choral club, held at Warner hall last night, was a pronounced success. There was an unusually large attendance. The first part of the evening was consumed by the rendition of an exceptionally fine musical and literary programme, the principal features being an illustrated rhyme, "Aunt Betsey," and a short comedy, "Fallo's Luck." The participants in the comedy were the members of the Fair Haven Dramatic club, and each one acquitted himself in a splendid manner. The song "The Bonny Blue Sea," recently written by Louis H. Levy, Hillhouse 1901, and set to music by George Chadwick Stock, was cleverly rendered by the Hillhouse Chorus club.

In the conclusion of the entertainment the floor was cleared of chairs and a programme of fourteen numbers was danced to music by a fine orchestra. The following took part in the programme: Hillhouse Chorus club, Mrs. J. J. Horan, Charles Williams, Miss Ethel Prince, Miss Maude Kelley, Charles G. Baldwin, Clifford Walker, Miss Susie Coe, G. Chadwick Stock, Storm Sumner, Miss Gertrude Bradley, Wright Chamberlain, J. L. Fliske and Miss Etta Sparks.

JEREMIAH TOWNSEND DEAD.

Brooklyn School Principal Who Was Born in New Haven.

New York, Feb. 23.—Jeremiah Townsend, principal of public school No. 90, Brooklyn, who was stricken with paralysis on Monday evening at Robinson's hall in that borough, died this afternoon. He was born in New Haven, Conn., on April 23, 1843. He was educated in the New Haven schools. While a boy of eighteen Mr. Townsend became a soldier in the civil war, enlisting in the New Haven Grays for three months' service. After this he re-enlisted in the seventh Connecticut volunteers. For this regiment he raised a company known as the Townsend Rifles. He entered the regiment as second lieutenant and was promoted to captain. After the war he took up school work, teaching first for several years in his native city and then coming to Brooklyn.

DIDN'T WANT TO BE SHOT.

William Betzer Said His House Was Being Bombed.

A man who gave his name as William Betzer hurried into police headquarters last night and wanted a policeman sent immediately up to his residence, 18 Scranton street. He said that two or three bullets were shot through his front window, and that without the presence of a policeman he considered his life in danger. A policeman was hurriedly sent to the place and on investigation found two holes in a window, evidently caused by bullets fired from an air rifle. Betzer said that about 5 o'clock a regular bombardment started and as he didn't care to get shot just yet he considered it safe to call aid from the police department. It was not known last night who fired the shots.

TRIAL OF MISS NETHERSOLE.

Two Witnesses Heard Yesterday—Rev. Phoebe Harnsford Testifies.

New York, Feb. 23.—The hearing of the charges against Miss Olga Nethersole, who is presenting "Sapho" in this city, was commenced today behind closed doors. The first witness called was Robert Mackay, a reporter. Abraham Hummel, lawyer for Miss Nethersole, had her read a passage from the play where she says she will marry the man who is the father of her child. Mackay said he did not think it immoral. He was then excused. The testimony of the next witness, Rev. Phoebe Harnsford, dealt almost exclusively with the part where Fannie Lagrand is carried up stairs by Jean Gaussin. She denounced that part. When she was excused court was adjourned.

NEW PHILIPPINE COMMISSION.

Gen. Wright of Memphis and H. C. Ide of Vermont Summoned.

Washington, Feb. 23.—At the cabinet meeting to-day some time was consumed in the discussion of the personal of the Philippine commission. The president to-day sent telegrams to General Luke Wright of Memphis and to Henry C. Ide of Vermont, asking them to come to Washington for a conference with him, and they will doubtless be asked to accept appointments on the commission. The last remaining member of the commission will probably be Bernard Moses, professor of political economy in the University of California.

THE FINANCIAL BILL.

Conferees Agree—Bimetallism Amendment is Retained.

Washington, Feb. 23.—The conferees on the financial bill have agreed and the report will be submitted to the senate to-day. The bimetallic amendment and the refunding provision, which were the two points remaining open were retained in the final bill, but the language was modified to meet the desires of the house conferees. At 3:25 p. m., Mr. Aldrich presented the conference report on the financial bill to the senate.

Poker Players Arrested.

Patrolmen C. J. Egan and T. Doughan last night arrested several young men at No. 63 Congress avenue, a restaurant, on the charge of gaming. The patrolmen found a game of poker in progress. Those arrested were Samuel Litman, Henry Starin, George Smith, Nathan Bail, James Richmond and David Tiley. The proprietor of the restaurant will probably be arrested to-day on the charge of keeping a gaming house.

PORTO RICAN FREE TRADE

ENDORSED BY THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LAST NIGHT.

Resolutions Adopted and Telegraphed to Representative Sperry, Who is Requested to Present Them in the House—Only One Objector to the Passage of the Resolution.

The special meeting of the chamber of commerce held last night to take action upon the Puerto Rico situation was not a large one, only about twenty-five members being present, but it was a representative and enthusiastic one. Among those present were President Max Adler, Joel A. Sperry, Franklin S. Bradley, Charles L. Baldwin, Edward E. Bradley, Henry T. Blake, Henry C. Rowe, A. B. Hill, Isaac Wolfe, Dr. W. H. Carmalt, Dr. Charles A. Lindsley, Dr. Rollin McNeil, Frank H. Hooker, William G. Lotze and Edward S. Swift. As soon as Secretary Gallagher had read the call for the meeting, which had been inserted in all the local newspapers, Henry T. Blake moved that the meeting be postponed one week because a notice of the meeting had not been sent to each member, as usual. President Adler explained that immediate action was required, as it had been agreed that the house of representatives would vote upon the Payne bill on Monday. After some discussion the motion to adjourn was tabled, whereupon Colonel Osborn offered the following:

"Whereas, To quote from the president's message to congress: 'Our plain duty is to abolish all customs tariff between the United States and Puerto Rico, and give her products free access to our markets'; and

"Whereas, Any other course and policy would constitute a violation of our sacred pledge to the Puerto Ricans, enforce an act of doubtful constitutionality and raise anew the question of national honor and credit; therefore be it resolved, That the chamber of commerce of New Haven expresses its approbation of President McKinley's position, and urgently requests our representative in congress, Hon. N. D. Sperry, to use his influence to support it with voice and vote, and to present these resolutions to the house of representatives."

These resolutions were freely discussed by nearly all present. Colonel Osborn gracefully yielding to certain verbal changes in his original draft of the resolutions suggested by the speakers until they were agreed to as above given. All present voted in favor of the resolution excepting Mr. Blake, who announced that he refrained from voting because the subject was a controverted question of a political character and because no formal notice had been given of the meeting. The vote of the chamber the resolutions were immediately telegraphed to Congressman Sperry.

VOTE ON PORTO RICAN BILL.

Agreement Reached to Take It Next Tuesday Afternoon.

Washington, Feb. 23.—An agreement was reached in the house to-day that the vote on the Porto Rican tariff bill shall be taken at 3 p. m. next Tuesday. General debate will close Monday and short speeches under the five minute rule will follow up to the time of the vote. A republican caucus will be held to-morrow night. The impression is growing that a motion to recommit the bill to the committee on ways and means will command strong support and prevail, although the leaders profess to believe that the bill will pass. Mr. Underwood, the democratic whip, sent out telegrams to all absent democratic members to be present on Monday.

The feature of the day was Mr. Littlefield's speech. To-day he added to his laurels won in the Roberts case in a speech against the bill which for brilliancy, wit and logic rivals the best efforts of the recognized orators of the house. He made a profound impression when he concluded, and it was several minutes before the demonstration that followed could be quelled. Among the others who spoke to-day were Messrs. Jones of Virginia and Maddox of Georgia against the bill, and Messrs. Russell of Connecticut, Bartholdt of Missouri, Gardner of Michigan and Lacey of Iowa for it. The debate continued at a night session.

QUAY CASE TAKEN UP.

Mr. Penrose Scores a Point by a Decisive Vote.

Washington, Feb.