

fallen, they were dragged from the track and given a short rest.

Hale, who has been gradually gaining upon Schinner, was in good shape. The winner of last year's contest showed few signs of the strain which he had undergone. It was confidently prophesied that he would finish fourth or better. Waller will probably secure fifth place. Among the tail-enders, Elkes looked as if he had a good chance to improve his position while Pierce and Gannon were badly used up. Johnson and Beacom will probably just scrape into a share of the prize money.

About 3,000 persons stayed all through the night at the garden and watched the fifteen men in their remarkable exhibition of human endurance.

As the hours dragged slowly on and the haggard riders neared their goal, their mental condition became worse. Rice was raving nearly all the time. He thought he had lost his eyes. He grew angry with his trainers because they would not give him tissue paper to fill up the eye-socket. A little later Rice was convinced that Teddy Hale was the only friend he had in the world. His pleading with Hale not to leave him was piteous.

Miller on the wheel, seemed as strong as ever and his mental condition was not nearly so bad as many of those who followed a hundred miles behind him. But off his wheel he was as weak as a little child. He had to be lifted from his saddle and could not stand without support. The transformation which always accompanies his remounting was marvelous.

Waller exhibited the spasmodic energy which characterized his riding when he was in the lead. He was evidently making a desperate effort to overhaul Hale, and appeared to be in excellent condition. Hale kept up his steady pace and took things quite coolly.

About 11 o'clock Rice confided to his trainer that one side of his head was coming off. He insisted that he would lose it, so a large bandage was tied around his head and he was satisfied.

The report that Rivierre's leg was broken was untrue. The unlucky Frenchman was resting quietly at a hotel today and making the most of the much-needed opportunity to sleep.

Score at 3:15—Miller, 2,050; Rice, 1,980; Schinner, 1,954; Hale, 1,892; Waller, 1,841; Pierce, 1,748; Golden, 1,707; Enterman, 1,663; Elkes, 1,616; Gannon, 1,684; King, 1,555; Julius, 1,491; Beacom, 1,281; Johnson, 1,235; Gray, 1,152.

Havana, Dec. 11.—La Lucha, referring editorially to a protracted meeting being held by sugar planters of the island, presided over by the Marquis De Apestequi, to devise ways and means of gathering cane and beginning work of grinding, says it will be impossible to accomplish anything unless the government goes to the assistance of the planters with the necessary funds, about \$500,000.

The planters throughout the island, La Lucha says, lack every means required either to harvest cane or to transport the crop to points of shipment. The country is destitute of oxen and even if they were obtained the planters, with the possible exception of a dozen in the provinces of Santa Clara and Matanzas, have neither money nor credit to purchase them. The oxen from numerous estates were donated to the government by the owners and have been employed since the commencement of the war in transporting supplies for the troops.

La Lucha adds that as the sugar estates are large, the rebels surrendering daily, who were chiefly received from the laboring classes, and are now tired of their fruitless struggle, might

be concentrated thereon, and given an opportunity to earn a living and by precept encourage others to lay down their arms and by prompt and liberal action of the government in fostering a continuance of the work on the sugar estates offer a more practical solution of the Cuban problem than all the political problems emanating from Madrid.

Muskogee, I. T., Dec. 14.—The commission appointed by the Seminole council to treat with the Dawes commission have arrived here and at once began negotiations for a treaty between the United States and the Seminole nation. John F. Brown, chief of the Seminole nation, Charles Harjo, K. N. Kinklike, Thomas West, William Cully, and Joseph Factor, constitute the commission on behalf of the Seminoles. They will remain here until a treaty is agreed upon.

Chelsea, I. T., Dec. 14.—S. H. Mayes says the reason he did not convene the Cherokee council in extra session was not because he was afraid he would be impeached, but that he wished the investigation into the \$126,000 freedmen steal to be thoroughly carried out before a trial is had. The affidavit of Frank J. Baudinot of Tahlequah, implicating a number of leading Cherokees, is causing much comment. Should Chief Mayes (Downing) be impeached, it is said Wolfe Boone (National), now president of the Cherokee senate, will take the throne.

Dover, England, Dec. 14.—Dover castle, as this dispatch is being sent, is on fire. The officers' quarters have already been gutted and the whole building is involved. The whole garrison is fighting the flames. The powder magazine is threatened.

Later—The eastern portion of the castle has been completely gutted and the flames have spread to the western portion.

Silver City, New Mexico, Dec. 14.—Word has just been received here that a special Wells-Fargo officer, J. N. Thacker, assisted by a posse of deputy United States marshals under Clapriano Baca, last night captured the entire gang of train robbers, who last Thursday held up the Southern Pacific at Steins Pass, Grant county, in the fight incident to which one of the robbers was killed.

At the time of the Steins Pass hold-up, the posse, which had been anticipating an attack, was congregated at Bowie, about thirty miles from Steins Pass. The trail of the robbers was immediately taken and late last night the five remaining members of the gang were surrounded in a cabin at Cushey's ranch, about 25 miles this side of the Mexican line, in eastern Arizona. The robbers were taken completely by surprise and surrendered without a single shot being fired. Their names have not yet been ascertained, but they are cowboys who have been working in the vicinity of the Sansimon Valley and have no connection with the notorious Black Jack gang of border bandits. They have been brought by the posse to Sansimon station and will be brought to this point and lodged in jail to wait trial at the coming term of court.

The penalty for train robbery in New Mexico is death. When captured, the robbers were endeavoring to make their escape across the line into Mexico.

New York, Dec. 15.—The real mind of General Maximo Gomez is shown in letters written by him to his friends, says the correspondent of the World at Havana. They clearly convey the general's opinions of his opponents. He discusses Spanish and Cuban prospects. He gives his opinion of the autonomy offered by Spain. The letters are purely personal and were not written for he

purpose or with the expectation of influencing public opinion.

The first letter, dated early in October, shows how far seeing is the eye of this old man.

"La Papaya—Happily Weyler has helped us much and very effectively. He has had just enough intelligence to ruin Spain without weakening the insurrection.

"Everything is finished, and the mother country, should she longer wish it, can no longer hold her ruined colony.

"My opinion is that the war is over, for what exists now is no war at all.

"It is ridiculous to suppose that, however corrupt the Spanish generals might be, we cannot think them capable of accepting a situation so exceptional that, while affording them neither gold nor glory places them in the most ridiculous position that any army can suffer in the world.

"There is nothing to expect now but peace with independence.

"Your general, Gomez.,,

In a letter dated Los Villas, Santa Clara province, he writes:

"The coming into power of the liberal party advances us rapidly towards importance, because Spain is playing her last card. It seems certain that when she is convinced that the much talked of autonomy will suffer the same disastrous fate as the reforms of Canovas, she must become reasonable and finally recognize the independence of its heroic people.

"However good the news, or however well founded our hopes, we shall not be indulging in illusion, but shall continue to be prepared for the worst, keeping up our faith and resolution and always vigilant against diplomatic tricks and traitorous maneuvers.

"We are finally done with Weyler; let us see if we can sooner rid ourselves of his successor."

The next letter shows Gen. Gomez's opinion of Weyler and of the Spanish people in general.

It was written just before the arrival of Gen. Blanco, Oct. 25.

"Gen. Weyler is gone and certainly not with glory. His hands, stained with innocent Cuban blood, will certainly not find many friendly fingers outstretched to grasp them over there in the peninsula. For after all is said, Spaniards are not so wicked.

"Now Gen. Blanco comes, it is said, to add the last insult by proposing autonomy. Ah, what a sad and barren idea have the Spaniards of the Cubans. But they are not all to blame for that. M. Gomez."

The last letter follows: "In the field Nov. 12. I have read the proclamation of the new captain general. I have answered with another and much shorter one, which gives our propositions and determination with respect to the new directions in which our enemies have decided to conduct the war.

"The little time that Weyler remained in Cuba makes me think that at the end of this season there will be nothing to do but to burn our house to make the Spaniards quickly leave it. Worse for Spain, if she thinks she is to be paid for the windows. Yours affectionately, Gomez."

Gen. Julio Sanguilly, instead of being a traitor as recent reports from Havana would indicate, intends to return to the island at once, in obedience to the commands of his chief, Gen. Gomez. This statement is made upon the authority of the Philadelphia, a Cuban, who stands high among the members of the Junta in this country.

Sanguilly is in Washington where it is said he will call on Secretary Sherman and renounce his American citizenship in order to force himself from the pledge he gave when the state department secured his release from a Spanish prison, that he would not again take up arms against Spain.